

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK AND HEARINGS ON DESIGNATING
PETITIONS AND RELATED MATTERS FOR THE
SEPTEMBER 10, 2015 PRIMARY ELECTION
HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2015
AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Michael Michel
 Secretary Bianka Perez

Commissioners Jose Araujo, Ronald Castorina, John Flateau, Maria R. Guastella, Alan Schulkin, Michael Rendino, Simon Shamoun, Frederic M. Umane

Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager
Steven H. Richman, General Counsel
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel
James Barron, Temporary Contract Attorney, OGC
Victor Montemayor, Law Student Summer Intern, OGC
Nina M. Crispino, Director, Personnel
Troy Johnson, Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit
Matthew Graves, Administrative Associate, Candidate Records Unit
Rayvon Weaver, Administrative Assistant, Candidate Records Unit
Shanette Brown, Administrative Assistant, Candidate Records Unit
Bart Haggerty, Deputy Chief Clerk, Queens Office
Robert Pataky, Administrative Associate, Queens Office
Anthony Ribustello, Deputy Chief Clerk, Bronx Office
Marricka Scott-McFadden, Deputy Chief Clerk, Bronx Office
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: Sam Sloan
 Sandra Sloan
 Millie Quinones
 Terryl E. DeMendonea

Donnie Whitehead
Sabine French
Katherine James
Ruthie Campbell
Oster Gibson
Abigail Riley
Saturo Padio
Stanley Schlein
Ezra Glaser
F. Bolz
M. Reid
Sarina Trangle, City & State
Kate Doran, LWVNYC
Marissa Soto
Emiliaro Perez
Sabrina Oudine, NYDLC
John D. Smith
Katharine Loving, CFB
Cathy Gray
Egidio Sementelli
John Perez
Ariel Santiago
Michael Benjamin
Rita M.
Ricky Martinez
Alan Flacks, Member of NY County Democratic Committee
Mike Dillon

President Michel called the meeting to order at 1:33 P.M.

Mr. Richman requested for a Commissioners' Petition and Cover Sheet Review Committee to review four (4) purported Cures for New York County meeting immediately after the Commissioners' Meeting.

Commissioner Araujo reported that the Commissioners' Ballot Committee reviewed sample absentee ballots for the September 10, 2015 Primary Election and there were two (2) variations. One sample ballot option had a uniform font size of 8 point borough wide, and the other sample ballot option had various font sizes from 8 point to 12 point for the boroughs. Commissioner Araujo reported that the Commissioners' Ballot Committee recommends for the Borough Commissioners to determine the font size for their borough wide races for their Primary absentee ballots allowing certain counties to have a larger font size depending on how many candidates there are on the ballot. Sample absentee ballots were distributed to the Commissioners for review as well as the New York City Law Department's opinion on different ballot font sizes concerning citywide Mayoral races. Commissioner Umane reported that the opinion is clear that a citywide election should not have different font sizes on the ballots, but a borough wide election ballot can have a slightly larger font because there is room on the ballot. He noted that the Board should keep the ballot as readable as possible for the voters, and to have one ballot verse a two-page ballot is better as well. He added that the Commissioners' Ballot Committee's Report is a reasonable balance and is fair for the candidates running in the election. Commissioner Umane moved to adopt the Commissioners' Ballot Committee's recommendation concerning the

absentee ballots for the September 10, 2015 Primary Election. Commissioner Guastella seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. Commissioner Umame noted that the Commissioners could ask the Corporation Counsel for their opinion given the current circumstances. Commissioner Araujo noted that every year the Commissioners have to approve the form of the ballot and they can revisit the font size issue per election.

Commissioner Flateau moved to adopt the minutes for the July 21, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioner Umame moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Guastella seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at 1:30 P.M. immediately following the Opportunity to Ballot Petition Hearings.

President Michel announced that the Commissioners will conduct the Hearings on challenges to designation petitions for State and Local Offices

as well as Party Positions to be contested in the September 10, 2015 Primary Election.

President Michel noted that Ms. Sandow joined the meeting.

President Michel stated the procedures to be followed during the Hearings and called upon Mr. Richman to call the Calendar for the Hearings.

Mr. Richman called the Calendar for the Hearings on Designating Petition matters for Queens County. He noted that the Calendar was posted for the public as required.

Mr. Richman reported that there were no Legal Prima Facie issues for Queens County.

Mr. Johnson presented the Candidate Records Unit (CRU) Prima Facie Report for Queens County. In selected instances, there were appearances by a candidate and/or their representative which is noted on the CRU Prima Facie Report on file at the Board. The Commissioners'

determinations are reflected on the CRU Prima Facie Report on file at the Board.

Mr. Johnson presented the Candidate Enrollment Issues Report for Queens County. In selected instances, there were appearances by a candidate and/or their representative which is noted on the Candidate Enrollment Issues Report on file at the Board. The Commissioners' determinations are reflected on the Candidate Enrollment Issues Report on file at the Board.

Mr. Richman called the Calendar for the Hearings on Designating Petition matters for Bronx County. He noted that the Calendar was posted for the public as required.

Mr. Richman presented the Legal Prima Facie Report for Bronx County. In selected instances, there were appearances by a candidate and/or their representative which is noted on the Legal Prima Facie Report on file at the Board. The Commissioners' determinations are reflected on the Legal Prima Facie Report on file at the Board.

Mr. Richman presented the Counsel's Report on Specification of Objections BX1-1. There were appearances by a candidate and/or their representative which is noted on the Counsel's Report on file at the Board. The Commissioners' determination is reflected on the Counsel's Report on file at the Board.

Mr. Graves presented the Candidate Enrollment Issues for Bronx County. There were no appearances. The Commissioners' determinations are reflected on the Candidate Enrollment Issues Report on file at the Board.

Mr. Savino presented the Clerks' Reports for Bronx County. In selected instances, there were appearances by a candidate and/or their representative which is noted on the Clerks' Report on file at the Board. The Commissioners' determinations are reflected on each Clerks' Report acted upon.

Commissioner Castorina requested to raise a matter. On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Castorina moved for the Board to request Corporation Counsel to ask Queens County Administrative Judge Weinstein, with respect to Staten Island Specifications, to have someone

be sent out to review them at the Staten Island Office. Mr. Richman reported that the Office of Court Administration has transferred all of the Staten Island election matters to Queens County. Commissioner Guastella seconded Commissioner Castorina's motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Commissioners Araujo and Michel thanked the Queens Office staff for their hard work during the petition cycle.

Commissioners Rendino and Perez thanked the Bronx Office staff for their hard work during the petition cycle.

President Michel moved to adjourn the Hearings. The motion was seconded, which was unanimously adopted.