## 2018 NYC CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

            170 Central Park West
                        Robert H. Smith Auditorium
                        New York, New York 10024
    September 4, 2018
6:00 P.M.

A P P E A R A N C E S:

COMMISSIONERS:

CESAR PERALES, Chair
LIRAN ANGELO
DEBORAH ARCHER
UNA CLARKE
JOHN SIEGAL
MATT GEWOLB
ANGELA FERNANDEZ
DALE HO
RACHEL GODSIL
MENDY MIROCZNIK
CARLO SCISSURA
ANNETTA SEECHARRAN
WENDY WEISER

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MR. PERALES: Good evening. My name is Cesar Perales and I'm the chair of the 2018 New York City Charter Revision Commission.

Welcome to everyone here. And those who are viewing over the internet, this is a public meeting of the Commission.

Let's begin as we usually do by asking the commissioners to introduce themselves, not just their name but to give us a sentence or two about their background.

I will begin on my extreme right with Larian.

MS. ANGELO: Good evening. Larian Angelo. I'm on the Commission mostly because I've spent a good part of my life in city government, mostly in budgeting work. And I've really enjoyed my time on the Commission very much.

MS. ARCHER: Hello, everyone. My name is Deborah Archer. I'm a professor at NYU Law School. And before becoming a law professor I was an attorney with the NAACP, Legal Defense Fund and with the ACLU.

MS. FERNANDEZ: My name is Angela Fernandez. I'm the executive director and supervising attorney of the Northern Manhattan Coalition For

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Immigrant Rights and I am also mayoral designee to the Civilian Complaint Review Board.

MR. HO: Good evening. My name is Dale Ho and I'm a lawyer at the American Civil Liberties Union where I direct the ACLU Voting Rights Project.

MS. GODSIL: Good evening. My name is Rachel Godsil. I'm a professor at Rutgers Law School and also the co-founder and director of research for the Perception Institute which is a consortium of social psychologists, researchers and others looking for ways that social sciences can be used to translate into addressing issues and challenges linked to identify, ethnicity, race and other lines of difference.

I've also been the chair of the Ranked Guidelines Board and has been very honored to be on the Commission.

MR. PERALES: As I said my name is Cesar Perales. Until about two years ago I was secretary of State of New York. I previously served as a deputy mayor of New York City. And in a prior life $I$ was a civil rights lawyer that litigated issues regarding voting rights against The City of New York.

MR. SCISSURA: Good evening. Carlo
Scissura. I serve as president and CEO of the New York Building Congress. Prior to that I was president of Brooklyn Chamber Congress and served as chief of staff to Borough President Marty Markowitz.

This is actually my second Charter Review Commission. It's been a pleasure to serve with all of you.

MR. MIROCZNIK: Good evening. My name is Mendy Mirocznik. I am the president of cojo Staten Island. It's a pleasure to be here this evening. Humbled to see all of you.

MS. SEECHARRAN: Good evening. My name is Annetta Seecharran and I'm the executive director of Chhaya Community Development Corporation.

MR. SIEGAL: John Siegal. I'm a partner in the Baker \& Hostetler law firm and a mayoral appointee to the CCRB and perhaps most germane to some of the work in this Commission. I've represented citywide political campaigns before the Campaign Finance Board for 20 years or so.

MS. WEISER: Hello. My name is Wendy Weiser. I direct the democracy program at the Brennan Center of Justice at NYU School of Law. And it's been a real pleasure to serve with this Commission.

MR. PERALES: Let me note for the record as we begin that we have a quorum.

The purpose of today's meeting is to discuss the ballot questions that, if adopted today by the Commission, will be put before the voters in November, as well as the final report that reflects the full body of the Commission's work.

The legislation, ballot language and the final report has been sent to all the commissioners in advance of the meeting and I am confident they have all read them carefully.

The legislation, ballot language in the final report are all available now to the members of the public on the Commission's website.

By law this Commission reviewed the entire City Charter. We set out ways to identify civic life in New York City and through an extensive and very thoughtful process that included outreach to New York communities everywhere. I believe that we've done that very well.

More than one thousand ideas to revise the charter was submitted by New Yorkers from all of the five boroughs.

This has been a thoughtful and engaging process and I hope the public is pleased and I hope my fellow Commissioners are pleased. And I will thank them later but $I$ wanted to make sure they understood I've had the pleasure doing this only because these Commissioners has been so diligent and so thoughtful and so engaging.

I think that by reducing the corrupting influence of money in politics by improving an increasing civic engagement and reforming our community boards, we are helping to create a city that is more fair and more justice and one where everyone has a voice in the future of our city.

Again, I'd like to thank the members of the public who testified throughout the process.

I will now ask the Commission's Executive Director Mat Gewolb to briefly describe the proposals which we expect to vote today.

Mat.
MR. GEWOLB: Thanks very much, the Chair and Commissioners.

