

MEETING OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 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 Ronald Castorina, John Flateau, Maria R. Guastella,
Michael Rendino, Alan Schulkin, Simon Shamoun, Frederic M. Umane

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

GUEST: Sabrina O., NYDLC
 Rachael Fauss, Citizens Union
 Kate Doran, LWV NYC
 Katharine Loving, NYC CFB
 Cathy Gray
 Alan Flacks, Member of NY County Democratic Committee

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

Commissioner Flateau moved to adopt the minutes for the
June 9, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Guastella seconded the motion, with

Commissioners Castorina and Shamoun abstaining. The motion was adopted. Commissioners Castorina and Shamoun abstained because they were not present at that meeting.

Commissioner Umane moved to adopt the minutes for the June 16, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Flateau seconded the motion, with Commissioners Guastella and Michel abstaining. The motion was adopted. Commissioners Guastella and Michel abstained because they were not present at that meeting.

President Michel reported that there will be an Executive Session to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

Mr. Richman presented the Draft Independent Nominating Petition Filing Calendar for the November 2015 General Election. Copies of the draft Calendar were circulated to the Commissioners. Mr. Richman requested for the Commissioners to schedule a date and time for the Hearings on Independent Nominating Petitions. There was consensus among the Commissioners to schedule the Hearings on Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at 1:30 P.M. Commissioner Umane moved to adopt the Calendar and to schedule the Hearings on Independent Nominating

Petitions on Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at 1:30 P.M. Secretary Perez seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. The Calendar will be posted on the Board's website.

Mr. Richman reminded that the Hearings on Designating Petitions for the September 10, 2015 Primary Election are scheduled on Tuesday, July 28, 2015 at 10:00 A.M., Wednesday, July 29, 2015 at 10:00 A.M., and Thursday, July 30, 2015 at 10:00 A.M., if necessary.

Due to scheduling conflicts, Commissioner Umane moved to designate a bipartisan Commissioners Committee of two (2) Republicans and two (2) Democrats to serve as the full Board in the event there is not a quorum at the next meeting. Commissioner Flateau seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

President Michel moved to convene an Executive Session. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted.

Following Executive Session, the open public meeting resumed and President Michel reported the following actions taken in Executive Session:

- I. The Commissioners reviewed the employees' salaries and made the following adjustments:
 - a. Chief Clerks – Starting salary will be \$120,000 and after 3 years will be increased to \$130,000. Deputy Chief Clerks – Starting salary will be \$115,000 and after 3 years will be increased to \$125,000. Chief Clerks and Deputy Chief Clerks must be Chiefs or Deputies for 3 years to receive the increase. These salaries are effective June 21, 2015. Chief Clerks and Deputy Chief Clerks can no longer receive any type of merit pay. This motion was adopted with a vote of eight (8) in favor (Commissioners Castorina, Guastella, Michel, Perez, Rendino, Shamoun, Schulkin, Umane) and one (1) abstention (Commissioner Flateau);
 - b. General Office Managers within a Managerial Title – The Commissioners unanimously approved a 5% increase in their salaries, effective June 21, 2015;
 - c. Executive Director Michael J. Ryan will receive an annual salary of \$198,200 and Deputy Executive Director Dawn Sandow will receive an annual salary of \$182,500, effective June 21, 2015. This motion was unanimously

adopted. These salaries are in line with the NYC Campaign Finance Board and other City agencies' salaries;

- II. The Commissioners granted an advance of 140 hours for Shanette Brown, an Administrative Assistant in the General Office, to be used intermittently and to be paid back with her accruals upon her return to work. This grant is effective immediately;
- III. Domingo Dilan, a Clerk in the Brooklyn Office, was suspended for five (5) work days in connection with an Employee Advisory Report, which became effective yesterday, Monday, June 23rd;
- IV. There was a disciplinary matter concerning Raquel Torres, an Administrative Assistant in the Queens Office. The Borough Committee acted which consisted of President Michel and Secretary Perez as so designated. A Stipulation was unanimously approved by the Commissioners in a vote of nine (9) in favor (Commissioners Castorina, Flateau, Guastella, Michel, Perez, Rendino, Shamoun, Schulkin, and Umane) to place Ms. Torres on one (1) year probation and to remove her as the Queens Voting Machine Facility Supervisor. Ms. Torres will return to the title of Voting Machine Technician (VMT) and

her annual rate of compensation will be reduced to \$32,565 which is equivalent to other Queens VMT's in the same title. Commissioner Araujo recused himself from all aspects concerning this disciplinary proceeding and was not present today.

President Michel moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Flateau seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

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