

DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

1

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF NEW YORK

----- X

February 7, 2022

Start: 2:09 p.m.

Recess: 2:20 p.m.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING (VIRTUAL ROOM 1)

B E F O R E: Keith Powers,
Majority Leader

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Speaker Adrienne E. Adams
Shaun Abreu
Alexa Avilès
Diana I. Ayala
Charles Barron
Erik D. Bottcher
Justin L. Brannan
Gale A. Brewer
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
Tiffany Cabàn
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Eric Dinowitz
Amanda Farias
Oswald Feliz
James F. Gennaro

DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

2

COUNCIL MEMBERS: (CONT.)

Jennifer Gutiérrez
Shahana K. Hanif
Kamillah Hanks

Crystal Hudson
Kristin Richardson Jordan

Rita C. Joseph
Ari Kagan

Shekar Krishnan
Linda Lee

Farah N. Louis
Christopher Marte

Darlene Mealy
Julie Menin

Francisco P. Moya
Mercedes Narcisse

Sandy Nurse
Chi A. Ossè

Keith Powers
Lincoln Restler

Kevin C. Riley
Carlina Rivera

Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Pierina Ana Sanchez

Lynn C. Schulman
Althea V. Stevens

Sandra Ung
Marjorie Velázquez

Nantasha M. Williams
Julie Won

1 DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL
2 OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

3

4 JOHANNA CASTRO: Give me one second Carl.

5 SERGEANT MARTINEZ: Who started the recording
6 because I didn't?

7 JOHANNA CASTRO: We're live.

8 DIRECTOR OF SECURITY D'ALBA: Okay, we can begin.

9 SERGEANT BIONDO: Whoever started the recording,
10 can you please stop that recording?

11 SERGEANT PEREZ: No, that's okay I started, you
12 can go.

13 SERGEANT MARTINEZ: It's okay, so a recording to
14 the PC underway.

15 SERGEANT BIONDO: Recording to cloud underway.

16 DIRECTOR OF SECURITY D'ALBA: We're going.

17 SERGEANT MARTINEZ: Good afternoon and welcome to
18 today's Remote New York City Council Hearing of the
19 Democratic Conference. At this time, would all
20 panelists please turn on their video for
21 identification purposes. To minimize disruption,
22 please silence your electronic devices. Thank you
23 for your cooperation, we are ready to begin.

24 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Welcome everyone and
25 welcome to the meeting of the New York City Council
Democratic Conference. I am Keith Powers, Majority
Leader of the New York City Council. It's nice to

1 DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL
2 OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

4

3 see everyone here today. You all look good in your
4 respective homes and offices. You look comfortable
5 at home.

6 We're here today to consider five candidates for
7 appointment by the democratic members of the Council
8 to the New York City Districting Commission. I will
9 read the names and the qualifications for these five
10 individuals. The first one is - we have Maf Misbah
11 Uddin who is a Queens resident, a registered member
12 of the democratic party. We have Yovan Samuel
13 Collado, who is a Bronx resident, a registered member
14 of the democratic party. Kristen Johnson is a
15 Brooklyn resident and a registered member of the
16 democratic party. Michael Schnall is a Staten Island
17 resident and a registered member of the democratic
18 party and Gregory Kirschenbaum is a Manhattan
19 resident and a registered member of the democratic
20 party.

21 New York City Charter Sections 50, 51 and 52
22 provide for the establishment of a districting
23 commission. Following each districting commission is
24 convened to withdraw City Council district lines to
25 accurately reflect the city's population size and
demographics. The Districting Commission consists of

1 DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL
2 OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

5

3 15 members. Five members of the Council – of the
4 five members by the City Council party conference,
5 it's the largest delegation, which is this delegation
6 that we are in right now. Three members by this
7 council delegation with the second largest delegation
8 and seven members appointed by the Mayor.

9 Out of the party with the largest delegation, the
10 Council democrats, there must be one member from each
11 borough. The Commission as a whole must have members
12 of the racial and language minority groups in New
13 York City, which are protected by the United States
14 Voting Rights Act in proportion to their population
15 in the city as close as possible.

16 There is no compensation for Commission members.
17 The Commission will end on January 6, 2024, upon
18 adoption of a final redistricting plan and filing
19 with the City Clerk and 60 days after the first
20 general election of the Council with the lines. The
21 members of the Commission elect one of the 15 members
22 as a Chair. The Commission may hire staff and may
23 require city agencies to provide technical
24 assistance. The members are prohibited from being
25 officers or employees of the city, register lobbyists
or employees of lobbyists or officers of any

1 DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL
2 OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

6

3 political party. All the candidates are subject to
4 background investigation to confirm their
5 qualifications and no adverse information was
6 identified. The Rules Committee Council did not
7 identify any compatibility of office concerns.

8 I should also note, I think - I believe we have
9 two members of the Commission, the past Commission as
10 part of our conference as well. Today's meeting will
11 be governed by Robert [INAUDIBLE 3:40]. Before we
12 take a vote, would any member like to be recognized
13 prior to taking a vote on these five nominees?

14 Okay, seeing no hands, would someone like to make
15 a motion for a roll call on these five candidates?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: Council Member Farias, I
17 make a motion to begin the roll call of the
18 candidates.

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Is there a
20 second?

21 UNIDENTIFIED: Second.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. I'm going to
23 ask now the clerk to please conduct a roll call vote
24 on these nominees?

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Good afternoon, William Martin
Legislative Clerk roll call vote Democratic

1 DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL
2 OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

7

3 Conference for the Districting Commission. Council
4 Member Abreu?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Your vote sir?

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: You need to vote.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Avilès?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÈS: Aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Ayala?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Barron? Okay, I'll
14 come back to members. Bottcher?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Brannan?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: I vote aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Brewer?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Brooks-Powers?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Cabàn?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÀN: Aye.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. De La Rosa?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Dinowitz?

DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

8

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Yes.
3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Farias?
4 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I vote aye.
5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Feliz?
6 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye.
7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Gennaro?
8 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Pass.
9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Okay, Gutièrrez?
10 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÈRREZ: Aye.
11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you Hanif?
12 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: I vote aye.
13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Hanks?
14 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: I vote aye.
15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Hudson?
16 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Sorry, aye.
17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Joseph?
18 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye.
19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Kagan?
20 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: I vote aye.
21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Krishnan?
22 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.
23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Lee?
24 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.
25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Louis?

DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

9

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Marte?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Mealy? Council
Member Mealy? Okay. Menin?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Moya?

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Ossè?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÈ: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Richardson Jordan?
Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Rivera?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Salamanca?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Sanchez?

DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

10

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Schulman? Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Ung?

COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Velàzquez?

COUNCIL MEMBER VALÀZQUEZ: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Williams?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Won?

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Council Member
Barron? Council Member Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Pass.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [INAUDIBLE 9:45].

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Richardson Jordan?
Schulman? Okay, Council Member Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Powers?

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. One moment please.
Speaker Adams?

SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye.

1 DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

11

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. By a vote of 41 in
3 the affirmative, zero in the negative and no
4 abstentions. The item has been passed by the
5 Conference.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Alright, thank you.
7 Thank you and the majority of the Council Members who
8 are members of the democratic party for purposes of a
9 districting commission appointment as described in
10 Charter Section 50A, have voted to appoint these five
11 candidates as members of the Districting Commission.
12 This meeting is hereby adjourned. [GAVEL]

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date February 15, 2022