First, just on a personal note I'd like to give a very special acknowledgment to the fabulous staff who has been working day and night throughout the process to prepare these proposals and really appreciate everyone's work.

In a few moments i'll read aloud each of the ballot proposals. After Commissioner discussion the chair will ask for a roll call vote on each ballot question. After each of the votes on the three ballot questions, the chair will ask for a roll call vote on the final report.

And finally, the chair will call for a vote on the Commission resolution which essentially delegates to the staff their responsibility for getting these materials filed with the city clerk and taking other technical actions to make sure they appear on the ballot and that voters are educated about that.

So Mr. Chair, if you are ready for this, I can read the ballot proposals.

MR. PERALES: Well, I just wanted to interject for a moment that we heard from our Commissioners last time we met and all the Commissioners expressed their gratitude to the staff. I want to reiterate that and join you in thanking the staff for all the work they have done.

So Mat, with that will you read the ballot initiatives?

MR. GEWOLB: Absolutely.
Question one on campaign finance: This proposal will amend the City Charter to lower the amount a candidate for city elective office may accept from a contributor. We would also increase the public funding use to match a portion of the contributions received by a candidate who participates in the City's public finance program, financing program.

In addition, the proposal will make public matching funds available earlier in the election year to participating candidates who can demonstrate needs for the funds. It would also ease the requirement that candidates for mayor, comptroller or public advocate must meet to qualify for matching funds.

The amendments that apply to participating candidates who chose to have the amendments a part of their campaign beginning with the 2021 primary election and would then apply to all candidates beginning in 2022.

MR. PERALES: Can I interrupt for just a moment?

MR. GEWOLB: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Do we have the actual ballot

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language in front of us?
MR. GEWOLB: Yes --
MR. PERALES: Where is it?
MR. GEWOLB: -- the ballot language as well as --

MR. PERALES: Is it in the final report?
MR. GEWOLB: Yup, yup. It is in the final report.

MR. PERALES: Want to give us a page?
MR. GEWOLB: Sure.
MR. HO: (Inaudible.)
MR. PERALES: Dale thinks it's 42; is that right?

MR. GEWOLB: Yes. Each of them -- each of the sections, the three sections, campaign finance, civic engagement, community boards, have the ballot proposal for campaign finance. Looking at the table of contents would be 42.

MR. PERALES: We got it. Thank you.
MR. GEWOLB: Okay. Before I move on to ballot question number two there are just a couple of notes on campaign and finance that we wanted to mention.

First, on implementation: As you know there is a difficult decision to make about whether

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this new system should go into effect immediately for this cycle. Should we put off until the next election cycle or whatever candidates for this cycle should be given a choice between the two systems.

Ultimately, the majority of commissioners supported a choice but certainly reasonable minds can disagree on this point. We very much appreciate the engagement of many commissioners working towards this particular resolution.

Want to note one additional feature of the proposal which is a recent change. Under this proposal, candidates who opt to participate in public financing will be required to file a nonbonding statement of intent to operate under the new or old system upon filing their first campaign disclosure report with the CFB. That's language that's contained in the addendum that's with your package.

On the previous version no such statement of intent was required. The final deadline for making a choice will remain the date the candidate submits their certification to participate in the public financing program. This change is reflected in the addendum supplied alongside the ballot copy of the report, as I said.

And finally, in the development of this campaign finance proposal Commission staff received input from various stakeholders including a number of candidates or potential candidates intending to run in the 2021 election cycle. And many of those candidates expressed a very favorable view of the new system set forth in this proposal. So with that we can move on to the next ballot question which I'll read and is also available in the packet. This is the ballot question on civic engagement. This proposal will amend the City Charter to create a civic engagement Commission that will implement no later than the City fiscal year beginning July 1st, 2020. A citywide participatory budgeting program established by the mayor to prompt participation by city residents and making recommendations for projects in their communities require the Commission to partner with community based organizations on civic leaders as well as other city agencies to support and encourage civic engagement efforts require the Commission to establish a program to provide language

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interpreters at city poll sites to be implemented for the general election in 2020, permit the mayor to assign relevant powers and duties of certain mother city agencies to the Commission, provide that the civic engagement will have 15 members with eight appointed by the mayor, two members by the City Council speaker and one member by each borough president and provide for one of the mayor's appointees to be Commission chair and for the chair to employ and direct Commission staff the question: Shall this proposal be adopted?

And of course, all of the legislation -this is the language that, if approved, would appear on the ballot and all the legislation that would be triggered is also in the packets.

And finally, the third question is on community boards. This proposal will amend the City Charter to impose term limits of a maximum of four consecutive full two-year terms for community board members with certain exceptions for the initial transition to the new term limit system. Require borough presidents to seek out persons of diverse backgrounds and making appointments to community boards.

