

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2021 AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Frederic M. Umane
 Secretary Rodney L. Pepe-Souvenir

Commissioners Jose Miguel Araujo, Jenny Low, Simon Shamoun, Patricia Anne Taylor, John Wm. Zaccone

Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director
Dawn Sandow, Deputy Executive Director
Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager
Wilma Brown Phillips, Administrative Manager
Hemalee J. Patel, General Counsel
Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

GUEST: John Edward Hummler, Challenge to a Voter Registration

President Umane called the meeting to order at 1:41 P.M.

Commissioner Low moved to adopt the October 26, 2021 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. President Umane seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ryan provided an update on the Tuesday, November 2, 2021 General Election. The information follows:

- There was a total of 1,600,849 voter check-ins at the poll sites. This excludes Absentee and Affidavit ballots;
- There was a total of 1,220 poll sites;
- Approximately 91,607 various pieces of voting equipment was deployed citywide;
- Accessibility equipment was installed at 620 poll sites to meet ADA compliance which includes temporary ramps and lifts. 50% of poll sites require temporary remediation to accommodate the accessibility community;
- A total of 35,390 poll workers' payroll was processed and is currently being finalized;
- The Board's Phone Bank received approximately 2,000 phone calls on Election Day for voter assistance. The majority of the calls were about poll site locations;
- The Poll Site Locator feature on the Board's website received approximately 400,000 hits;
- Post-election preparations have commenced;
- There are approximately 12,000 Affidavit ballots citywide;

- The Board mailed out 180,629 Absentee ballots and 184 Accessible ballots. The Board has received back 90,703 ballots citywide;
- A total of 82,202 Absentee ballots have been marked preliminary valid and 3,709 preliminary invalid. These are rolling numbers, not final;
- A total of 2,305 Cure Notices have been mailed out. A total of 777 Cure Notices are outstanding and are due back by November 18, 2021. These are rolling numbers, not final;
- The last day to receive a timely postmarked Absentee ballot is today, November 9, 2021, according to the NYS Election Law;
- The last day to receive a timely postmarked Military ballot is Monday, November 15, 2021 according to the NYS Election Law;
- The canvass of Absentee ballots commences on Monday, November 15, 2021. Detailed information can be found on the Board's website at vote.nyc. Absentee numbers by contest will be updated every Monday, Wednesday and Friday on the Board's website until Certification of the election; and
- The Board's goal is to certify the General Election on Tuesday, November 30, 2021.

Mr. Ryan reported that there is a challenge to a voter registration, pursuant to Section 5-220(1) of the New York State Election Law. The Governor's Executive Order did not suspend in-person voter challenges as required by law. Ms. Patel reported that John Edward Hummler, a member of the public, previously submitted his "Challenge to a Voter Registration" affidavit and supporting documents to the Board for review. President Umame recognized Mr. Hummler who challenged the following voter registration:

- Steven Wesley Barker, 395 South End Avenue, Apt. 19-L, New York, NY, 10280, VSN # 413896036

Mr. Hummler reported that he has lived at 395 South End Avenue, Apt. 19-L, New York, NY 10280 since 1995 and Steven Wesley Barker has never resided at his address. He started receiving voter mail for Mr. Barker in 2020. Mr. Hummler also inquired with the NYS DMV and they found Mr. Barker submitted a change of address in 2020. Ms. Patel reported that she ran a voter search and found that there was no voter history for Mr. Barker. The Commissioners reviewed the affidavit and supporting documents submitted by Mr. Hummler. After review, Mr. Hummler signed and submitted his "Challenge to a Voter Registration" affidavit with supporting documents to the Commissioners. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 5-220(1) of the New York State Election Law, President Umame administered the oath and Mr. Hummler swore before the Commissioners challenging the voter registration of Steven Wesley Barker, VSN # 413896036.

Ms. Patel requested permission to use the digital signatures for President Umane and Secretary Pepe-Souvenir on affidavit. The Commissioners approved the use of their digital signatures. A bi-partisan team in the Manhattan Office will conduct the required inquiry into this challenge and will report their findings.

Mr. Ryan reported that the Board received an invitation to attend the in-person New York State Election Commissioners' Association (ECA) Winter Conference scheduled from January 18, 2022 through January 21, 2022 in Albany, NY. Mr. Ryan requested approval by the Commissioners for appropriate staff to attend the ECA's Winter Conference. President Umane moved to authorize the Commissioners and appropriate staff to attend the in-person NYS ECA's Winter Conference. Secretary Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. Mr. Ryan will circulate the NYS ECA's invitation to the Commissioners.

President Umane moved to schedule the next Commissioners' Meeting on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 1:30 P.M. Secretary Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

President Umane moved to convene an Executive Session for personnel and litigation matters. Secretary Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Following Executive Session, the open meeting resumed. There were no matters to report from Executive Session.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 1:30 P.M.