

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018 AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Rosanna Vargas
 Secretary John Wm. Zaccone

Commissioners Jose Araujo, John Flateau, Michael Michel, Alan Schulkin,
Simon Shamoun, Robert Siano

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director
Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel
Steven Guglielmi, Director, Personnel
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Communications & Public Affairs
Troy Johnson, Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: Kate Doran, LWVNYC
 Joseph Sutkowi, NYU Wagner
 Courtney Gross, NY1
 Wendy Byrne, LWVNYC
 Catherine Gray, LWVNYC

President Vargas called the meeting to order at 1:39 P.M.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt the minutes for the February 6, 2018 meeting. Commissioner Flateau seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Savino requested for the designation of a Commissioners' Petition Cover Sheet Review Committee Meeting for Independent Nominating Petitions for the April 24, 2018 Special Election on Thursday, February 22, 2018. Commissioners Schulkin and Shamoun volunteered to serve as the Commissioners' Committee on Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 2:30 P.M. Public notice of the meeting will be posted on the Board's website and Front Counters.

Mr. Johnson presented the Draft Notice to All Candidates for the April 24, 2018 Special Elections. Copies of the Draft Notice were distributed for review. Mr. Johnson reported that the Office of the General Counsel previously reviewed it. In response to Commissioner Araujo, Mr. Johnson reported that there were no substantial changes to the Draft Notice from previous elections. Secretary Zaccone moved to adopt the Notice to All Candidates for the April 24, 2018 Special Elections as presented. Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Flateau inquired if all poll sites will be opened or combined in the select number of districts for the April 24, 2018 Special Elections. Mr. Ryan reported that Board staff will be conducting an analysis of those poll sites and he will report back to the respective borough Commissioners. The Special Elections will be held in the 39th, 74th and 80th Assembly Districts and the 32nd State Senate District.

Mr. Ryan reported that the Board received a formal request to attend the New York City Council's Committee on Governmental Operations Hearings on Budget and Oversight for Fiscal Year 2019. The Hearing is scheduled on Monday, March 19, 2018 at 12:00 P.M. Mr. Ryan requested approval for the Board to prepare testimony and to testify at the Hearing. Secretary Zaccone requested for the draft testimony to be circulated to the Commissioners in advance of the Hearing. Commissioner Flateau requested to include the issue of living wage/compensation for Board employees. Mr. Ryan reported that there can be a future discussion among the Commissioners on that issue, and it can be included in the testimony if there is a consensus among the Commissioners. President Vargas moved to authorize the Board to prepare draft testimony and to testify at the New York City Council's Committee on Governmental

Operations Hearing. Secretary Flateau seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ryan provided an update on voter registration processing.

The information follows:

- A total of 6,294 felons citywide have been removed from the voter rolls between January 1, 2012 through the end of 2017. The City Board receives felon lists from the State Board. The information is provided to the State Board by the New York State Office of Court Administration, New York State Department of Correction, Federal Courts, and other entities. Borough Office staff works the felon list and removes voters pending an appropriate match using identifying fields such as their full name, date of birth, address, etc. Convicted felons lose their right to vote and are purged from the registration system. When their sentence is finished, they have to re-register in order to vote. It was noted that they cannot register if they are out of jail and on parole. Formally incarcerated voters will receive new voter serial number when they re-register to vote. Commissioner Araujo recommended getting the message out to formally incarcerated voters to

re-register to vote if they have finished their sentence. He recommended posting that information on the Board's website as a FAQ bullet point;

- There were a total of 54,460 potential Duplicates citywide from the Statewide Duplicate List. Borough Office staff worked the list and a total of 43,001 Duplicates were removed from the voter rolls. These Duplicates were voters who registered somewhere else in the State of New York, out of the five (5) boroughs;
- A total of 78,943 Death notices were received by the State Board dating back to 2007. Notification of deaths comes from the New York State Department of Health. Borough Office staff has been working the list and matched a total of 18,114 Deaths to date. Mr. Ryan noted that the numbers will not line up exactly when the task is finished because some voters could be entered in the system once as a Death and once as a Duplicate, depending if the voter used their middle initial or not. Currently, there is a total of 57,352 Deaths in the queue for processing. Mr. Ryan noted that the Board has been criticized in the past for not removing deceased voters from the rolls; the Board has the data now and staff is removing them;

- Over 80,000 Duplicates and Deaths have been purged from the voter roll system.

Commissioner Flateau inquired if 17 year olds can pre-register to vote. Mr. Ryan reported that 17 year olds can pre-register to vote if they will turn 18 years old before or on Election Day. Those 17 year old pre-registrations are held off on the side by staff for processing.

Secretary Zaccone moved to convene an Executive Session for personnel and litigation matters. Commissioner Siano seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Following Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed and Mr. Ryan reported the following actions that were taken in Executive Session:

- I. The Commissioners unanimously ratified a previously executed Stipulation of Settlement, dated February 12, 2018, for Michael Neglia, an Administrative Associate in the General Office, which concerns the resolution of personnel issues;
- II. The Commissioners granted 105 hours Advance of Sick Leave Time to Daniel Castorina, an Administrative Assistant in the

General Office. Mr. Castorina's agency start date is December 19, 2016;

- III. The Commissioners granted 35 hours Advance of Time to Lawrence Capici, an Administrative Assistant in the Manhattan Office. Mr. Capici's agency start date is June 1, 1998;
- IV. The Commissioners granted 126 hours Advance of Time to Luann Kubler, a Clerk in the Brooklyn Office, retroactive to February 7, 2018. Ms. Kubler's agency start date is September 30, 2001;
- V. In a vote of six (6) in favor and two (2) opposed, the Commissioners approved an application for a waiver from the New York City Conflicts of Interests Board (COIB) on behalf of John P. O'Grady, Chief Voting Machine Technician in the General Office, for their concurrence on a matter.

President Vargas moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded, and unanimously adopted.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 1:30 P.M.