The proposal would also add new application and reporting requirements related to these appointments. And if question two, civic engagement commission is approved, require the proposed civic engagement commission to provide resources, assistance and training related to land use and other manners -- matters to community boards shall this proposal be adopted.

Okay. Mr. Chair, those are the three ballot questions for consideration.

MR. PERALES: Before I ask for a vote, what I'd like to do is, given the commitment that's been expressed by the Commission members, I'd like to give each one of them an opportunity to make a brief statement on how they feel about these proposals.

So again, let me begin -- well, let me begin with the officers. No? Yes? Let's begin with the vice chair.

MS. GODSIL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you so much to the staff and Matt for the extraordinary amount of work that has been done.

This process has been an extraordinary inspiring one. The combination of public hearings in every borough prior to determining

2018 CHARTER REVISION - 6/12/2018 our areas of focus and then a second round of hearings in each borough along with panels comprised of people with specific expertise with contrasting views to determine what areas of focus we should -- what areas of focus should be explored and then ultimately the specific proposals to be put before the voters was, again, a ground up process in which, if we listen to New Yorkers, and our hope is, of course, that we're putting proposals before New Yorkers that they/we, because of course we're New Yorkers as well, will consider will make our democracy better.

The focus on campaign finance has the intention of enhancing legitimacy and trust we have in city governance.

Civic engagement, a process by which this kind of engagement we were able to really sort of see flourish in this process will be enhanced broadly across all areas of civic engagement and governance including participatory budgeting which empowers people in profound ways over issues that matter in their City Council districts.

And finally, and this was an area that I
don't think any of us anticipated would be an area of focus when we began this process, the idea of term limits for community boards which we heard with enormous passion both from current members of community boards who served for a long time and we have so much respect for all of the -- everything they've contributed but also from people who've recently served at community boards that the process of trying to ensure true representation has been a challenging one, this is an issue of importance that seemed to inspire a great deal of interest.

We also explored ranked choice voting which has enormous possibility but ultimately decided that more information was necessary prior to bringing such an important proposal to the voters.

And the final that was explored, which would have been, again, we would have liked to put before the voters was the question of redistricting. However, out of respect for New Yorkers, out of respect for our process in which all stakeholders had a voice, we ultimately determined, $I$ think rightly, that we weren't quite ready.

So thank you to everyone in New York who participated in this process and certainly to everyone in this Commission who've shared all their expertise.

MR. PERALES: Thank you.
Mr. Secretary, do you have any comments you'd like to make?

MR. SCISSURA: Thank you. I will be very brief.

First of all, $I$ think we're all going to agree that Matt, you and the team did a great job so why don't we just give them a round of applause and we've said it for everybody. Thank you for all that you have done. It was a short period of time but a lot went into it.

I think I echo much of what the vice chair said. This has been a really exciting process. As I said earlier, my second go around. And I think when you serve on these types of commissions more than once you really get a feel for how government operates.

And while I don't necessarily agree with every word that is written in this document, I do agree that we are reflecting really what we have heard throughout the boroughs. And we've been in

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boroughs many times. There has been smaller events, larger events, but I think I am proud to say that the opportunity for people to be heard across the city was given, was encouraged. And if you actually read the report you will see that the Commission and the staff in particular took the time to put into words what we heard out there. So I think it's an overall great report.

I will just stress that I wish on the campaign finance that we took a little different approach but it does reflect the will of what we heard and the will of the majority of the Commission.

And on a final note, Chairman, you've been great. I know we took a lot of your summer away from you but that's okay because you are a servant of New Yorkers and we'll have to find something next for you to do after this.

Thank you, everybody.
MR. PERALES: Thank you, Carlo.
I don't want to put pressure on anybody to discourse on our process and our policy statement so if you don't feel obliged to really comment further I'll understand that.

But I will start again on my extreme right

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with Larian Angelo.
MS. ANGELO: I'm extremely happy with the way the Commission conducted the business. The staff was wonderful.

I support the proposal without reservation. MS. ARCHER: Just very briefly I want to echo the thanks that everyone has expressed for the staff and also my fellow commissioners.

One thing that we were asked to do and asked to evaluate was to look for ways to increase opportunities for civic participation and civic engagement but also was important to consider ways to make sure that every New Yorker had the ability to exercise their most fundamental right, the right to vote. And for that reason I'm particularly proud that we've included the expanded language assistance provision going above and beyond what the state requires and what the federal government requires to make sure that in our very diverse city that everyone has the ability to truly exercise their right to vote.

DR. CLARKE: I'm Una Clarke and I'm the late member to arrive.

MR. SCISSURA: Dr. Clarke, are you late just in getting here or late in general? I was very

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worried yesterday.
DR. CLARKE: I am also a trustee for the City of New York and today is the first day of class and I was at Bronx Community College and I underestimated the time that it would take to get here so I'm arriving late.

