

MEETING OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2007
AT 4:00 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 7th FLOOR HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

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

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

John Ravitz, Executive Director
George Gonzalez, Deputy Executive Director
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
Valerie Vasquez, Director of Public Affairs
Phil Donahue, Director, Personnel
Joseph LaRocca, Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit
John Ward, Finance Officer
John O'Grady, Chief Voting Machine Technician
Steve Ferguson, Director, MIS
Michael Sternlieb, EDO
Barbara Conacchio, Chief Clerk, Queens
Troy Johnson, Chief Clerk, Manhattan
Timothy Gay, Deputy Chief Clerk, Manhattan
Karen Viggiano, Gartner Consultant
Pej Azarm, Gartner Consultant
Emily Rasmussen, Gartner Consultant
Lucille Grimaldi, Director, EVS
Philip Mione, Computer Data Analyst, EVS
Mona Huang, Sr. Computer Programmer, EVS
Steve Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners

Guests: Marjorie Shea, Women's City Club
 Mary Lou Urban, League of Women Voters
 Teresa Hummel, Community Church of New York
 Joe Friendly, Independent Film, Channel 34

Mark Herman

President Como called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

President Como advised that Board staff and Commissioners attended the N.Y.S. Election Commissioners' Association 2007 Winter Conference and congratulated the Executive Director on his excellent presentation which allowed State and County Board of Elections' Commissioners and staff to see the extensive work that the NYC Board is doing to help New York City comply with HAVA.

The Executive Director also thanked Board staff who were of assistance and noted that a copy of the presentation would be included in next week's agenda. He reported that:

- 1) The NYC Board has been invited to participate in a meeting in Albany with the U.S. Department of Justice and other County Election Officials regarding the status of HAVA on Thursday, January 25, 2007.
- 2) The NYC Board has been invited to testify before the

NYC City Council Committees on Governmental Operations and Technology in Government on Monday, January 29, 2007 at 10:00 A.M.; and

- 3) The Board is scheduling its legislative meetings in Albany for Monday, March 5, 2007, Tuesday, March 6, 2007, and Wednesday, March 7, 2007 (in conjunction with the NYS Election Commissioners' Association).

Commissioner O'Connor moved to table the minutes of January 9, 2007 until the next meeting. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Finance Officer provided the Commissioners with the Vacancy Report dated January 23, 2007 and the Comparative Expenditure Report dated January 16, 2007.

Commissioner Umane moved to convene an Executive Session to discuss litigation and personnel matters. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was agreed to unanimously.

The Executive Director advised that following the Board's Executive Session the Board would conduct a public hearing to receive comments to the new Voting Systems.

President Como reconvened the public meeting at 4:25 P.M.

The Executive Director reported that the Board conducted demonstrations of the potential new voting systems in all five boroughs and that this hearing was the second public hearing being held to receive the public's comments pursuant to the Board's voting system selection process. He advised that the Board's Evaluation Team continues to conduct its review of the Request for Information (RFI) responses and that they will begin conducting vendor interviews that the public will be invited to observe.

The Executive Director gave an overview of the NYC Board's plan to implement the proposed new voting system, noting that there will be another public hearing regarding the Evaluation Team's recommendations to the Commissioners. He further reported that to date no voting systems have been certified by the State Board.

The Executive Director asked that the public to be mindful of the large number of persons who wished to speak on the proposed new voting systems and to limit their statements to 3 minutes.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEARING:

More than 60 people testified. Each individual or representative of a group supported a Poll Site Based Optical Scanning System. A few continued to express their support for the current lever machines. A list of the speakers is attached.

President Como moved to adjourn the hearing at 7:15 P.M. Secretary Sampel seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed.

President Como announced that the next Commissioners' meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 30, 2007 at 1:30 p.m.