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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September 21, 2011 Start: 11:14am Recess: 11:50am

HELD AT:

Council Chambers City Hall

BEFORE:

JOEL RIVERA Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Leroy G. Comrie, Jr. Elizabeth S. Crowley Inez E. Dickens Erik Martin Dilan Lewis A. Fidler Vincent J. Gentile Robert Jackson James Vacca Albert Vann Karen Koslowitz James S. Oddo Christine C. Quinn A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

Roland Lewis Candidate for Appointment NYC Waterfront Management Advisory Board

Peggy Shepard Candidate for Appointment NYC Waterfront Management Advisory Board

Andrew McGovern Candidate for Appointment NYC Waterfront Management Advisory Board

Edward Kelly Candidate for Appointment NYC Waterfront Management Advisory Board

Michael Goldblum Candidate for Appointment NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission

Elizabeth Ryan Candidate for Appointment NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission

Pamela Brier Candidate for Reappointment NYC Board of Health

Deepthiman Gowda Candidate for Appointment NYC Board of Health

Rayann Besser Candidate for Reappointment NYC Planning Commission

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 3
2	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Good morning,
3	ladies and gentlemen. My name is Joe Rivera. I
4	chair the Committee on Rules, Privileges and
5	Elections. Before we begin, let me introduce the
6	members who are here with us today. To my left we
7	have Council Member Robert Jackson, who was in the
8	room. We have Council Member Liz Crowley, Council
9	Member Karen Koslowitz, Council Member Al Vann,
10	Council Member Vincent Gentile, Council Member
11	Jimmy Vacca, Council Member Lew Fidler, Council
12	Member Leroy Comrie. Did I miss anybody? No. So
13	those are the members we have with us here today.
14	Before we begin, we do have ten
15	candidates for a review and the first one is a
16	colleague in the City Council, Council Member
17	Michael Nelson. He is going to get grilled by the
18	Committee members. I can imagine. Council
19	designation to serve an undefined term as a member
20	of the Waterfront Management Advisory Board. We
21	have Roland Lewis, a Brooklyn resident,
22	appointment by the mayor to serve a two year term
23	as a member of the Waterfront Management Advisory
24	Board. Peggy Shepard, a Manhattan resident,
25	appointment by the mayor to serve a three year

1 COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 4 term as a member of the Waterfront Management 2 Advisory Board. Andrew McGovern, a non-city 3 4 resident, appointment by the mayor to serve a 5 three year term as a member of the Waterfront 6 Management Advisory Board. Edward Kelly, a non-7 city resident, appointment by the mayor to serve a 8 two year term as a member of the Waterfront 9 Management Advisory Board. Michael Goldblum, a 10 Bronx resident, reappointment by the mayor to 11 Landmarks to serve for the remainder of a three 12 year term. Elizabeth Ryan, a Brooklyn resident, 13 reappointment by the mayor to the Landmarks to 14 serve for the remainder of a three year term. 15 Pamela Brier, a Brooklyn resident, reappointment 16 by the mayor as a member of the board of health to 17 serve a remainder of a six year term. Deepthiman 18 Gowda, a Brooklyn resident, appointment by the 19 mayor as a member of the Board of Health to fill a 20 vacancy to serve the remainder of a six year term. 21 Rayann Besser, a Staten Island resident, 22 reappointment by the Staten Island borough president to the Planning Commission to serve the 23 24 remainder of a five year term. Due to the number 25 of candidates and small space of this committee

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 5
2	room, we will review the candidates in two groups.
3	The first group will be the Waterfront candidates
4	and the second group will be the Landmarks, Board
5	of Health and Planning Commission candidates.
6	I will briefly explain the
7	functions of the Waterfront Management Advisory
8	Board. The Board serves as an advisory body to
9	the deputy mayor for economic development, the
10	commissioner of Small Business Services, the City
11	Planning Commission concerning any matters
12	relating to the industrial, commercial,
13	residential, recreational or other use of wharves,
14	waterfront property and waterfront infrastructure
15	in the city. The Board consists of 17 members-the
16	deputy mayor of economic development as
17	chairperson, the commissioner of Small Business
18	Services as vice chair, the chairperson of the
19	City Planning Commission, the commissioner of the
20	Environmental Protection, 1 City Council member
21	designated by the City Council and 12 members to
22	be appointed by the mayor with the advice and
23	consent of the City Council. Provided that there
24	is at least one appointed member from each
25	borough, appointed members shall include