So I'm a former member of the City Council and I am a creature of the Charter Revision. When the council was increased from 35 to 51 I became one of those members so $I$ know the power of the people and their will when they want to make change. And I listen very carefully and knew that all of my colleagues, commissioners, put their all into it in hearing, listening and then to ask Matt to put it in writing. And I'm very proud of what we put together.

I vote aye. And I am anxious to educate voters for my community, what it means for them.

MS. FERNANDEZ: I want to thank the chair for leading this Commission as well as he did, especially throughout the summer. And I especially want to thank also the staff for all of their hard work. Their consistent phone calls and updating all of us on anything that we needed to know.

I'm especially proud of the campaign finance reform especially the expanded matching. I think that that will broaden the pool of candidates that will consider running in the future. And I have my own questions around the term limits for the community boards. It definitely reflects what the community wanted. This issue came up consistently throughout the hearings but since some of the details, I may have approached it a little bit differently but I will go with the majority of the Commission on this.

MR. HO: I just want to echo the thanks that has been expressed to the staff who has been extraordinary putting together a really terrific report under very difficult time constraints. I'm very grateful personally to all of you for the work that you put in on this and the thanks that has been expressed to our chairman for herding the cats that are all up here and getting this across the finish line.

I want to acknowledge that not everyone will agree with the precise contours with everything that is going to be on the ballots in November but I think that's okay because this is not the end of the process. It's just the beginning.

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Voters themselves are going to have the opportunity to have the final say on whether or not any of these proposals ultimately become a part of the City Charter. And if any of them do, I don't think anyone can complain about the legitimacy of a process in which New Yorkers themselves get to decide what the Charter will look like.

MR. PERALES: Before I move on to Mendy, let me just echo the comment made by Commissioner Ho.

Our job was to try to figure out what could make our city more just, more fair, and more democratic and then to put it on the ballot to see if New Yorkers wanted the City to be run in this new fashion. That's what we did. I think we did that well and it's going to be up to the voters in November to determine whether or not they agree that these things would be better for our city.

With that, Mendy.
MR. MIROCZNIK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
All of us in this Commission read this report, the computerized form. This is a momentous document. It took the staff hours to put together. Reading it $I$ can visualize the

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testimony this Commission heard. The chairman and a couple of times the vice chair were gracious enough and the commissioners agreed to go without time limitations for the public to express how they feel.

This is important because the chair and the vice chair and my fellow commissioners are all volunteers. Our compensation is one idea: Is to see the City become more fair, more democratic, and more importantly just and to put people back into the equation.

Now, I don't expect everybody to through everything in this book. All of us are intelligent people. New Yorkers are smart people. We disagree on a lot of things. But I do believe the common denominator of the thread is when you look at civic engagement, which unfortunately needs to be improved, you look at issues of campaign finance and all the testimony, what goes on, how people need to feel confidence, and community boards, all these important issues, I think this Commission has taken it to a notch higher.

Unfortunately, there's a realty of time constraints. And the hard working staff, Matt and his team did not ignore the other issues we explored.

As everything else in life, $I$ feel very accomplished we achieved all of that. We opened the door for discussion. We didn't hide any issues. When the public testified on ranked choice voting or other issues that are not ballot proposals, we had serious discussions, heated spirited debates in good faith. And passing on the information and making the public knowledge, only helped those.

The pen is mightier than the sword. The words were out there and hopefully future commissions and future generations will tackle. Our job is to make sure that people in the equation and they understand what has to be analyzed further down.

MS. SEECHARRAN: I too want to add my thanks to the staff for an extraordinary amount of work, a tremendous job in pulling together such a wide range of ideas. I remember halfway through the process thinking how we're ever going to whittle all of this down into some coherent proposals and you've done it so thank you for that.

Also, it's been an incredible pleasure to

2018 CHARTER REVISION - 6/12/2018 serve on this Commission with some of the smartest people in the city, very thoughtful. And from whom I've learned quite a lot. I feel very good about the process. I feel very good about what we have -- what we are putting forward today. And I do believe -- and I'm looking forward to see how this plays out and truly impacts our city and improves democracy.

I want to say for the record that I hope that the next Commission will seriously consider the redistricting process. And I regret that we did not have sufficient time to delve into that issue and be able to put forward something that could go to the ballot because I do believe that that is one of the sort next big issue facing the city in terms of true representation and inclusion of our diverse and fabulous city. Thank you.

MR. SIEGEL: I repeat and incorporate the comments I made at the last meeting regarding the members of the Commission the chair the staff and the merits of the proposal. I limit my comments now only to refinements that have occurred since we adopted the directional proposals at the last meeting.

I disagree with the implementation provisions of the campaign finance proposal. I do not think it is wise public policy to have a situation in which regulated parties get to make the decision as to whether they will or will not follow new regulations. I cannot think of another situation in which a regulatory agency has been put in that position. I do not think it's necessary. I actually don't think there's any benefit to it.

