



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

DRAFT MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR TELEPHONIC MEETING
5th Floor Conference Room
June 3, 2020
3:30 P.M.

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Penny was present via teleconference and called the meeting to order at 3:31 P.M. Commissioners Michael Ajello, Salvatore Bramante and Andrew Cascudo were present via teleconference. Agency staff was also present.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 20, 2020

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the May 20, 2020 minutes by a 3-0-1 vote. Commissioner Ajello abstained So voted.

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 28, 2020

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the May 28, 2020 minutes by a 4-0-0 vote. So voted.

III. Consideration of Application for Public Grants from the Citizens' Election Fund

A. New Applications

1. "Saud Anwar for Senate 2020," Saud Anwar

It was moved by Commissioner Cascudo and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "Saud Anwar for Senate 2020," Saud Anwar. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

2. "Reelect Betts 2020," Whitt Betts

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "Reelect Betts 2020," Whitt Betts. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

3. "Cheeseman for the 37th," Holly Cheeseman

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for “*Cheeseman for the 37th*,” *Holly Cheeseman*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

4. “*Gilchrest 2020*,” *Jillian Gilchrest*

It was moved by Commissioner Cascudo and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for “*Gilchrest 2020*,” *Jillian Gilchrest*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

5. “*Re-elect Haines 2020*,” *Irene Haines*

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for “*Re-elect Haines 2020*,” *Irene Haines*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

6. “*Sherry Haller 2020*,” *Sherry Haller*

It was moved by Commissioner Cascudo and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for “*Sherry Haller 2020*,” *Sherry Haller*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

7. “*Julie 2020*,” *Julie Kushner*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for “*Julie 2020*,” *Julie Kushner*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

8. “*Martin Looney for State Senate*,” *Martin Looney*

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for “*Martin Looney for State Senate*,” *Martin Looney*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

9. “*Geoff 2020*,” *Geoffrey Luxenberg*

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for “*Geoff 2020*,” *Geoffrey Luxenberg*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

10. “*Reelect Cara 2020*,” *Cara Pavalock-D’Amato*

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for “*Reelect Cara 2020*,” *Cara Pavalock-D’Amato*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

11. “*Turco for Newington*,” *Gary Turco*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for “*Turco for Newington,*” *Gary Turco*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

12. “*SteveWeirforCT,*” *Steve Weir*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for “*SteveWeirforCT,*” *Steve Weir*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

13. “*Fred Wilms 2020,*” *Fred Wilms*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for “*Fred Wilms 2020,*” *Fred Wilms*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

14. “*Winkler for Vernon,*” *Michael Winkler*

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for “*Winkler for Vernon,*” *Michael Winkler*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

15. “*Cabrera for SD17,*” *Jorge Cabrera*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to continue without prejudice the grant application for “*Cabrera for SD17,*” *Jorge Cabrera*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

16. “*Friends of Cathy Osten,*” *Cathy Osten*

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for “*Friends of Cathy Osten,*” *Cathy Osten*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

17. “*Friends of James Maroney,*” *James Maroney*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for “*Friends of James Maroney,*” *James Maroney*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

18. “*Stephanie Thomas for CT,*” *Stephanie Thomas*

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for “*Stephanie Thomas for CT,*” *Stephanie Thomas*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

19. “*Townsley for Rep.,*” *Jim Townsley*

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for "*Townsley for Rep., Jim Townsley*." So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

20. "*Committee to Elect Pam Salamone, Pam Salamone*"

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "*Committee to Elect Pam Salamone, Pam Salamone*." So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

21. "*Committee to Re-elect Minnie Gonzalez, Minnie Gonzalez*"

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to continue without prejudice the grant application for "*Committee to Re-elect Minnie Gonzalez, Minnie Gonzalez*." So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

22. "*Feehan for 120, James Feehan*"

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to approve the grant application for "*Feehan for 120, James Feehan*." So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

23. "*Gresko 2020, Joseph Gresko*"

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to continue without prejudice the grant application for "*Gresko 2020, Joseph Gresko*." So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

24. "*Jane Garibay for House, Jane Garibay*"

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for "*Jane Garibay for House, Jane Garibay*." So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

25. "*McCabe 2020, Michelle Lapine McCabe*"

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to continue without prejudice the grant application for "*McCabe 2020, Michelle Lapine McCabe*." So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

26. "*Rutigliano for Trumbull, David Rutigliano*"

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for "*Rutigliano for Trumbull, David Rutigliano*." So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

27. “*Storms 2020,*” *Scott Storms*

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the grant application for “*Storms 2020,*” *Scott Storms*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

28. “*Tami Z 2020,*” *Tami Zawistowski*

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to approve the grant application for “*Tami Z 2020,*” *Tami Zawistowski*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

B. Continuation of Prior Applications Awaiting Additional Information to Qualify for a Grant

1. “*Richie for State Senate,*” *Richard Ruglio*

IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations

A. Public Session

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Elisabeth Kines, Hartford
File No. 2019-037

Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent:

Attorney:

Legal Investigator:

Robert Anthony

James Talbert-Slagle

Scott Branfuhr

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2019-037. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement upon receipt in ten days.

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to adopt the Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2019-037 upon receipt in ten days. So voted by a vote 4-0-0. The Consent Order & Agreement will be available on our website under Commission Decisions upon receipt.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Lori Ann Clymas, Chester
File No. 2016-091

Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent:

Attorney:

Legal Investigator:

Harry P. Ruppenicker

James Talbert-Slagle

Scott Branfuhr

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2016-091. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Bramante and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to adopt the Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2016-091. So voted by a vote 4-0-0. The Consent Order & Agreement will be available on our website under Commission Decisions.

3. In the Matter of a Referral by the Wallingford Registrar of Voters

File No. 2019-001

Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondents:

James Perry Streater, Jr.
and Andrea S. Sanchez

Attorney:

Ryan M. Burns

Legal Investigator:

Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Ryan M. Burns summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2019-001. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Cascudo and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to adopt the Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2019-001. So voted by a vote 4-0-0. The Findings & Conclusions will be available on our website under Commission Decisions.

4. In the matter of a Complaint by Alyssa Peterson

File No. 2019-101A

Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:

Jacqueline Nadal

Attorney:

Ryan M. Burns

Legal Investigator:

Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Ryan M. Burns summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2019-101A. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante to adopt the Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2019-101A. So voted by a vote 4-0-0. The Findings & Conclusions will be available on our website under Commission Decisions.

V. ***Executive Session per General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1), (3),(4),(10) and General Statutes §9-7a, as amended by Public Act 11-48 §300***

(Preliminary draft and agency consideration of enforcement action and exempt records relative thereto)

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bramante at 4:07 P.M. to proceed into Executive Session pursuant to General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1),(3),(4),(10) to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims and exempt records. So voted.

Commissioners Bramante Penny and Cascudo were present via teleconference. Staff members present were Michael Brandi, Kevin Ahern, James Augustyne, Scott Branfuhr, Ryan Burns, Joshua Foley, William Smith, James Talbert-Slagle, Shannon Kief, Linda Waterman, Sheri-Lyn Lagueux and Subrina Persaud,

The Commission returned to public session at 4:38 P.M.

The Commission took the following actions in public session:

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Alyssa Peterson, Hartford
File No. 2019-101B

Attorney:

Ryan M. Burns

Legal Investigator:

Scott Branfuhr

The matter is continued.

2. In the Matter of a Referral by the Secretary of the State
File No. 2019-008

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Kevin M. Ahern

Legal Investigator:

Scott Branfuhr

The matter is continued.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Tracy Morrissey, West Haven
File No. 2019-102

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

William B. Smith

Legal Investigator:

Scott Branfuhr

The matter is continued

4. In the Matter of Referrals by Groton RoVs Paul A. Duarte and Kristen D. Venditti File No. 2018-121 and Theodore Bromley, Office of the Secretary of the State (“SOTS”) File No. 2019-012

Recommendations of Counsel

Attorney:

William B. Smith

Legal Investigator:

Scott Branfuhr

The matter is continued.

VI. Consideration of Matters Discussed in Executive Session

VII. Adjournment

The next regular scheduled meeting is June 10, 2020 at 3:30 P.M. in the 5th Floor Conference room.