## MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 26, 2022 AT 1:30 P.M. 42 BROADWAY, 6<sup>th</sup> 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, Gino A. Marmorato, Jodi Morales, Patricia Anne Taylor, 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

Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners

New York County: Stephen Evans, III, Chief Clerk

Cynthia Doty, Deputy Chief Clerk

Queens County: Amanda Berinato, Chief Clerk

Bart Haggerty, Deputy Chief Clerk

Mr. Ryan opened the meeting, and announced that Friday, July 29, 2022 is the last day to register to vote in person, for the August 23, 2022 Primary Election. All Borough Offices will be open until 7:00 PM, and the General Office will be open until 12:00 midnight, to accommodate any walk-in registrations. If the registration form is being mailed, it must be postmarked by Friday, July 29, 2022, and received by the Board Offices no later than Wednesday, August 3, 2022.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #1 of the meeting agenda, and requested that the Commissioners Committee convene a meeting of the Board of Canvassers to certify additional results of the June 28, 2022 Primary Elections.

Pursuant to the provisions of Title 2 of Article 9 of the New York State Election Law and the Charter of the City of New York, President Pepe-Souvenir called the meeting of the Board of Canvassers in the City of New York to order for the purposes of certifying the canvass of votes cast for the June 28, 2022 Primary Elections for additional Party Positions conducted in Queens County, in the City of New York. These contests were the subject of a hand recount pursuant to New York State Election Law.

President Pepe-Souvenir designated Commissioner Araujo to serve as the other Democratic member of the Canvassing Board, and Secretary Shamoun designated Commissioner Umane to serve as the other Republican member of the Canvassing Board.

The Queens Chief and Deputy Chief Clerk and their staff have prepared and signed the Returns of Canvass for the June 28, 2022 Primary Elections for additional Party Positions in Queens County, in accordance with the Board's policies and procedures, which were the subject of a hand recount.

Due to the virtual meeting, the Returns have been provided electronically to the Board of Canvassers for their review and approval. Mrs. Berinato and Mr. Haggerty confirmed that the results presented are accurate and correct. Based on that report, Commissioner Araujo moved that the Board of Canvassers certify the Returns of Canvass for the additional Party Positions for the June 28, 2022 Primary Election, conducted in Queens County. Secretary Shamoun seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Umane moved to authorize the use of the Commissioners' electronic signatures as appropriate on each Statement and Return of Canvass. Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adjourn the Meeting of the Board of Canvassers, and to convene the weekly stated meeting of the Commissioners of Elections, in the City of New York. Commissioner Umane seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Following the meeting of the Board of Canvassers, the weekly stated meeting of the Commissioners Committee resumed.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #2 of the meeting agenda, a series of voter challenges that were previously submitted to the Commissioners, and the investigations have now been completed. Mr. Ryan acknowledged Hemalee Patel, General Counsel, to present the matter before the Commissioners.

Mrs. Patel informed the Commissioners Committee that the Board received a series of voter challenges, pursuant to Election Law §5-220, that were brought to the Commissioners by three separate people, concerning three separate voters in New York County. Mrs. Patel acknowledged Stephen Evans, III, Chief Clerk and Cynthia Doty, Deputy Chief Clerk, of New York County, who are in attendance to answer any questions regarding these voter challenges, if needed.

In regards to the voter challenge presented by John Edward Hummler to the voter registration of Steven Wesley Barker, Mrs. Patel advised the Commissioners Committee of the following:

• Mr. Hummler previously appeared before the Commissioners Committee on November 9, 2021, and stated that he was receiving mail at his address at, 395 South End Avenue, Apt. 19L, New York, NY 10280, that was addressed to Steven Wesley Barker, who did not live in that apartment.

• Mr. Hummler stated that he was the sole occupant of that apartment since 1995, and submitted a letter from the Buildings' Management Company to confirm.

As directed by the Manhattan Chief and Deputy Chief Clerk, the Manhattan staff conducted a bi-partisan, in-person investigation, and met with the Residential Property Manager at Gateway Residential Management, at 395 South End Avenue, New York, NY 10280, and the Property Manager did confirm that Mr. Barker did live at 395 South End Avenue, Apt. 17L, up until October 21, 2021. It would appear that Mr. Barker inadvertently registered to vote with the Department of Motor Vehicles using Mr. Hummler's apartment number.

• The Property Manager provided the Manhattan staff with a forwarding address for

Mr. Barker:

Steven Wesley Barker 135 West 96<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. 10D New York, NY 10025

It is the recommendation of the Manhattan Chief and Deputy Chief Clerk that an updated voter registration form from the Board of Elections, be sent to Mr.

Barker at his forwarding address in the event that he wants to register at his new address.