I think that changing the rules two and a half years before the election when everyone in the political community in New York knew this was going to happen and everybody has months to raise money now under the old system before the new regulations are implemented and years to deal with it before the next election. I don't see the value of it.

I do think that as the education campaign around this proposal goes forward in the fall and the public focuses on it that people who are going to be in the campaign finance system will come to realize that they are better off, as is the City better off, with lower contribution limits and higher matching rates.

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I think that as a lawyer who's dealt with this and an advisor of campaigns who's dealt with this that when you do the math you'll realize that there is no advantage to remaining under the old limits. And I would encourage all of us and everybody who's followed the work of this Commission to advocate strongly that people opt in under the new rules and that as time plays out the 2021 election will be under universal and on a consensus basis the new rules that we're establishing.

And I think that the process of educating the public and the political community on that will be beneficial and will end up in a very good place in a system that maintains the balance between public and private funding.

I happen to be someone who thinks that being able to raise money from the people who are invested in the City and can give larger amounts of contributions is actually a positive part of our campaign process so long as it's balanced by public funding for those who are maybe of lesser means and come from communities of lesser means. And I think struck the right balance and I think the public will realize that over time.

MS. WEISER: In both thanking the chair and the staff. I don't think people realize how much work went into pulling together, sifting through all of the proposals, preparing all of the meeting, pulling all the research, getting us all together onboard and liaising with all of the effected communities agencies offices in such a short period of time and it's really been remarkable and they did a terrific job.

And I just want to put that out there again because I've really been quite impressed and I've also been really thrilled to work with my fellow commissioners, many of which of I hadn't met before and think it's really been an honor to serve with you all.

I want to say that I am pleased with the proposals that we are putting forward and I wanted to just emphasize a few things on the campaign finance proposals. We are strengthening what is already an incredibly strong system and I want to reiterate that the New York City system really is a model for the country. It was an innovation that other people are picking up on and trying to emulate in amplifying the doses of small donors and reducing corporation across the
city.
It is also administered very ably and effectively by a terrific agency in the Campaign Finance Board and it's really done a great service to democracy in New York.

At that said, it can be improved upon. And I think we've done that. There are some areas that there was still some room for corruption where in particular with the high contribution limits among the highest in the country and I think that reducing that, amplifying the value of the small donations making the resources available sooner to candidates is going to make a real difference in improving an already excellent system on the implementation.

While I do share the concern about having a choice I am heartened by the assurances that this is really unlikely to come to pass, that everyone is really likely to follow the new system. It is the one that makes much more sense. It is the one that is better for New York.

And want to reiterate what my fellow commissioner urged that we should all also advocate for everybody to chose the new system and going forward we're not just adopting a

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charter for the next election. We're adopting it for the rest of time in New York and this is an improvement on the system.

I went to just speak also briefly on the civic engagement and just flagging that this is a real innovative reform and putting New York in a kind of innovative space and expanding civic engagement in -- nationally with expanding participatory budgeting having a specific Commission designed to do that. And it's great that we're experimenting in that way and trying to get ahead of the pack.

I want to flag that there are many issues that were not dealt with that advocates or community members brought up. There wasn't enough time to deal with everything.

And I want to say that it still makes a difference to come to these hearings and to raise these issues, that they get heard in the political process and I urge you to continue advocating for those issues. This isn't the last Charter Revision Commission and this isn't the only forum in which to have those changes considered in New York. And it's really been an honor and a privilege to hear all of those
recommendations and concerns.
And I also want to elevate to in particular, which I did last time, again on the redistricting reform. I want to reiterate that I am disappointed that we were unable to get that completed but we have a very strong recommendation in this report that the next Commission preferably before the next redistricting cycle actually take up this issue and make the redistricting process more fair and independent and responsive to all New Yorkers and I hope that comes to past.

And also wanted to elevate ranked choice voting which I think can -- while more work needed to be done to work through the details I think that this is a very strong proposal for the city and one that $I$ hope gets taken up by future commissions.

And with that, $I$ just want today thank everybody for being here and it's been a real privilege and look forward to seeing this move forward in the political process.

MR. PERALES: Thank you all.
I think the comments by the commissioners just to confirm what $I$ thought and said that
we've got a very thoughtful, very solid Commission. And I'm very proud of having been chair. And that I think we've accomplished a great deal. With that $I$ want to proceed to accomplish.

I'm going to entertain a motion to vote a first ballot proposal which is the one that relates to campaign finance.

Is there a motion?
MR. SIEGAL: So moved.
MR. PERALES: Is there a second?
MS. FERNANDEZ: Second.
MR. PERALES: I will now call a roll, which we normally don't do but $I$ want the record to show how we voted.

Vice Chair Godsil, yes, no or abstention? MS. GODSIL: Yes.