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 6
2	representatives of labor, the maritime industries,
3	the transportation industries, the real estate
4	industries, the hospitality industries as well as
5	environmental advocates and community advocates.
б	Welcome, will you all please raise your right
7	hands to be sworn in?
8	FEMALE VOICE: Do you swear or
9	affirm to tell the truth?
10	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very
11	much. Can we please have-do we have any opening
12	statements on behalf of the people here today? By
13	any order you can choose who goes first. Mr.
14	Roland, on the microphone, identify yourself
15	for the record and you can proceed with your
16	testimony. Short and sweet is always much
17	appreciated.
18	ROLAND LEWIS: I get the picture.
19	I think I speak on behalf of all of us, but we're
20	very honored to be here and to serve on the
21	initial reconstitution of the Waterfront
22	Management Advisory Board, especially on the heels
23	of the city's new Vision 2020 comprehensive
24	waterfront plan that are prepared to advise
25	for sure, but also there's the word management in

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 7
2	it and we want to help with the management.
3	There's a lot of things that the city has proposed
4	to do to improve out waterfronts, and I think this
5	group-my colleagues right here and the other 8
6	that will be this morning later-are well equipped
7	to help the city and make sure that all the
8	commitments that have been set forth to the people
9	will be met.
10	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Just state
11	your name for the record.
12	ROLAND LEWIS: Roland Lewis,
13	president Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance.
14	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Perfect.
15	Thank you. Next.
16	EDWARD KELLY: Good morning. My
17	name is Edward Kelly. I'm the executive director
18	of the Maritime Association of the Port of New
19	York and New Jersey. Our organization has been
20	representing commercial maritime interests here in
21	the ports since 1873. We have a broad, diverse
22	membership-paid membership-of over 500 companies
23	and individuals. We think this is a tremendous
24	opportunity to once again revitalize New York as a
25	port and a water city. I would have to say that

1 COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS we really are looking toward several words-2 opportunity; there's tremendous opportunity with 3 4 over 570 miles of waterfront property belonging to 5 the City of New York. There's tremendous opportunities here to really rise to a true world 6 7 class status as far as a port and a livability 8 system. As far as that goes, balance is very 9 important. There are industrial needs. There are residential needs. There are recreational needs. 10 11 There are environmental needs. I believe that 12 this Board as proposed will serve adequately and 13 admirably to serve and further all of those purposes because everybody has a reason to use the 14 15 waterfront. Balance and opportunity is a 16 tremendous thing, but as Roland has already 17 mentioned, this Board will also have to take the 18 mantle of requiring that there will be 19 implementation and accountability. It's nice to 20 talk about these things. We want to make sure 21 that these programs are well-defined, well-funded 22 and actually put into place for the betterment of 23 the city and for the citizens that live here in 24 New York City.

25

Perfect. CHAIRPERSON RIVERA:

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1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 9
2	Thank you. Next.
3	PEGGY SHEPARD: Good morning. I'm
4	Peggy Shepard, executive director of West Harlem
5	Environmental Action. We have been working for
6	the past 22 years on a range of waterfront issues
7	in Northern Manhattan, certainly around the Harlem
8	piers, the North River sewage treatment plant and
9	the marine transfer station at 135 <sup>th</sup> Street. I'm
10	really pleased to make a contribution to this
11	Board. I believe there are critical issues with
12	access to the waterfront for all communities,
13	issues of reducing the negative impacts of CSOs
14	[phonetic] and sewage treatment plants on the
15	waterways and of working to coordinate economic
16	development and environmental protection in a way
17	that's equitable for our communities. I'm pleased
18	to hopefully serve on the Board.
19	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you.
20	Next.
21	ANDREW MCGOVERN: Thank you. My
22	name is Andrew McGovern. I'm the president of the
23	Sandy Hook Pilots [phonetic]; we're based on
24	Staten Island. I also chair the Harbor Safety
25	Committee, so one of my big concerns is safety on

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 10
2	our mixed use waterways. As all the other
3	speakers have said, this is going to be a great
4	port and a great harbor. It's big enough for
5	everybody. We just have to make sure that it is
6	done safely and that there is no negative impact
7	to the citizens. Thank you.
8	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you.
9	Next?
10	COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: I'm Mike
11	Nelson. I did not lobby for this position-let the
12	record show. We are so lucky to have individuals
13	such as these. No elected official is an expert
14	in every issue. These people are in most cases,
15	especially their individual areas and the entire
16	578 miles of waterways that we have, so it's
17	really an honor to serve with them. I've been
18	totally impressed at Waterfront hearings,
19	listening to the expertise of these individuals,
20	veritable warehouses of knowledge and information
21	and where we should be going from this point on
22	with Vision 2020 and other issues as well. I
23	think this terrific idea finally came to fruition.
24	I have been fighting for this for years, along
25	with my new colleagues, so I'm very happy and

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 11
2	honored to be here with them. Thank you.
3	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you. At
4	this point in time, I'm going to see if there are
5	any questions on behalf of the Committee members.
6	Do any members have any questions? Nobody wants
7	to grill our colleague? Council Member Brad
8	Lander.
9	COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [off mic]
10	enthusiastic support. These are all folks we've
11	worked with both in the Subcommittee on Maritime
12	Uses and in Waterfronts; they are great waterfront
13	and maritime leaders. They played a big role in
14	the plan, and it's great to have them as part of
15	the Waterfront Advisory Board, so thank you, Mr.
16	Chair.
17	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you.
18	We've also been joined in the audience by Council
19	Member Mark Weprin. Any other questions on behalf
20	of the Committee? Seeing none, I guess no one's
21	taking the opportunity. You're off the hot seat,
22	Council Member. Thank you very much for joining
23	us. We're going to save the vote until the second
24	part, and then we'll just couple the votes towards
25	the end, so thank you very much. Now can we

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 12
2	please have the Landmarks, Board of Health and the
3	Planning Commission candidates please come up?
4	[background conversation]
5	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: You got to
6	start lobbying, Council Member. You got to start
7	lobbying. You got to start lobbying, you know?
8	[background conversation]
9	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very
10	much. Next I will briefly explain the functions
11	of the Landmarks Preservation Commission. The New
12	York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, which
13	consists of 11 members is responsible for
14	establishing and regulating landmarks, portions of
15	landmarks, landmarks sites, interior landmarks,
16	scenic landmarks and historic districts and also
17	regulates alterations to designated buildings.
18	The charter requires that the Commission's
19	membership include at least 3 architects, one
20	historian qualified in the field, one city
21	planner, one landscape architect and one realtor.
22	No professional qualifications for the remaining
23	members are delineated in the charter. By statute
24	the Commission's membership must have at least one
25	resident from each of the five boroughs. Welcome

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 13
2	Mr. Goldblum and Ms. Ryan. Will you please raise
3	your right hand to be sworn in? We're going to do
4	two separate ones-yeah, the Landmarks first.
5	FEMALE VOICE: Do you swear or
6	affirm to tell the truth?
7	MICHAEL GOLDBLUM: Yes.
8	ELIZABETH RYAN: I do.
9	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very
10	much. Do you have an opening statement? No?
11	Perfect, thank you very much. Alright next we
12	have, Ms. Ryan. Ms. Ryan, do you have an opening
13	statement? No? Okay. Now we'll move on to the
14	Board of Health. You most likely have our votes.
15	Do any of the Committee members have any questions
16	for the Landmarks Commission appointees? Okay.
17	Thank you. Now we'll go on to the Board of Health
18	candidates.
19	The main function of the Board is
20	to promulgate the New York City Health Code, which
21	encompasses any matter within the jurisdiction of
22	the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The
23	Department has jurisdiction to regulate on all
24	matters effecting health in the city, including
25	but not limited to mental health, mental

