

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, AND  
ELECTIONS

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Wednesday, September 14, 2022

Start: 9:50 AM

Recess: 9:59 AM

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: HONORABLE KEITH POWERS,  
CHAIRPERSON

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Adrienne E. Adams

Joseph C. Borelli

Justin L. Brannan

Gale Brewer

Selvena Brooks-Powers

Crystal Hudson

Rafael Salamanca

Pierina Ana Sanchez

SERGEANT AT ARMS: This is a soundcheck for the Committee on Rules, Privileges, and Elections. Today's date is September 14, 2022, being recorded by Danny Wong in the Chambers.

[GAVEL]

CHAIRPERSON POWERS: Good morning, and welcome to the meeting of the Committee on Rules, Privileges, and Elections. I am City Council Member Keith Powers, Chair of the Committee. Before we begin, I'd like to introduce the other Members of this Committee who are present. We are joined by Speaker Adrienne Adams, Council Member Justin Brannan, Council Member Selvena Brooks-Powers, Council Member Crystal Hudson, Council Member Rafael Salamanca, and I believe we will be joined by others shortly.

I'd also like to acknowledge a new Counsel of the Committee, Jeff Campagna, and the Committee Staff that worked on the appointments that we will hear today, Chief Ethics Council Pro More, Director of Investigations Francesca De La Vecchia, and Investigators Ramses (SP?) Boudin (SP?) and Alicia (SP?) Vassel (SP?).

Today, we'll be voting on the nominations of Gail Benjamin and Anthony Crowell for appointment to the

City Planning Commission, Milton Williams for appointment to the New York City Conflicts of Interest Board, Elisa Velazquez for appointment to the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission, and Sarah Carroll for appointment as Chair of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission.

We'll also be voting on a pre-considered Resolution approving a technical direction to Resolution number 265 of 2022, related to Rasmia Kirmani-Frye as a member of the New York City Planning Commission. On June 14, 2022, the City Council adopted Resolution 265 granting its advice and consent for Mrs. Kirmani-Frye to serve as the remainder of the five-year expiring term on June 30, 2024. The Charter provides that the term will expire in fact on June 30, 2027. The pre-considered Resolution before us will amend the prior Resolution to correct the technical error.

Before we open up the vote, do any Members have any questions or comments about the nominees? Seeing no hands, I now call on the Clerk to take a roll vote call on all items before the Committee today.

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Good morning, William Martin, Committee Clerk, roll call vote, Committee on

Rules, Privileges, and Elections. All items are coupled. Chair Powers?

CHAIRPERSON POWERS: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Salamanca?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Brannan?

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Brooks-Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Permission to explain my vote.

CHAIRPERSON POWERS: Go ahead.

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Um, I'll be voting aye on all with the exception of, um, the pre-considered Resolution appointing Elisa Velazquez to TLC in which I will abstain. While I think that Miss Velazquez is, um, a very qualified, um, individual, um, I have some concerns in terms of the TLC appointment.

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Thank you. Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye on all with the exception of, uh, Sarah Carroll for Chair of the LPC, for which I abstain. Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Speaker Adams?

SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: And by a vote of six in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no abstentions, all items are adopted with.

CHAIRPERSON POWERS: Can, can we just hold the vote (INAUDIBLE).

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Absolutely.

CHAIRPERSON POWERS: We have one more on her way. Thanks.

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: With the pre-considered M items in relation to Velazquez and Carroll which are adopted by the Committee with five in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and one abstention. And the vote will be held open by request of the Chair.

CHAIRPERSON POWERS: Thank you. For another Member, too, but can we now, uh.

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Continuation roll call, Committee on Rules. Council Member Borelli?

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Current vote, all items are now seven in the affirmative, zero in the negative, no abstentions, with the pre-considered Ms in relation to Velazquez and Carroll are now six in

the affirmative, zero in the negative, and one abstention. And roll will remain open.

Continuation roll call, the Committee on Rules. All items are coupled. Council Member Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Final vote, Committee on Rules, all items have been adopted by the Committee with eight in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no abstentions with two pre-considered Ms in relation to Velazquez and Carroll are adopted by the Committee with seven in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and one abstention.

CHAIRPERSON POWERS: Thank you. That concludes today's business. This meeting is hereby adjourned.

[GAVEL]

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 September 20, 2022