

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 12, 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 Miguel Araujo, Michael J. Coppotelli, Jenny Low, Gino A. Marmorato, Jodi Morales, Patricia Anne Taylor, Frederic M. Umane

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

Thomas D. Sattie, Ballot Coordinator

GUEST: Kate Doran, League of Women Voters

Mr. Ignizio opened the meeting, and noted that the Board was tentatively scheduled to certify the results of the June 28, 2022 Primary Election at today's meeting, but there are still some outstanding Cures for Absentee and Affidavits, citywide. As of today, the latest Cure expires on Monday, July 18, 2022.

The certification of the June 28, 2022 Primary Election has been scheduled for next Tuesday, July 19, 2022.

Mr. Ignizio provided the following update on Absentee Ballots:

- Tuesday, July 5, 2022, was the last day for the Board to receive a timely postmarked Absentee Ballot.
- A total number of 84,593 Absentee Ballots were mailed.
- A total number of 40,421 Absentee Ballots have been returned.

Mr. Ignizio acknowledged a member of the public, Kate Doran, from the League of Women Voters.

Ms. Doran requested clarification on party enrollment changes in accordance with the new laws, and the blackout period for party enrollment changes. Anyone who registered or enrolled in a new party, will they be eligible to vote in the Primary Election on August 23, 2022.

Raphael Savino, Deputy General Counsel, informed Ms. Doran that the Black-out period was in effect from February 14, 2022 through June 28, 2022. All party changes will be reflected after the June 28, 2022 Primary Election, prior to the August 23, 2022 Primary Election.

Voters who go to the Polls during Early Voting and on Election Day, will be listed in the electronic poll books, and their party enrollment change will be reflected.

Ms. Doran had an additional inquiry regarding the return of in-person Commissioners' meetings. Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager, informed Ms. Doran that the Governor's Executive Order expires on Thursday, July 14, 2022. Mr. Ignizio confirmed that by lack of decree of the Governor, the Commissioners Meeting will be held in-person on Tuesday, July 19, 2022.

Mr. Ignizio continued with Item #1 of the meeting agenda, and requested that the Commissioners Committee approve the minutes of the July 5, 2022 Commissioners Meeting.

Commissioner Coppotelli moved to adopt the minutes of the July 5, 2022 Commissioners Meeting. Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Ignizio presented item #2 of the meeting agenda, Foil Appeals. Mr. Savino was requested to review the report with the Commissioners Committee.

Mr. Savino informed the Commissioners Committee that in February 2022, the Office of the General Counsel received a number of Foil requests for poll pad data, for the period of two years from each borough.

Mr. Savino noted that the requests seemed to be a coordinated effort, due to the fact that all of the requests were identical except for the name of the requestor.

Mr. Savino further noted that the data is rather voluminous and difficult to obtain. The MIS Department has been extremely busy with a number of challenges, including redistricting, and a busy election cycle. Mr. Savino reported that three of the requestors have filed appeals of constructive denial, stating that the Board took too long to respond, even though it was within the estimated time for the Board to respond.

On July 6, 2022, the appeals were presented before the Foil Appeal Committee, which included President Pepe-Souvenir and Secretary Shamoun. It was the Committee's decision to deny the appeals, in light of the difficulties that the MIS Department has had in providing the data. This would allow the Board another 90 days to obtain the data, some of which has been received, and review it to ensure that it is subject to Foil. Mr. Savino asked the Commissioners

Committee to ratify the decision of the Foil Appeal Committee, and the Office of the General Counsel will notify the Appellate Division of the decision.

Commissioner Umame moved to ratify the Foil Appeal Committee's decision. Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Ignizio presented item #3 of the meeting agenda, and provided an update on the August 23, 2022 Primary Election:

- The Board will begin the designation of Early Voting Poll Sites.
- A little more than 2.3 million primary voters, citywide, are eligible to vote in the August 2022 Primary Election.
- The Law requires that the Board provide a total of 60 Early Voting Sites.
- The Board has designated a total of 107 Early Voting Poll Sites.

Mr. Ignizio requested that the Commissioners Committee ratify the designations of Early Voting Poll Sites, for the August 23, 2022 Primary Election. Mr. Ignizio noted that the designated sites were provided to the Commissioners for their review, prior to today's meeting.

Commissioner Araujo confirmed with Mr. Ignizio that all poll site designations have been approved by the Borough Commissioners.

Secretary Shamoun moved to ratify the designation of Early Voting Poll Sites for the August 23, 2022 Primary Election. Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion, with two recusals, President Pepe-Souvenir and Commissioner Coppotelli. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Ignizio continued with the certification of Election Day ballots, and noted that sample ballots were provided to the Commissioners for their review, prior to today's meeting. All ballots will have a 12 point font size, and will be one-page and 14 inches in length, except for Queens County which will be 17 inches in length.

Mr. Ignizio requested that the full Board certify the ballots, so that test ballots can be ordered.

Commissioner Coppotelli moved to certify the Ballots for the August 23, 2022 Primary Election. Commissioner Araujo informed the Commissioners Committee that the ballots did not go before the Ballot Committee, but sample ballots were provided to the Commissioners via email, and a hardcopy was sent to the Borough Office for their review, prior to today's meeting. As Chairman of the Ballot Committee, Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Ignizio informed the Commissioners Committee that with their approval, the Board staff will be directed to post the Early Voting Poll Sites, Early Voting Hours and Sample Ballots for the August 23, 2022 Primary Election, on the Board's website.

Commissioner Umane moved to adjourn the meeting, and schedule the next meeting of the Commissioners for Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 1:30 P.M. Commissioner Araujo seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday,
July 19, 2022 at 1:30 P.M.