

MEETING OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2014  
AT 1:30 P.M.  
42 BROADWAY, 6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR, EVS CONFERENCE ROOM  
NEW YORK, NY 10004

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PRESENT: Secretary Michael Michel

Commissioners Jose Araujo, Ronald Castorina, Julie Dent, Maria R. Guastella, Michael Rendino, Simon Shamoun, Frederic M. Umame

Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director  
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager  
Steven H. Richman, General Counsel  
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel  
Valerie Vazquez, Director, Communications & Public Affairs  
Nina M. Crispino, Director, Personnel  
Matthew Graves, Acting Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit  
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners  
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: Monica Bartley, CIDNY  
Anna Maria Thomas, Ed.D  
Kate Doran, LWV  
Liz Robins, CM Kallos  
Lindsey Ramisiella, DOI  
John D. Smith  
C. Katz, NYDN  
Rachael Fauss, Citizens Union  
Katharine Loving, CFB

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Secretary Michel called the meeting to order at 1:32 P.M.

Commissioner Araujo moved to approve the minutes for the July 8, 2014 meeting. Commissioner Guastella seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Secretary Michel noted that Commissioner Dent joined the meeting.

Secretary Michel reported that the Board received a signed letter from President Soumas dated July 11, 2014. It states, "By this letter, I resign my position as Commissioner of the Board of Elections in the City of New York, effective immediately." Secretary Michel requested for a nominee for President. Commissioner Guastella moved to nominate Commissioner Araujo as President. Commissioner Dent seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. Due to Commissioner Soumas' vacancy, the Board needs an Acting Democratic Committee Member for New York County. Commissioner Umane moved to nominate Commissioner Guastella as Acting Democratic Commissioner for New York County. Commissioner Dent seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Graves reported on the number of Petitions and General Objections filed for the September 2014 Primary Election to date. Copies

of the reports were distributed to the Commissioners. Mr. Graves summarized the reports. The information follows:

- 1,449 Petition Volumes were filed and processed citywide.
  - New York County – 136
  - Bronx County – 106
  - Kings County – 804
  - Queens County – 297
  - Richmond County – 105
- 8,781 Candidacies were processed citywide.
  - 6,467 were County Committee
- 329 General Objections were filed citywide.
  - New York County – 31
  - Bronx County – 141
  - Kings County – 129
  - Queens County – 61
  - Richmond County – 4

Commissioner Umane and Commissioner Dent volunteered for the Commissioners' Cover Sheet Review Committee scheduled on Friday, July 18, 2014 at 3:00 P.M.

President Araujo and Secretary Michel volunteered for the Commissioners' Cover Sheet Review Committee scheduled on July 22, 2014, immediately after the Commissioners' Meeting.

Commissioner Rendino requested to report on a matter.

Commissioner Rendino recalled that when he initially started working at the Board he questioned why voter turnout and voter registration was so low in New York City. He discussed this issue with the Bronx Office staff and how the Board can improve this issue moving forward. To energize younger people to vote, the Board got involved with social media such as Instagram, FaceBook, YouTube, and Twitter. Commissioner Rendino reported that the Commissioners' Outreach Committee (Commissioners Araujo, Dent, Shamoun and Rendino) authorized the Bronx Office Social Media Team to create a voter outreach video for the Board in-house. The video will be posted today and can be viewed on the Board's website and FaceBook page.

Commissioner Umame inquired if there will be a more simplified Poll Site Locator for the 2014 September and November elections. Ms. Vazquez reported that there will be a simplified Poll Site Locator which

does not require the user to download an App. Instead, the Poll Site Locator, [www.nyc.pollsitelocator.com](http://www.nyc.pollsitelocator.com), will be optimized for cell phones. The Poll Site Locator will be promoted on all paid media and the required notices that are mailed to registered voters in August. Commissioner Shamoun reported that he extensively used the Poll Site Locator this past election and noted that it was a top hit on Google.

Commissioner Dent moved to adjourn the meeting. President Araujo seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, July 22, 2014 at 1:30 P.M.