MR. PERALES: Secretary Scissura.
MR. SCISSURA: No.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Angelo.
MS. ANGELO: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Archer.
MS. ARCHER: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Clarke.
DR. CLARKE: Yes.

MR. PERALES: Commissioner Fernandez.

MS. FERNANDEZ: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Ho.
MR. HO: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Mirocznik.
MR. MIROCZNIK: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Seecharran.
MS. SEECHARRAN: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Siegal.
MR. SIEGAL: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Weiser.
MS. WEISER: Yes.
MR. PERALES: And I will vote, yes.
Matt do you have a count.
MR. GEWOLB: Yes, by a count of 11 in favor, one opposed. The ballot question is approved. MR. PERALES: Do I hear a motion to vote on ballot proposal number two which is the one that relates to civic engagement?

MR. SCISSURA: (Motions.)
MR. PERALES: Is there a second?
MS. ANGELO: Second.
MS. CLARKE: Second.
MR. PERALES: I will again call the roll.

Vice Chair Godsil.
MS. GODSIL: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Secretary Scissura.
MR. SCISSURA: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Angelo.
MS. ANGELO: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Archer.
MS. ARCHER: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Clarke:
DR. CLARKE: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Fernandez.
MS. FERNANDEZ: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Ho.
MR. HO: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Mirocznik.
MR. MIROCZNIK: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Seecharran.
MS. SEECHARRAN: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Siegal.
MR. SIEGAL: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Weiser.
MS. WEISER: Yes.
MR. PERALES: And I vote, yes.
Matt.
MR. GEWOLB: By a count of 12 in favor, none

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opposed, no abstentions, the proposal -- ballot proposal number two relating to civic engagement is approved.

MR. PERALES: Do $I$ hear a motion to vote on Ballot Proposal Number 3, which relates to community boards?

MR. HO: So moved.
MR. PERALES: Is there a second?
MS. GODSIL: Second.
MR. PERALES: Thank you. I will again call a roll.

Vice Chair Godsil.
MS. GODSIL: I vote, yes.
MR. PERALES: Secretary Scissura.
MR. SCISSURA: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Angelo.
MS. ANGELO: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Archer.
MS. ARCHER: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Clarke.
DR. CLARKE: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Fernandez.
MS. FERNANDEZ: I abstain.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Ho.
MR. HO: Yes.

MR. PERALES: Commissioner Mirocznik.
MR. MIROCZNIK: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Seecharran.
MS. SEECHARRAN: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Siegal.
MR. SIEGAL: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Weiser.
MS. WEISER: Yes.
MR. PERALES: And I vote, yes.
Matt.
MR. GEWOLB: By a count of 11 in favor, none opposed, one abstention, the ballot question number three relating to community boards is approved.

MR. PERALES: And finally, I'm going to ask for a motion to accept and approve the final report and we referenced the financial report a couple of times.

Is there a motion to accept and approve the final report?

MS. WEISER: So moved.
MR. PERALES: Is there a second?
MS. GODSIL: Second.
MR. PERALES: Let me, again, call a roll.
Vice Chair Godsil.

MS. GODSIL: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Secretary Scissura.
MR. SCISSURA: Yes, but with a note to my opposition to ballot question one.

MR. PERALES: Commissioner Angelo.
MS. ANGELO: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Archer.
MS. ARCHER: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Clarke.
DR. CLARKE: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Fernandez.
MS. FERNANDEZ: Yes, but with a note to my abstention on question number three.

MR. PERALES: Commissioner Ho.
MR. HO: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Mirocznik.
MR. Mirocznik: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Seecharran.
MS. SEECHARRAN: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Siegal.
MR. SIEGAL: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Weiser.
MS. WEISER: Yes.
MR. PERALES: And I vote, yes.
Matt.

MR. GEWOLB: By a count of 12 in favor, none opposed, the final report is accepted and approved.

There's one additional vote actually, Mr. Chair, on the resolution.

MR. PERALES: Yes, that's true. We're now going to seek a motion. I will seek a position to vote to approve a resolution that directs the staff to take the appropriate actions to deliver materials to the clerk in order for the ballot questions to be placed before the voters and take whatever action they deem necessary to educate the public about the ballot questions.

Is there a position on behalf of -- to
approve the resolution and direct the staff to take appropriate actions?

MS. GODSIL: So moved.
MR. PERALES: Is there a second?
SPEAKER 1: Second.
MR. PERALES: All right. All those in favor I will now call the roll.

Vice Chair Godsil.
MS. GODSIL: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Secretary Scissura.
MR. SCISSURA: Yes.

MR. PERALES: Commission Angelo.
MS. ANGELO: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Archer.
MS. ARCHER: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Clarke.
DR. CLARKE: Excuse me. In as much as we want to educate the public, I wanted to reemphasize that we have an obligation to educate the public what this means to New Yorkers. Not just a little we may -- we may educate.

I think as commissioners we have to push to make sure that whatever it takes to educate our communities about what this means to them that we do that so that's just my added recommendation that we not do advertising or one tweet because in my community very few people are tweeting. So I want them -- and I don't even want it on Facebook alone. I want to make sure that the public is educated about the implementation of this. Thank you.

MR. PERALES: I quite agree.
But I take it your vote is, yes?
DR. CLARKE: Yes. Oh, yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Fernandez.
MS. FERNANDEZ: Yes.

MR. PERALES: Commissioner Ho.
MR. HO: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Mirocznik.
MR. MIROCZNIK: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Seecharran.
MS. SEECHARRAN: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Siegal.
Mr. SIEGAL: Yes.
MR. PERALES: Commissioner Weiser.
MS. WEISER: Yes.
MR. PERALES: And I vote, yes.
Matt.
MR. GEWOLB: By a count of 12 in favor, none opposed, the motion to approve the resolution directing staff to take appropriate actions to deliver materials to the court in order for the ballot questions to be placed before the voters and take actions to educate the public about the ballot questions is approved.

MR. PERALES: And now I understand that staff will send around a document for each of the commissioners to sign?

MR. GEWOLB: That's right. Christine Billy, our wonderful general counsel who, by the way, has done together with all our colleagues

2018 CHARTER REVISION - 6/12/2018 extraordinary work.

MR. PERALES: And what is this document?
MR. GEWOLB: Christine, would you like to explain the document?

MS. BILLY: All right. So this is a resolution passed by this Commission directing staff. We'll ask you to each sign two copies. It's the identical version. One that we keep on file with the Commission and that will be archived an one that will be filed with the city clerk along with the final report and ballot proposals. So please pass it over and sign your name on both copies.

MR. PERALES: While that is going on, let me just say it's been good working with you all. I've enjoyed the process. I hope it hasn't been too painful for too many of you.

Rachel, your thoughts?
MS. GODSIL: I, again, thanks to the chair. This has been an extraordinary honor to serve as vice chair to your chair and we just -- I think all of us are very grateful for the leadership that you provided so perhaps applause from the commissioners to the chair.
(Applause. )

MR. PERALES: Thank you. Carlo, any last thoughts?

MR. SCISSURA: No, just -- the one thought I have is everyone needs to do another Charter Commission so you know what it's like having gone through two over the summer.

MR. PERALES: The documents are working their way down.

I do know that I've been warned that some of the Commission members may be called upon to help educate the public so be prepared if there's an opportunity for you to speak on the radio or something about our process and why we did this. We can't advocate. I think we can educate and I think that's important that people understand what these ballot measures mean to the people in The City of New York.

MR. SCISSURA: I do have one question, Matt, maybe you can answer: When is our service on the Commission terminated? Is it today? Is it November?

MR. GEWOLB: No, you're -- fortunately, I'm0 glad you asked because, Mr. Secretary, the service continues until Election Day. The Commission is an existence and will be until

2018 CHARTER REVISION - 6/12/2018 Election Day, until the general election.

Between now and then the plan is to engage in public education, as the chair mentioned. And so for those of you who are willing and very much like to work with you to find ways for you to be out in the community speaking to people about these proposals.

MR. SCISSURA: So that means all rules for commissioners continue through Election Day?

MR. GEWOLB: Yes, that's right.
DR. CLARKE: I just wanted to -- I just wanted to ask now that we talk about language and expansion of making sure that every community in our languages, are we going to be putting advertising in community based newspapers and media that will help them to understand what this means.

MR. GEWOLB: Thanks. Yeah, we have drawn up plans to do a really broad based outreach program. That we make sure reaches all communities.

Actually. As part of that in something that you participated and other commissioners we did an initial meeting with community media and will continue to engage them, absolutely. And also
looking at other ways -- all the means at our disposal to help people to learn about the -these proposals, the work the Commission has done.

MR. PERALES: I think we're just about finished signing.

MS. WEISER: Almost.
MR. PERALES: Given that, I will entertain one more motion known as the motion to adjourn.

SPEAKER 2: So moved.
MR. PERALES: Second?
(Array of "ayes.")
MR. PERALES: The motion is adopted. We are adjourned.
(Applause.)
(Whereupon, the above matter concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE

STATE OF NEW YORK )
COUNTY OF BRONX
)
: SS.:

I, CECILIA NAVARRO, a Notary Public for and within the State of New York, do hereby certify:

That the above is a correct transcription of my stenographic notes.

