

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2021 AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Frederic M. Umane
 Secretary Miguelina Camilo

Commissioners Jose Araujo, Michael Michel, Simon Shamoun, Tiffany Townsend

Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager
Wilma Brown Philips, Administrative Manager
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: Alan Flacks, Member of NY County Democrats

President Umane called the meeting to order at 1:40 P.M.

President Umane reported that the Board of Elections has been unfairly hit hard in the press. He recognized that all staff members and over 36,000 poll workers are essential workers who braved the global pandemic and worked long hours during the Early Voting period and on Election Day. The Board never closed conducting three (3) Special Elections, the Presidential Primary Election, General Election, June Primary Election, and implemented the new Ranked Choice

Voting (RCV) system throughout the pandemic. He gave accolades to all election workers and noted that the Board was included in New York City's Parade of Hometown Heroes last week. President Umane acknowledged that there was a reporting error on the unofficial results, but it did not affect the accuracy of the Primary Election and the Board is looking to move forward. He provided a brief historical account of the New York City Tammany Hall scandals before the Board of Elections was made a bipartisan agency. There was progressive reform in the early 20th century to make the people who counted votes bipartisan to ensure that all elections were conducted fair, open and transparent. On behalf of the Commissioners, President Umane thanked every Board staff member, poll worker and voter in the City of New York.

An Executive Session to discuss personnel matters was added to the agenda.

Ms. Sandow provided an update on the June 22, 2021 Primary Election.

The information is as follows:

- The 3rd RCV unofficial round-by-round elimination report was released today which includes in person, absentee and affidavit ballots;
- There were a total of 3,699 invalid ballots citywide which fell within the curable category that were mailed to the voters;

- There are a total of 55 eligible Cures citywide due back by close of business on Wednesday, July 14, 2021;
- All Cures will be opened on Thursday, July 15, 2021;
- After the Cure process is completed, the Board will conduct the Random Draw and proceed with the State's mandated audit of the voting equipment;
- Staff is in the process of reviewing all elections to see if any fall within the statutory manual recount threshold; and
- A manual recount may be required in the 9th City Council District in New York County. The final determination will be made after the Cure deadline has expired.

Ms. Sandow reported that the Board's goal is to certify the June Primary on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, but there is no firm date until the entire canvass is completed pursuant to the law. All updates will be posted on the Board's website. Ms. Sandow recommended to the full Board of Commissioners to certify the June 22, 2021 Primary Election next week, except for the 9th City Council District contest if staff has to proceed with a manual recount.

Ms. Sandow requested for a moment of silence for Board staff members who lost their lives this year – Johnnie Joyner, Eunice Oden, Russel Taylor, Heidi Wilcox, Kristina Williams, Timothy James, Lloyd Garner II, Robert Siano,

Anthony Ribustello, and John Colesanti. They will always be remembered for their service and sacrifice to the Board.

President Umane moved to convene an Executive Session for personnel matters. Commissioner Shamoun seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Following Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed.

There was nothing to report from Executive Session.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 1:30 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned.