

**Approved Minutes  
December 15, 2022**

**Minutes of the New York State Public Campaign Finance Board of the New York State Board of Elections - December 15, 2022**

The meeting of the New York State Public Campaign Finance Board was held at the office of the New York State Board of Elections, 40 North Pearl Street, Albany, New York in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room and was called to order at approximately 12:09 p.m.

The meeting was opened by Commissioner and Chair Barbara Lifton. Commissioners present in Albany were Douglas Kellner, Andrew Spano, and Anthony Casale. Commissioners Peter Kosinski and Brian Kolb attended remotely. Staff members present were Todd Valentine, Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky, Cheryl Couser, Carl Zeilman, Kathryn Orsino, Robert Eckels, Nicholas Cartagena, Brian Connor, Logan Smith, John Conklin, Jennifer Wilson, and Mike Haber. Kevin Murphy attended remotely.

**Minutes from October 25, 2022** – Minutes were tabled until the next scheduled board meeting.

**Executive Unit Update:** Co-Directors Cheryl Couser and Carl Zeilman reported on several items including a status update to the Board on the successful launch of the Public Campaign Finance Program on November 9, 2022, project management, website metrics, staffing, ongoing press outreach and continued development of unit procedures. Of note:

- The PCFB website, in the month of November, had over 9,883 visits and was updated to include descriptive program content.
- The PCFB social media campaign launch included banner ads on the Gotham Gazette, Empire Report and City & State websites.
- The PCFB Twitter account had 44 followers, 18 new in November and 21 new in December, and ten tweets. Since the ad campaign launch, 1.9 million Twitter impressions had been garnered. On the PCFB Instagram account there were 24 followers with 254,657 impressions. The PCFB Facebook page had 12 followers.
- A November press release was issued to announce the appointment of Commissioner and Chair Barbara Lifton and Commissioner Keesha Gaskins-Nathan along with the appointment of Carl Zeilman to the position of Co-Director to the Public Campaign Finance Board.
- Commissioner Gaskins-Nathan, Commissioner Kellner and Co-Director Couser attended the Fair Elections NY press conference in New York City on December 1, 2022.
- Staff attended the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws conference in Montreal and attended a workshop held by the Center For Technology and Government.
- PCF program informational webinars were conducted on:
  - November 17<sup>th</sup> with 74 attendees; and
  - December 14<sup>th</sup> with 166 attendees.
- Internal PCF staff trainings were conducted on September 21<sup>st</sup> with 20 employees, September 22<sup>nd</sup> with 18 employees and on September 26<sup>th</sup> with 28 employees attending.
- The State Board of Elections financial disclosure system (FIDAS) and the Electronic Filing System (EFS) have been upgraded to accommodate additional requirements needed by the Public Campaign Finance program. The electronic filing software user guide has been updated for public matching funds and is posted on the PCFB website.
- Effective November 9, 2022, contribution limits were reduced. The new Statewide limit is \$9,000 for the primary and \$9,000 for the general, or \$18,000 if a candidate is in both elections, with the

exception that candidates running jointly for the offices of Governor and Lt. Governor are deemed to be one candidate, and therefore share the \$9,000 general election limit. State Senate limit is \$5,000 for the primary and \$5,000 for the general or \$10,000 if a candidate is in both elections, and the State Assembly limit is \$3,000 for the primary and \$3,000 for the general or \$6,000 if a candidate is in both elections.

- The software application request for proposal (RFP) had been issued with a deadline of December 29<sup>th</sup> to receive bids from vendors.
- A status update on space planning included renovations are scheduled to start in April 2023.

**Old Business:**

- None

**New Business:**

- The adoption of Resolution 22-06 which relates to the adoption of the 2023-2024 Budget Request. **The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioner Casale, Kellner, Kolb, Kosinski, Lifton, and Spano voting in the affirmative; 6 Yes and 0 No).**
- MOTION to adjourn. **The motion was approved unanimously (Commissioner Casale, Kellner, Kolb, Kosinski, Lifton and Spano voting in the affirmative; 6 Yes and 0 No).**

The next board meeting is TBD

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm.

**Approved March 14, 2023  
VOTE 7 YES – 0 NO**