I further certify that $I$ am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or by marriage and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of September 2018.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Cecilia Nawasro } \\
& \text { CECILIA NAVARRO }
\end{aligned}
$$

|  | ```31:3 achieved [1] - 23:4 acknowledge [1] - 20:21 acknowledgment [1] - 6:23 ACLU [2] - 2:22, 3:5 across [4] - 14:20, 17:4, 20:20, 27:25 action [2] - 37:12, 44:11 actions [5] - 7:12, 37:9, 37:16, 39:15, 39:18 actual [1] - 8:25 actually \([7]-4: 7,17: 5\), 25:9, 26:20, 30:9, 37:4, 42:22 add [2] - 13:1, 23:18 added [1] - 38:14 addendum [2]-10:18, 10:25 addition [1] - 8:10 additional [2] - 10:11, 37:4 addressing [1] - 3:13 adjourn [1] - 43:9 adjourned [1] - 43:14 administered [1] - 28:2 adopted [5] - 5:6, 12:12, 13:8, 24:24, 43:13 adopting [2] - 28:25, 29:1 advance [1] - 5:12 advantage [1]-26:4 advertising [2] - 38:15, 42:15 advisor [1] - 26:2 advocate [4]-8:15, 26:7, 28:24, 41:14 advocates [1] - 29:14 advocating [1] - 29:21 after \([3]-7: 3,7: 5,17: 18\) again \([11]\) - 6:14, 13:17, 14:7, 15:19, 17:25, 27:10, 30:3, 32:25, 34:10, 35:24, 40:19 against [1] - 3:24 agencies [3] - 11:23, 12:4, 27:7 agency [2]-25:7, 28:3 ago [1] - 3:20 agree [6] - 16:11, 16:22, 16:24, 20:22, 21:18, 38:21 agreed [1] - 22:3 ahead [1] - 29:12 all [51] - 4:9, 4:13, 5:11, 5:13, 5:15, 5:24, 7:19, 7:22, 8:20, 12:13, 12:15, 14:20, 15:6, 15:23, 16:3, 16:10, 16:14, 19:13, 19:14, 19:22, 19:24, 20:16, 20:19, 21:22, 22:7, 22:13, 22:19, 22:21, 23:4, 23:23, 26:5, 27:4, 27:5, 27:6, 27:15, 28:23, 29:25, 30:11, 30:23, 37:20, 39:25,``` |  | appreciate [2] - 7:1, 10:9 <br> approach [1] - 17:11 <br> approached [1] - 20:9 <br> appropriate [3] - 37:9, <br> 37:16, 39:15 <br> approve [5] - 35:16, 35:19, <br> 37:8, 37:15, 39:14 <br> approved [7] - 12:14, 13:4, <br> 32:17, 34:3, 35:14, 37:3, <br> 39:19 <br> ARCHER [8] - 1:17, 2:18, <br> 18:6, 31:23, 33:8, 34:19, <br> 36:8, $38: 4$ <br> Archer [6] - 2:19, 31:22, <br> 33:7, 34:18, 36:7, 38:3 <br> archived [1] - 40:10 <br> are [34]-2:4, 5:15, 6:3, <br> 6:11, 7:13, 7:15, 9:21, 13:9, 16:24, 17:16, 18:24, 20:19, <br> 21:1, 22:7, 22:13, 22:14, <br> 23:7, 24:5, 25:16, 25:21, <br> 25:23, 26:18, 26:22, 27:17, <br> 27:19, 27:23, 28:7, 29:13, <br> 38:16, 40:22, 41:7, 42:4, <br> 42:14, 43:13 <br> area [2] - 14:25, 15:2 <br> areas [5] - 14:1, 14:4, 14:5, <br> 14:20, 28:7 <br> around [4]-16:18, 20:5, <br> 25:20, 39:21 <br> array [1] - 43:12 <br> arrive [1] - 18:23 <br> arriving [1] - 19:6 <br> as [32]-2:7, 3:19, 3:22, 4:2, <br> 4:5, 5:3, 5:8, 9:4, 9:5, 9:24, <br> 11:1, 11:22, 14:11, 16:18, <br> 19:20, 23:3, 25:5, 25:19, <br> 25:23, 26:1, 26:8, 26:21, <br> 38:6, 38:11, 40:20, 42:3, <br> 42:22, 43:9 <br> ask [8] - 6:16, 7:4, 7:6, <br> 13:11, 19:15, 35:15, 40:7, <br> 42:12 <br> asked [3] - 18:9, 41:23 <br> asking [1] - 2:7 <br> assign [1] - 12:3 <br> assistance [2] - 13:6, 18:17 <br> assurances [1] - 28:17 <br> at [16] - 2:19, 3:4, 3:8, 4:24, <br> 4:25, 9:18, 12:1, 15:8, 19:4, <br> 22:17, 22:18, 24:20, 24:24, <br> 28:6, 43:1 <br> attorney [2]-2:21, 2:25 <br> Auditorium [1] - 1:4 <br> available [4]-5:15, 8:11, <br> 11:12, 28:13 <br> away [1] - 17:15 <br> aye [1]-19:17 <br> ayes [1] - 43:12 |
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