

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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January 9, 2013
Start: 10:28 a.m.
Recess: 10:32 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room
City Hall

B E F O R E:
JOEL RIVERA
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Elizabeth Crowley
Inez E. Dickens
Erik Martin Dilan
Vincent J. Gentile
Robert Jackson
Karen Koslowitz
James S. Oddo
Christine C. Quinn
James Vacca
Albert Vann

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2 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Okay. Ladies
3 and gentlemen, we're going to get started with the
4 committee. Attention, order in the court, order
5 in the court. Inez, Elizabeth. They don't hear
6 the gavel. Ladies, ladies, ladies.

7 MALE VOICE: Where's the gavel?

8 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Ladies.

9 MALE VOICE: Excuse me.

10 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Ladies.
11 Ladies. Council Members, Council Member, we're
12 starting. Assume the positions. Order in the
13 court. Everything they say.

14 All right, so we're getting ready
15 to start the Committee on Rules, Privileges, and
16 Elections. Good morning and welcome to the
17 committee. My name is Joel Rivera and I'm the
18 chair of the committee. Let me introduce the
19 members who are here with us today: We have
20 Council Member Inez Dickens, Council Member--we
21 have Council Members, who do we--okay, we have
22 Jimmy Vacca, we have Council Member Leroy Comrie,
23 we have Council Member Karen Koslowitz, Council
24 Member Al Vann, Council Member Liz Crowley, and
25 Council Member Vincent Gentile, and Council Member

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2 Robert Jackson. We're also joined by the staff of
3 the committee, we have Chuck Davis, Emerson Sykes,
4 Yasmin Vega, Alicia Vassal [phonetic], as well as
5 interns with us today.

6 We have two items on today's
7 calendar: A resolution approving membership
8 changes to certain standing committees and a
9 subcommittee and chairs, and a resolution amending
10 the Rules 7 of the Rules of the Council in
11 relation to standing committees. The resolution
12 changes the name of the Committee of Mental
13 Health, Mental Retardation, Alcoholism, Drug
14 Abuse, and Disability Services to the Committee on
15 Mental Health, Developmental Disability,
16 Alcoholism, Drug Abuse, and Disability Services,
17 and corrects various grammatical inconsistencies.
18 Does anybody have any questions on today's items?
19 Council Member Jimmy Vacca.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: What is the
21 difference between the name?

22 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: We're removing
23 the term retardation and we're putting in the term
24 developmentally disability, developmental
25 disability.

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[Off mic]

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CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Yeah, which is actually the federal government changed their regulations that no federal agency can have retardation as part of an agency, so we're just conforming with the federal government.

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Any other questions? Any statements or comments? At this point in time, if the clerk can please call the roll, and the chair recommends an aye vote.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: William Martin, Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on Rules. Council Member Rivera.

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CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: I vote aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Comrie.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: [Off mic] the committee changes [off mic]?

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CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Yeah, we have the committee changes, it's extensive, I didn't think I should read it all, but they're all listed here.

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MALE VOICE: Mostly based on the new Council Member--

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[Crosstalk]

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE:

[Interposing] Mostly based on the new Council Member Andy King, who is just joining the council so...

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Oh, I vote aye, I just wanted to note that for the record. And I want to express my disappointment that Council Member Vacca is leaving the Land Use Committee.

[Off mic]

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Oh, you didn't see the agenda, you're no longer the chair of the Land Use, the chair Finance, and Domenic is now chair Land Use.

[Off mic]

WILLIAM MARTIN: Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Vann.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Yes. Yes.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Just to note for the record that the name change on the committee is long overdue, and I vote aye on all.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Dickens.

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Crowley.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I vote
aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: By a vote of nine
in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no
abstentions, items have been adopted. Members,
please sign the Committee Reports.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very
much everybody. We'll keep the committee open for
another 30 minutes for other members who will be
joining us shortly. Thank you all.

[Off mic]

WILLIAM MARTIN: Dilan.

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: I vote aye.

SPEAKER QUINN: Good move, Erik.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Speaker Quinn.

SPEAKER QUINN: Good choice, a good
move. I vote aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: The vote now stands at 11 in the affirmative.

[Off mic]

WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

[Off mic]

MALE VOICE: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Yeah, do a final--

[Crosstalk]

WILLIAM MARTIN: Final vote on the Committee on Rules now stands at 12 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no abstentions.

[Off mic]

MALE VOICE: Thanks guys, appreciate it.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: This now concludes the Committee on Rules, Privileges, and Elections, the committee is adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Tammy Wittman, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

Signature *Tammy Wittman*

Date January 21, 2013