

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2022 AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Rodney L. Pepe-Souvenir
 Secretary Simon Shamoun

Commissioners Jose Miguel Araujo, Michael J. Coppotelli, Jenny Low, Jodi Morales, Gino A. Marmorato, Keith Sullivan, Frederic M. Umane

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director
Vincent M. Ignizio, Deputy Executive Director
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager
Wilma Brown Phillips, Administrative Manager
Hemalee J. Patel, General Counsel
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel
Valerie Vazquez, Director of Communications and Public Affairs
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

President Pepe-Souvenir called the meeting to order at 1:43 P.M.

Mr. Ryan reported that there is a Challenge to a Voter Registration by a member of the public which will be added to the agenda as Item #4.

Mr. Ryan reported that litigation was added to Executive Session.

Mr. Ryan made the following announcements:

- There is a Special Election on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 in the 43rd Assembly District in Brooklyn;
- Early Voting will be conducted from Saturday, March 12, 2022 through Sunday, March 20, 2022;
- Early Voting sites and hours can be found on the Board's website at vote.nyc, or by calling the Board's Phone Bank at 1-866-VOTE-NYC;
- The State Board released the official voter enrollments numbers for the state. The unofficial numbers will replace the official numbers on the Board's website; and
- Petitions for the June 28, 2022 Primary Election have been circulating. The Calendar and Board's Petition Rules are posted on the Board's website.

President Pepe-Souvenir moved to adopt the February 22, 2022 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Coppotelli seconded the motion, with Commissioner Morales abstaining. The motion was adopted.

President Pepe-Souvenir moved to adopt the March 1, 2022 Meeting of the Board Canvassers' Minutes. Secretary Shamoun seconded the motion. Before a

vote was taken by the Board, Mr. Ryan recalled that this meeting consisted of a quorum of six (6) Commissioners that certified the February 15, 2022 Special Election in the 72nd AD, Manhattan, and 60th AD, Brooklyn. In a roll call vote, there were six (6) in favor (Pepe-Souvenir, Shamoun, Low, Marmorato, Morales and Umame), three (3) abstentions (Araujo, Coppotelli, Sullivan) and no opposition. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Ryan reported on the Challenge to a Voter Registration and recognized Mark H. Goldey, a member of the public, who challenged the following voter registration:

- Lynn N. Goldsmith, 249 W. 29th Street, Apt. 11, New York, NY 10001, D.O.B. 2/11/1948, VSN # 58166727

Mr. Goldey reported that he resides at his residential cooperative apartment at 249 W. 29th Street, Apt. 11, New York, NY 10001 since November 2007. Prior to that, the apartment was owned by Ms. Goldsmith in December 1998 according to records maintained by the cooperative apartment corporation. Ms. Goldsmith has not lived in this building for approximately 23 years. Mr. Goldey has reach out to Ms. Goldsmith using her business' website requesting her to update her voter registration, but she has not responded. Mr. Goldey signed and submitted a "Challenge to a Voter Registration" affidavit to the Commissioners. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 5-220(1) of the New York State Election Law,

Mr. Goldey swore before the Commissioners challenging the voter registration of Lynn N. Goldsmith, 249 W. 29th Street, Apt. 11, New York, NY 10001, D.O.B. 2/11/1948, VSN # 58166727. A bi-partisan team in the Manhattan Office will conduct the required inquiry into this challenge pursuant to the provisions of Article 5 of the New York State Election Law.

Mr. Ryan provided an update on the Annual New York State Election Commissioners Association (ECA) Winter Conference that was held from March 1, 2022 through March 4, 2022 in Albany, NY. In attendance from the City Board were President Pepe-Souvenir, Secretary Shamoun, Commissioner Coppotelli, Commissioner Low, members of the Executive Management team, the General Counsel, Deputy General Counsel, and other Departmental managers. Mr. Ryan reported that it was great to share views with the other counties across the state for the first time in almost three (3) years. It was three (3) productive days of presentations and exchanging dialogues on the NYS Election Law, proposed legislative changes, implementation of the new canvass procedures effective April 1st, cyber security, electronic poll books, and voting machine vendors. Executive staff had a face to face bi-weekly meeting with the Executive leadership of the State Board. Mr. Ryan reported that the Annual ECA Summer Conference has been scheduled from July 26, 2022 through July 29, 2022. President Pepe-Souvenir stated that it was her first time attending the

ECA Conference which was very informative, and great meeting with upstate counter parts and election vendors. Commissioner Low agreed with President Pepe-Souvenir, and she learned how much more complex the City Board is than other counties. Secretary Shamoun shared the same sentiments as President Pepe-Souvenir, and noted that it was nice meeting in-person again to share experiences and ideas with other colleagues in elections which was a great benefit to the agency. Commissioner Coppotelli shared the same sentiments as his fellow Commissioners who attended the ECA Conference.

Mr. Ryan announced that Valerie Vazquez, the Director of Communications and Public Affairs, is leaving the Board this week after 16 years and will be greatly missed. He noted that Ms. Vazquez has professionally grown at the Board and will continue her service for the citizens of the City of New York. She will take on a new role as the Deputy Commissioner of Community Affairs in the Mayor's Office. The Commissioners thanked Ms. Vazquez for her hard work and dedication over the years, and wished her great success in her future. Ms. Vazquez thanked everyone for the opportunity to grow professionally at the Board and will miss the Commissioners and staff. She is honored to be a part of the BOE family and will always advocate for the Board.

Mr. Ryan reminded that poll sites must be statutorily designated by March 15, 2022. Commissioner Umane moved to schedule the next meeting for Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 1:30pm. President Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

President Pepe-Souvenir moved to convene an Executive Session for personnel and litigation matters. Commissioner Umane seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Following Executive Session, the open meeting resumed.

The following actions were taken in Executive Session by the unanimous decision of the Board of Commissioners:

- I. Raquel Torres, an Administrative Assistant, was granted 120 hours of an Advance of Sick Time, effective February 28, 2022. Ms. Torres' agency start date is March 11, 2012. Commissioner Araujo recused himself from the vote, and was not present when the matter was voted upon;
- II. Marianne Noce, an Administrative Assistant, was granted 30 hours of an Advance of Sick Time, effective March 7, 2022. Ms. Noce's agency start date is August 8, 2007;

- III. Kevin McCarthy, a Senior Voting Machine Technician, was granted 202 hours of an Advance of Sick Time, effective December 16, 2021. Mr. McCarthy's agency start date is July 11, 2011; and
- IV. Alexi Lewis, a Clerk, was granted 28 hours of an Advance of Sick Time, effective February 16, 2022. Mr. Lewis' agency start date is April 29, 2007.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 1:30 P.M. Open public meetings will resume.