

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2022 AT 1:30 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

PRESENT: President Rodney L. Pepe-Souvenir
Secretary Simon Shamoun

Commissioners Jose M. Araujo, Jenny Low, Jodi Morales, Patricia Anne Taylor,
Frederic M. Umame

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

Mr. Ryan added item #4 to the meeting agenda, an Executive Session to discuss Litigation and Personnel Matters.

Mr. Ryan announced that the last day to register to vote in person, for the November 8, 2022 General Election, is Friday, October 14, 2022. The Borough Offices will be open until 7:00 PM, and the General Office will be open until 12:00 midnight, to accommodate walk in registrations.

Registrations received by mail, must be postmarked by Friday, October 14, 2022, and received by the Board Offices no later than Wednesday, October 19, 2022.

The deadline to apply on-line for an absentee ballot is Monday, October 24, 2022, and the deadline to apply in-person is Monday, November 7, 2022.

As a reminder, due to a change in Law, New York State voters are no longer permitted to cast a ballot on a voting machine, if they have requested to vote by absentee ballot.

Voters who have requested to vote by absentee ballot, can still vote in person using an affidavit ballot.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #1 of the meeting agenda, and requested that the Commissioners approve the minutes of the September 27, 2022 Commissioners Meeting.

Mr. Ryan noted that Commissioner Morales was not present at the September 27, 2022 Commissioners Meeting.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adopt the minutes of the September 27, 2022 Commissioners Meeting. President Pepe-Souvenir seconded the motion, with Commissioner Morales abstaining. The motion was adopted.

The minutes of the September 27, 2022 Commissioners Meeting were approved.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #2 of the meeting agenda, and provided an update on the New York City Council Committee on Governmental Operations Hearing, which was held on Friday, September 30, 2022, regarding the implementation of Ranked Choice Voting.

Mr. Ryan stated that he and Deputy Executive Director, Vincent Ignizio gave testimony at the NYC Council hearing, and attended with members of the Executive Management.

Mr. Ryan reported that the NYC Council's Committee had several questions regarding ballot design, and a process on how the Board can work together with our City Partners to educate voters.

The NYC Council's Committee stressed the importance of voter education, and the Board pledged to continue to work together with our Partners in Government on behalf of the voters.

The Campaign Finance Board and Common Cause testified as well, and both entities provided positive feedback.

Mr. Ryan stated that there was a proposed Intro presented by the NYC Council's Committee, and in our written testimony the Board took no position with respect to the legality of the Intro.

The Board did address issues relating to implementation, and provided a sample ballot that was representative of how that Intro would appear on the ballot.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #3 of the meeting agenda, and provided the following update on General Election preparations:

- The Board is in the process of preparing for the November 8, 2022 General Election.

- The Early Voting period runs from Saturday, October 29, 2022 through Sunday, November 6, 2022, and Election Day is on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.
- The Board will open 140 Early Voting poll sites across the five boroughs. This is the largest amount of Early Voting sites, and Early Voting hours in the State of New York.

In addition, there will be 1,236 Election Day poll sites.

- Voting hours and poll site locations, including sample ballots, can be located on the Board's website at www.vote.nyc.
- All voting equipment, logic and accuracy testing is underway and will be completed on or before Friday, October 28, 2022.

Early Voting equipment will be delivered on Thursday, October 27, 2022 and Friday, October 28, 2022, with on-team site meetings scheduled for Friday, October 28, 2022 citywide.

In addition, the Board will deliver 10,356 pieces of Early Voting equipment, including 61 generators to power the Early Voting locations, and deliveries will begin on Monday, October 17, 2022.

For Election Day, the Board is scheduled to deploy 69,579 pieces of equipment to 1,236 Election Day poll sites. Election Day deliveries will begin during the week of October 24, 2022, and equipment deliveries will begin during the week of October 31, 2022.

- Poll Worker training is being conducted in-person and on-line, and assignments for Early Voting and Election Day are ongoing.

There are 34,665 Poll Worker positions, which we expect to meet our needs.

In Addition, the Board is on-track with its Language Assistance Program, and currently has a sufficient number of Interpreters trained to fill all required positions.

This month the Board has received almost 900 new Poll Worker applications citywide, and over 8,500 new Poll Worker applications have been received this year.

Anyone interested in serving as a Poll Worker, is encouraged to sign-up, as New York City Elections are made possible by the Citizens.

- The Board continues to receive and process absentee ballots for the November 8, 2022 General Election.

To date the Board has received, processed and mailed a total of 149,275 ballots, including 341 accessible ballots.

To date, the Board has received back 1,053 ballots citywide:

- 944 have been deemed valid and canvassed,
- 37 have been deemed invalid with the cure process ongoing.

The remaining ballots are being canvassed, and that process will continue as required by law.

- In the interest of voter education, with multiple redistricting and to avoid voter confusion, a mailing was sent to all registered voters with their assigned Early Voting locations and Election Day poll site locations.

The mailing began early last week, and was timed to coincide with the media and education campaign which began on Saturday, October 1, 2022, and will run through Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

The campaign as always includes print, social, radio and ethnic media. Early Voting hours have been included in print ads, in addition to informational posters with Election dates and hours, which were sent to all Government Offices, including Community Boards, Elected Officials and Libraries, as well as all Board Offices.

Any information needed can be located on the Board's website at www.vote.nyc or by contacting the Board Offices at 1-866-Vote-NYC.

This concluded the update on the November 8, 2022 General Election.

Mr. Ryan asked that the Commissioners Committee set the date of the next meeting, for Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at 1:30 P.M.

Commissioner Araujo moved to schedule the next meeting of the Commissioners for Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 1:30 P.M. Commissioner Umane seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ryan continued with item #4 of the meeting agenda, an Executive Session to discuss Litigation and Personnel Matters.

Commissioner Araujo moved to adjourn the weekly stated meeting of the Commissioners, and convene an Executive Session to discuss Litigation and Personnel matters. Commissioner Umane seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

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,
October 18, 2022 at 1:30 P.M.