

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CANVASSERS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023 AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

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

Commissioners Jose M. Araujo, Michael J. Coppotelli, Carol R. Edmead, Gino A. Marmorato, Frederic M. Umane

Vincent M. Ignizio, Deputy Executive Director
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager
Hemalee J. Patel, General Counsel
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners

New York County: Stephen M. Evans, III, Chief Clerk
Rhonda Evans, Acting Deputy Chief Clerk

Bronx County: Brendaliz Candelaria, Deputy Chief Clerk
Dawn Sandow, Deputy Chief Clerk

Kings County: Salvatore Barrera, Acting Chief Clerk
Daniel Ortiz, Deputy Chief Clerk

Queens County: Amanda Berinato, Chief Clerk
Bart J. Haggerty, Deputy Chief Clerk

Before the meeting began, Mr. Ignizio made a very difficult announcement.

With a heavy heart, Mr. Ignizio announced the unexpected passing of Cynthia Doty, who served as the Deputy Chief Clerk in Manhattan for quite some time. Mr. Ignizio stated that Ms. Doty served our agency with dedication and

distinction for years; she worked with everyone that is in the room today, and it is a very sad and unexpected day for the entire Board of Elections, and the City of New York for she was a true public servant. Mr. Ignizio asked for a moment of silence and prayers for Ms. Doty and her family.

Mr. Ignizio continued with item #1 of the meeting agenda and requested that the Commissioners Committee convene a meeting of the Board of Canvassers to certify the results of the June 27, 2023 Primary Election.

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 Shamoun 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 27, 2023, Primary Elections for Public Offices and Party Positions conducted within the City of New York.

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

It was noted that Commissioners appearing remotely have been provided a copy of the Returns of Canvass in advance.

Commissioner Coppotelli joined the meeting remotely, and informed the Board of Canvassers that he was stuck in traffic at that moment and will join in person as soon as possible.

The New York County Borough Managers and their staff have prepared and signed the Returns of Canvass for the June 27, 2023 Primary Election for Public Offices and Party Positions in New York County, in accordance with the Board's policies and procedures, with the exception of the contests which, pursuant to New York State Election Law, are the subject of a hand recount.

The Returns of Canvass were presented to the Canvassing Board for review and approval.

Stephen Evans, III, Chief Clerk and Rhonda Evans, Acting Deputy Chief Clerk confirmed that the results presented are accurate and correct, there are no discrepancies to report, and the audit of the poll site and central count scanners required by Article 9 of the New York State Election Law have been successfully completed.

Ms. Evans informed the Board of Canvassers that there are multiple Party Positions in some hand recounts that will take place in the ensuing week, for recertification which is anticipated to take place next week Tuesday.

Ms. Evans will advise the Board of Canvassers if additional time is needed to complete the hand recounts.

Based on that report, Commissioner Umane moved that the Board of Canvassers certify the Returns of Canvass for the Public Offices and Party Positions for the Primary Election conducted in New York County. Commissioner Edmead seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Returns of Canvass prepared and submitted by the New York County Staff of the Board of Elections were adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Umane and Commissioner Edmead thanked the New York County Staff, particularly working under the harder conditions, and noted that they appreciate Ms. Evans for stepping up and doing a marvelous job. Commissioner Umane asked that the Borough Managers thank the staff on behalf of both Commissioners.

Mr. Ignizio stated that pending Commissioner Coppotelli's arrival, the Board of Canvassers will continue with Kings County.

The Kings County Borough Managers and their staff have prepared and signed the Returns of Canvass for the June 27, 2023 Primary Election for Public Offices and Party Positions in Kings County, in accordance with the Board's policies and procedures, with the exception of the contests which, pursuant to New York State Election Law, are the subject of a hand recount.

The Returns of Canvass were presented to the Canvassing Board for review and approval.

Salvatore Barrera, Acting Chief Clerk and Daniel Ortiz, Deputy Chief Clerk confirmed that the results presented are accurate and correct, there are no discrepancies to report, and the audit of the poll site and central count scanners required by Article 9 of the New York State Election Law have been successfully completed.

Based on that report, Secretary Pepe-Souvenir moved that the Board of Canvassers certify the Returns of Canvass for the Public Offices and Party

Positions for the Primary Election conducted in Kings County. President Shamoun seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Returns of Canvass prepared and submitted by the Kings County Staff of the Board of Elections were adopted unanimously.

President Shamoun asked that the Kings County Borough Managers provide an update on the hand recounts in Kings County as they progress.

President Shamoun and Secretary Pepe-Souvenir thanked the Kings County Staff for their hard work and dedication throughout this cycle, and moving us on to the General Election.

The Board of Canvassers continued with Queens County.

The Queens County Borough Managers and their staff have prepared and signed the Returns of Canvass for the June 27, 2023 Primary Election for Public Offices and Party Positions in Queens County, in accordance with the Board's policies and procedures, with the exception of the contests which, pursuant to New York State Election Law, are the subject of a hand recount.

The Returns of Canvass were presented to the Canvassing Board for review and approval.

Commissioner Umame noted that Commissioner Coppotelli has joined the meeting of the Board of Canvassers in person.

Amanda Berinato, Chief Clerk and Bart Haggerty, Deputy Chief Clerk confirmed that the results presented are accurate and correct, there are no discrepancies to report, and the audit of the poll site and central count scanners required by Article 9 of the New York State Election Law have been successfully completed.

