

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024 AT 1:00 P.M.
42 BROADWAY, 6th FLOOR, COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM
NEW YORK, NY 10004

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

Commissioners Michael J. Coppotelli, Carol R. Edmead, Gino A. Marmorato, Jodi Morales, Simon Shamoun, Michele A. Sileo, Keith Sullivan

Vincent M. Ignizio, Deputy Executive Director
Michael D. Corbett, Administrative Manager
Eric Butkiewicz, Associate Counsel
Stephanie Jaquez, Associate Counsel
Steven B. Denkberg, Counsel to the Commissioners
Kenneth Moltner, Counsel to the Commissioners
Sherwin Suss, Agency Chief Contracting Officer

GUESTS: Charles Nassif
Amanda Dalpio

Mr. Ignizio opened the meeting and added two additional items to the meeting agenda: Item #3, the Finance Committee Meeting and Item #4, a Voter Challenge.

Mr. Ignizio continued with item #1 of the meeting agenda, an Update on the April 2, 2024 Presidential Primary.

Mr. Ignizio provided the following update:

- We concluded the Presidential Primary Election on Tuesday, April 2, 2024. Not factoring in the affidavits and absentees, approximately 186,825 New Yorkers voted, which includes both Election Day and Early Voting.
- We opened up 1,213 election day poll sites, deployed 77,525 pieces of equipment.
- Installed accessibility equipment at 593 sites to meet our ADA compliance, including temporary ramps and lifts.
- 25,333 Poll Workers were assigned to work on Election Day.
- We received 544 calls on the Election Day call line from voters for assistance.
- Post-election day preparations began once the polls closed and are in full swing.
- Thus far, we have approximately 3,352 affidavits citywide.
- Citywide, we mailed out 89,446 absentee ballots, plus 122 accessible ballots. We received back 43,397 citywide, including 49 accessible ballots.

- 40,144 have been marked and canvassed as valid. 2857 have been marked preliminarily invalid. 863 cure notices have been mailed out, and to date 312 are still outstanding with the latest date being April 17, 2024.
- Our goal is to certify, if possible, on Tuesday, April 16, 2024.

This concluded the update on the April 2, 2024 Presidential Primary Election.

Mr. Ignizio continued with item #3 of the meeting agenda, the Report of the Finance Committee. Mr. Ignizio acknowledged Sherwin Suss, the Agency Chief Contracting Officer, to present the matter before the Commissioners.

Mr. Suss presented the following items:

Tenex Software Solutions

This vendor currently provides for creation of content and hosting of the site for online poll worker training Citywide. The Board did conduct a competitive request for proposal (RFP) to select a vendor to provide this service moving forward. However, last year New York State enacted a poll worker training law which required the New York State Board of Elections

(SBOE) to set a curriculum for all counties to follow. The SBOE has not yet issued any guidelines or information. Without knowing what will be required for instruction the Board is not able to choose a vendor. This is a request to extend the current contract for an additional year to conduct poll worker training. The amount for this extension is \$500,000 which includes hosting the site, adding and changing the class content as requested, communicating with the poll workers, tracking participation and testing. The new total not to exceed amount for this contract will be \$1,736,711.70.

Mr. Suss stated that we are adding another year onto the previous contract, and that's what the new total amount would be.

Secretary Umame stated that the Finance Committee voted unanimously to recommend the approval of this by the full Board.

Commissioner Edmead asked what was the reason for extending the contract?

Mr. Suss stated that we do not know what new guidelines were set. The State of New York enacted a new law, which means that the SBOE must provide a statewide curriculum for poll worker training. The State has not given us the

guidelines or information. Mr. Suss further noted that the poll worker year starts on July 15th, which is why we need to enact it now.

Staples Contract & Commercial

This contract provides office supplies to all offices, items for early voting and election day supply bags, and general supplies to EDO and VEOU units. This is a request to extend the current contract for an additional year. This will match the one-year extension given by Sourcewell which is the base contract being used by the Board for the current Staples contract. The amount of the extension is \$700,000 of which \$500,000 is for toner and drums for the OKI ballot on demand printers. A solicitation for this specific item was sent and Staples was the lowest priced vendor for this item. The drums and toner were sold under the Sourcewell contract. The new not to exceed amount for this contract will be \$1,900,000.

President Pepe-Souvenir asked for an explanation on Sourcewell. Mr. Suss stated that the State of Minnesota has a government buying cooperative, very similar to the State of New York which has their OGS contract, and other government agencies, departments and states can become members. The Board has been a member for many years, as well as many other city agencies including DCAS. It is a nationwide cooperative that we can use to help with purchasing.

Secretary Umane stated that the Finance Committee also unanimously recommends this to the full Board.

The contracts were approved by the full Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Ignizio noted that we are joined by Commissioner Morales and Commissioner Shamoun.

Mr. Ignizio, on behalf of Executive Director Ryan and the whole Executive Team, stated that the Board staff did amazing work this past week. We were handed the charge of accepting petitions, running a race, and running early voting all in the same week. People have worked until 12:00 A.M. many nights, and they really did an amazing job. Mr. Ignizio stated that it is fashionable at times to take shots at the Board of Elections but is happy to say that the NYC Board of Elections really did yeoman's work and hopes that the people watching at their desks hear and see the Commissioners and Management Staff saying what a great job they did. Mr. Ignizio thanked the staff for really amazing work, noting that there is more work to be done, and it is appreciated.

The Commissioners thanked the staff as well.

Mr. Ignizio continued with item #4, a Voter Challenge, and asked that the voters presenting the challenge come forward.

Secretary Umame administered the challenge oath from §5-220 of the Election Law, to Charles Nassif and Amanda Dalpio who are present today to challenge the registration of Raissa Mendome Mvoome. Mr. Nassif stated that the matter was sent to the Legal Department on March 13th, they had a roommate who became a squatter. The roommate was taken to housing court and evicted, and he and Ms. Dalpio were granted legal possession of the apartment. Mail is still being sent to the apartment, including her voter registration, which they are not comfortable with. Mr. Nassif stated that he and Ms. Dalpio want to make sure that the Board is aware that Ms. Mvoome has been evicted by the court, they have legal possession of that room and apartment, and they are the only people registered to vote in that apartment.

Mr. Nassif confirmed for the Commissioners that he completed the voter challenge, to the registration of Raissa Mendome Mvoome at 203 East 22nd Street, #3W, New York, NY 10010.

Secretary Umame informed Mr. Nassif and Ms. Dalpio that this starts an investigation, and they may be contacted by staff from the Manhattan Board of Elections, the Manhattan Office. They may speak with him or stop by to confirm

that this person no longer lives there. Then they will make a report to the Commissioners, he presumes based on Mr. Nassif's testimony that she no longer lives there and is not authorized to be a registered voter from his address. Her name will be deleted from the voter records, and they should not receive anymore information. Secretary Umane noted that this may take some time, due to the upcoming June Primary and post-election tasks.

The Commissioner thanked Mr. Nassif and Ms. Dalpio for coming in to address the Board and present this challenge.

Commissioner Shamon moved to set the date of the next meeting for Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 1:00 P.M. Commissioner Morales seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

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

Following the Executive Session, the open meeting resumed.

The following actions were taken by the unanimous decision of the Board of Commissioners:

- Scott Sepp, a Voting Machine Tech, was granted 133 hours of an advance of sick time. The effective date of the grant is April 3, 2024. Mr. Sepp's agency start date is August 6, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next stated meeting of the Commissioners of Elections is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 1:00 P.M.