

MEETING OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2007
AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

P R E S E N T: Anthony Como, President
 James Sampel, Secretary

Commissioners Graham, O'Connor, Schacher, Soumas, Umane,
Yennella

John Ravitz, Executive Director
George Gonzalez, Deputy Executive Director
Steven H. Richman, General Counsel
Phil Donahue, Director, Personnel
John Ward, Finance Officer
Joseph LaRocca, Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit
Elliot Borack, ACCO
John O'Grady, Chief Voting Machine Technician
Lucille Grimaldi, Director, EVS
Mona Huang, Sr. Computer Programmer
Philip Mione, Computer Data Analyst
Beth Fossella, Coordinator, Voter Registration Unit
Antonia Figueroa, EDO's Poll Site Accessibility Unit
Steve Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

Guests: Chris T. Peifer, Vice President, S.O.E Software
 Branden Elwell, Director, S.O.E. Software
 Marjorie Shea, Women's City Club
 Adrienne Kivelson, League of Women Voters
 Alyssa Usui, NYC Voter Assistance Commission
 Teresa Hummel
 Mark Herman

President Como called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M.

President Como moved to approve the minutes of May 8, 2007. Commissioner Schacher seconded the motion, which was adopted by a vote of 7 in favor (President Como, Secretary Sampel, Commissioners Graham, Schacher, Soumas, Umane, Yennella) and 1 abstention (Commissioner O'Connor).

President Como moved to table the minutes of May 15, 2007 until the next meeting. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Executive Director reported that Senior Management would be conducting Borough Office visits and invited the Commissioners to attend:

Brooklyn Borough Office	June 11, 2007	10:00 A.M.
Staten Island Borough Office	June 12, 2007	10:00 A.M.
Queens Borough Office	June 13, 2007	10:00 A.M.
Bronx Borough Office	June 14, 2007	10:00 A.M.
Manhattan Borough Office	June 15, 2007	10:00 A.M.

The General Counsel provided the Commissioners with the revised Designating Petition and Opportunity to Ballot Petition Rules for the September 2007 Primary Election based on their discussion at last weeks' meeting. He reported that the comments/suggestions to Rules H1 and G1 have been added so that the Board could hopefully adopt the 2007 Designating Petition and Opportunity to Ballot Petition Rules for the September 2007 Primary Election.

Commissioner Umane recommended some additional wording to Rule G1 explaining that there may still be some confusion with whether or not a candidate's subsequent filing is made or carried out in good faith. He asked the Board to consider adding the proposed language to the end of revised Rule G1: "provided however if it is readily apparent from the face of the last filed, unclaimed, petition or cover sheet that the documents were filed by the objector's opposed candidate or party official of a party other than the party of the candidate, the document should not be used to determine the commencement of such three day period."

After discussion, Commissioner Umane moved to authorize the

General Counsel to add the following language {Note: The Board reserves the right to conduct an inquiry into the facts and circumstances of the filing of any document and the application of Rule G1} on behalf of the Board. Commissioner Soumas seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner O'Connor moved to adopt the 2007 Designating Petition and Opportunity to Ballot Petition Rules for the September 2007 Primary Election as amended. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The General Counsel advised that based on the Commissioners authorization in March the Board staff solicited bids to retain the services of two temporary attorneys for this year's petition review process. Following solicitation and receipt of bids, he recommended the retention of Staffing Ease based on it having the lowest responsive bid range and our prior experience with them last year.

Commissioner O'Connor moved to authorize the retention of Staffing Ease to provide temporary attorneys through the 2007 Primary

and General Election petition process. President Como seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The General Counsel provided the Commissioners with an update on the date of the September Primary. He reported that as of yesterday afternoon the Assembly passed the bill (A.8129/S.5755) moving the Primary to September 18th and returned it to the Senate, which then must submit it to the Governor.

The Chief Voting Machine Technician requested approval to conduct a pilot project during the next few months using Bright Board LCD Light Display Systems in lieu of flipcharts to assist adjunct trainers when they conduct poll worker training classes.

Commissioner O'Connor moved to authorize the Chief Voting Machine Technician to conduct the pilot project using Bright Board LCD Light Display Systems during poll worker training classes. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Chief Voting Machine Technician requested approval to conduct a second pilot project from the 2007 September Primary through the February 2008 Election Cycle. He explained that the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags which cost \$1.25 each are equipped with a radio transmitter that will allow the Board to monitor the movement of voting machines.

After discussion, Commissioner O'Connor moved to authorize the Chief Voting Machine Technician to conduct a pilot project using RFID tags on voting machines in the Staten Island Voting Machine Facility during the September 2007 through the February 2008 Election Cycle. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

President Como recognized for brief comments from Teresa Hummel.

The Voter Registration Coordinator provided the Commissioners with a draft of the Procedures for Processing Court Orders. After discussion, Commissioners Umane moved to adopt the Procedures for

Processing Court Orders. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously. The Commissioners also directed that on each Election Day, the Borough Chief Clerk and Deputy Chief Clerk provide the Supreme Court Justices assigned to the Special Election Part a supply of voter registration forms and request that each voter who appears before the Justice and no registration record is located to complete a form.

Finance Officer John Ward provided the Commissioners with the Comparative Expenditure Report dated May 22, 2007.

President Como moved to rescind his previous motion of May 15, 2007 granting Emily Debiase, a secretary in the Queens Office, a 30-days sick leave extension. Commissioner Soumas seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Executive Director introduced Chris T. Peifer and Branden Elwell, from S.O.E. Software who would present a video demonstration of their clarity training program.

President Como moved to convene an Executive Session to discuss personnel and litigation matters. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The President reported that no actions were taken in the Executive Session.

President Como moved to adjourn. Commissioner O'Connor seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

President Como announced that the next Commissioners' meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 29, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. with the Hearings on Independent Nominating Petitions for the June 5, 2007 Special Election as the first order of business.