Commissioner Umane moved to accept the recommendation of the Manhattan Chief and Deputy Chief Clerk, and also cancel the registration at Mr. Barker's old address at 395 South End Avenue, Apt. 19L, New York, NY 10280. Commissioner Morales seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Manhattan staff is directed to cancel the registration of Steven Wesley Barker at 395 South End Avenue, Apt. 19L, New York, NY 10280, and to send him a new registration form at 135 West 96th Street, Apt. 10D, New York, NY 10025.

In regards to the voter challenge presented by Mark H. Goldey to the voter registration of Lynn Goldsmith, Mrs. Patel advised the Commissioners Committee of the following:

• Mark H. Goldey previously appeared before the Commissioners Committee on March 8, 2022, and stated that he has lived at 249 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. #11, New York, NY 10001, since he purchased the apartment in 2007.

- Mr. Goldey indicated that he purchased the apartment from Robert Halle and his wife.
- The prior tenant before the Halle's, was Ms. Lynn Goldsmith. The Halle's purchased the apartment in 1998 or 1999, from Ms. Goldsmith.
- Ms. Goldsmith's registration remains active at what is now Mr. Goldey's address, at 249 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. #11, New York, NY 10001.
- At the direction of the Manhattan Chief and Deputy Chief Clerk, the Manhattan staff conducted an in-person investigation at the location that is on Ms. Goldsmith's registration, 249 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10001, and it was determined that she was not there.
- There is a mailing address for Ms. Goldsmith at, 241 West 36<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10018, and the staff visited there as well. There was no doorman present and the building was locked, but the doorbell did list the name Lynn Goldsmith as a resident in apartment 7FA. The staff rang the bell, but there was no response.
- The Manhattan staff contacted the Property Management for 241 West 36<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10018, and was told that there was authority to leave packages for Ms. Goldsmith but not envelopes. It was suggested

that a voter registration form be slipped underneath the apartment door, which our staff did.

- The Superintendent at Mr. Goldey's address, 249 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. #11, New York, NY 10001, did verify that Ms. Goldsmith does not live at the address that she is currently registered.
- The Manhattan Borough Commissioners have already approved the decision to remove the registration of Ms. Goldsmith at Mr. Goldey's address at, 249 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. #11, New York, NY 10001.

Commissioner Umane moved to adopt the recommendation of the Manhattan Chief and Deputy Chief Clerk. Commissioner Coppotelli seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The Manhattan staff is directed to remove the registration of Lynn Goldsmith, at 249 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. #11, New York, NY 10001.

In regards to the voter challenge presented by Delores Palms, Mrs. Patel advised the Commissioners Committee of the following:

- There are two registration records for Delores Palms, with two different birth dates.
- Ms. Palms previously appeared before the Commissioners Committee on November 16, 2021, and stated that she lives in a two family cooperative apartment located at 413 West 141<sup>st</sup> Street, New York, NY 10031.
- Ms. Palms indicated that she lives in one apartment, and there isn't anyone named Delores Palms living in the other apartment. Ms. Palms stated that the other apartment, Apt. 2B, is sublet by the owner who lives elsewhere.
- Ms. Palms believes that sometime in 2002, someone who may have used multiple names and the date of birth of November 1, 1968, was registered to vote with the Board and used that name and address for a Real Estate issue that they were having.
- Mrs. Patel confirmed that there is no Delores Palms living at 413 West 141st Street, New York, NY 10031, with that date of birth: November 1, 1968.
- The second apartment, 2B, is the sublet, and has been occupied by Susan Slocum for the last three years.

Based on the Manhattan staff's bi-partisan team investigation, it is their

recommendation that the challenged voter be purged:

**Delores Palms** 

VSN# 305312198

Date of Birth: November 1, 1968

Mrs. Patel stated that the Manhattan Borough Commissioners have

ratified this decision, and she is seeking the full Board's approval.

Commissioner Umane moved to adopt the recommendation of the

Manhattan Chief and Deputy Chief Clerk. Commissioner Marmorato seconded the

motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Manhattan staff is authorized to remove the voter registration of:

**Delores Palms** 

VSN# 305312198

Date of Birth: November 1, 1968

The voters who presented these voter challenges, will be contacted and made

aware of today's resolutions.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #3 of the meeting agenda, and requested that

the Commissioners approve the minutes of the July 19, 2022 Commissioners

Meeting.

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President Pepe-Souvenir moved to adopt the minutes of the July 19, 2022 Commissioners Meeting. Commissioner Coppotelli seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Umane moved to schedule the next meeting of the Commissioners for Tuesday, August 2, 2022 at 1:30 P.M. President Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Umane moved adjourn the weekly stated meeting of the Commissioners, and convene an Executive Session to discuss Litigation and Personnel matters. President Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Following Executive Session, the open meeting resumed.

There were no matters to report from Executive Session.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, August 2, 2022 at 1:30 P.M.