Based on that report, Commissioner Araujo moved that the Board of Canvassers certify the Returns of Canvass for the Public Offices and Party Positions for the Primary Election conducted in Queens County. Commissioner Umame seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Returns of Canvass prepared and submitted by the Queens County Staff of the Board of Elections were adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Araujo, on behalf of himself and Commissioner Sullivan thanked the Queens County Staff for their hard work and noted their appreciation.

The Board of Canvassers continued with Bronx County.

The Bronx County Borough Managers and their staff have prepared and signed the Returns of Canvass for the June 27, 2023 Primary Election for Public Offices and Party Positions in Bronx County, in accordance with the Board's policies and procedures.

The Returns of Canvass were presented to the Canvassing Board for review and approval.

President Shamoun noted for the record that Commissioner Marmorato has recused himself from the certification of all matters relating to the 13th Council District for the June 27, 2023 Primary Election.

The Deputy Chief Clerks, Brendaliz Candelaria and Dawn Sandow confirmed that the results presented are accurate and correct, there are no discrepancies to report, and the audit of the poll site and central count scanners

required by Article 9 of the New York State Election Law have been successfully completed.

Based on that report, Commissioner Marmorato moved that the Board of Canvassers certify the Returns of Canvass for the Public Offices and Party Positions for the Primary Election conducted in Bronx County, except in the 13th Council District which he has recused himself of. Commissioner Umame seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Returns of Canvass prepared and submitted by the Bronx County Staff of the Board of Elections, with the exception of the 13th Council District which Commissioner Marmorato recused himself of, were adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Umame moved that the Board of Canvassers certify the Returns of Canvass for the Public Offices and Party Positions for the Primary Election conducted in Bronx County for the 13th Council District. Commissioner Coppotelli seconded the motion, with one recusal, Commissioner Marmorato, the motion was adopted unanimously.

The Returns of Canvass prepared and submitted by the Bronx County Staff of the Board of Elections with respect to the 13th Council District were adopted unanimously, except for the recusal noted herein.

Commissioner Marmorato, on behalf of Commissioner Morales and himself, thanked the entire Bronx Staff for all of their hard work, diligence and effort during this challenging time, noting that they did a tremendous job and everyone worked incredibly hard.

Commissioner Marmorato also thanked the Staff, Supervisors and Deputy Chief Clerks, Brendaliz Candelaria and Dawn Sandow.

The Commissioner stated that he wanted to take this time to personally thank the Deputy Chief Clerk, Dawn Sandow for all of her service and years to the Board serving as the Deputy Executive Director, Acting Executive Director, Deputy Clerk, serving as a friend and mentor; she's there for everyone, always there to support, always there to work hard for the Board during her many years of service.

Commissioner Marmorato presented Ms. Sandow with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the Board.

President Shamoun extended thanks and gratitude to Ms. Sandow as well, for all of her years of hard work and dedication and for being in the trenches for as long as he has been here, noting that he came to the Board right after Hurricane Sandy.

Ms. Sandow thanked everyone.

President Shamoun asked that the Board of Canvassers make a motion to approve and adopt the Recap Statement and Return of Canvass for those Council Districts which cross borough lines.

Secretary Pepe-Souvenir moved to adopt the Recap Statement and Return of Canvass for those Council Districts which cross borough lines. Commissioner Coppotelli seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Recap Statements and Returns of Canvass for the Public Offices for Primary Elections conducted on June 27, 2023 for those Districts which cross borough lines within the City of New York were approved.

Commissioner Umane moved to authorize the use of the Commissioners' electronic signatures as needed and appropriate on each Statement and Return of

Canvass. Secretary Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Coppotelli moved to adjourn the Meeting of the Board of Canvassers and convene the weekly stated meeting of the Board of Commissioners, in the City of New York. Secretary Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The meeting of the Board of Canvassers was adjourned.

Following the meeting of the Board of Canvassers, the regular stated meeting of the Board of Commissioners resumed.

Mr. Ignizio acknowledged Hemalee Patel, the Board's General Counsel to address the Commissioners Committee.

Mrs. Patel introduced the Commissioners Committee to the Board's newest Associate for the Office of the General Counsel, Stephanie Jaquez. Mrs. Patel stated that Ms. Jaquez joins us from the Borough of the Bronx, she started with the Board yesterday, and has already started pitching in.

The Commissioners welcomed Ms. Jaquez.

Mr. Ignizio continued with item #2 of the meeting agenda, the approval of the minutes of the July 11, 2023 Commissioners Meeting.

Without objection, the minutes of July 11, 2023 will be adopted as submitted.

Hearing no objections, the minutes of the July 11, 2023 Commissioners Meeting were adopted as written.

Secretary Pepe-Souvenir moved to set the date of the next meeting for Tuesday, July 25, 2023 at 1:30 P.M. Commissioner Marmorato seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Marmorato moved to adjourn the meeting and convene an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. President Shamoun seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Following the Executive Session, the open meeting resumed.

During the Executive Session, the following actions were taken by the unanimous decision of the Board of Commissioners:

1. Elizabeth English – Senior Administrator, was appointed as the “Acting” Deputy Chief Clerk of the Bronx borough office, effective July 19, 2023. Ms. English will serve in the acting position at the salary of \$146,705.00.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at 1:30 P.M.