

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Michael Michel

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

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director
Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager
Steven H. Richman, General Counsel
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel
Nina M. Crispino, Director, Personnel
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: Amanda Melillo, CFB
Katharine Loving, CFB
Kate Doran, LWV NYC
Cathy Gray
Alan Flacks, Member of NY County Democratic Committee

President Michel called the meeting to order at 1:35 P.M.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt the minutes for the October 27, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded, with

Commissioners Castorina and Shamoun abstaining. The motion was adopted.

Commissioners Rendino and Umane requested to discuss personnel matters in Executive Session.

President Michel moved to convene an Executive Session for purposes of personnel. Commissioner Castorina seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

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

- I. The Commissioners granted an advance of 140 hours to Tirsia Fernandez, a Clerk in the Manhattan Office, and is to be paid back with her accruals upon her return, effective immediately. Ms. Fernandez's employment start date is October 2, 2011;
- II. The Commissioners granted an advance of 140 hours to Anthony Ribustello, Deputy Chief Clerk of the Bronx Office, and is to be paid back with his accruals upon his return, effective immediately. Mr. Ribustello's employment start date is August 6, 2006. In Mr. Ribustello's absence, Frank Tosi will

serve as Acting Deputy Chief Clerk of the Bronx Office, effective retroactive to Mr. Ribustello's original leave date.

The report on the November 3, 2015 General Election and discussion on accessibility was tabled and will be addressed at the next meeting.

Mr. Ryan reported that the Board was invited to testify at the New York State Assembly Committee on Election Law public hearing on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 in Albany, NY. A copy of the official hearing notice is in the agenda. The purpose of the hearing is to evaluate potential opportunities to make voting more accessible to all New York State voters, and examine strategies including, but not limited to, Early Voting and "No Excuse" absentee balloting. Mr. Ryan recalled that the Board has taken no position on these items in the past and inquired if the position remains the same. Commissioner Umane moved for the Board to take no position and to authorize Executive Management to prepare and submit Testimony providing information and additional costs of such programs. Commissioner Castorina seconded the motion, with Commissioner Flateau abstaining. The motion was adopted. Mr. Ryan inquired if he should bring attention to the Board's Legislative Package which pertains to items at the hearing. There was a consensus among the

Commissioners for Executive Management to address the Board's Legislative Package at the hearing.

Mr. Ryan reported that the Election Commissioners' Association (ECA) Winter Conference is scheduled from January 11, 2016 through January 14, 2016 in Albany, NY. He requested approval for Executive Management and staff to attend the ECA Conference. Commissioner Araujo moved to approve Mr. Ryan's request. Commissioner Umane seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

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

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 1:30 P.M.