1 COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 14 retardation, alcoholism and substance abuse-2 related need of city residents. The scope of the 3 Department's jurisdiction includes such diverse 4 5 disciplines as communicable diseases, environmental health services, radiological 6 7 health, food safety, veterinary affairs, water 8 quality, pest control and vital statistics. 9 Besides the chairperson, the Board consists of ten 10 members. Welcome, Ms. Brier and Dr. Gowda, will 11 you please raise your right hands to be sworn in? 12 FEMALE VOICE: Do you swear or 13 affirm to tell the truth. PAMELA BRIER: Yes. 14 15 DEEPTHIMAN GOWDA: Yes. 16 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Perfect. Do 17 you have any opening statements? Either one of 18 you is fine. Just state your name for the record. 19 PAMELA BRIER: [off mic] I am the-20 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: [Interposing] 21 Say your name again just so they can catch-22 PAMELA BRIER: Pamela Brier. 23 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you. 24 PAMELA BRIER: You are very 25 welcome. It's a pleasure to be here. I have for

15 1 COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS the past 15 years been privileged to be the 2 president of Maimonides Medical Center in 3 Brooklyn. We are a big teaching hospital that 4 5 tries to do good things and is committed to keeping people out of the hospital and public 6 7 health. Before that, I spent 15 years at the 8 Health and Hospitals Corporation. I'm very 9 committed to serving the public, which I still think I do. We're the biggest Medicaid provider 10 11 in Brooklyn-Maimonides is. And I have been 12 honored really to be a member of the Board of Health since 2002. It is an awesome 13 14 responsibility and I take it seriously and I try 15 to bring--since I'm one of the few non clinicians 16 on the Board-I try to inject some practical 17 perspectives into the discussions and I would so 18 appreciate your support to be reappointed. 19 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you. 20 Next, Doctor? 21 DR. DEEPTHIMAN GOWDA: Thank you. 22 My name is Deepthiman Gowda. I want to thank you, 23 Chairman Rivera and members of the Committee to be 24 here and to be considered to join the Board. Ι 25 just have a couple of things to say about my

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personal and professional background. I practice 2 general internal medicine. I've been in New York 3 for the past 12 years. I came from North Carolina 4 5 and joined the residency program at Columbia University in internal medicine and completed that 6 in 2002. Since that time, I have practiced 7 general internal medicine in New York City. I 8 9 also joined the faculty of Columbia University. My clinical work has really been split between 10 11 working at Harlem Hospital for almost five years 12 and then working at Columbia Presbyterian Medical 13 Center for the past seven years. In terms of 14 academic work, my main teaching responsibility at 15 the medical school is to run the medical school 16 course that really teaches very basic clinical 17 skills-learning how to interview patients, 18 learning how to examine patients, but also it involves teaching students how to think about 19 20 systems issues and population issues and how they 21 impact the health of individual patients. I also 22 teach the epidemiology course at the medical 23 school. I hope to have your support today as well 24 in joining the Board. It's an honor to be 25 considered. Thank you.

16

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 17
2	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very
3	much. Does anybody have any questions for the
4	Department of Health appointees? Seeing none,
5	thank you.
6	Next we'll move on to the Planning
7	Commission. The City Planning Commission has 13
8	members; 7 appointed by the mayor, 1 by the public
9	advocate and one by each of the borough
10	presidents. The Planning Commission is
11	responsible for the long range planning to ensure
12	orderly growth and development, assist in
13	developing the ten-year capital plan, prepares and
14	modifies the zoning resolution, among a number of
15	other critical functions. Members are prohibited
16	from holding any other city office while they
17	serve on the Planning Commission. The chair
18	receives and annual salary of \$205,180. The
19	member who is designated as vice chair receives an
20	annual salary of \$62,271 and other members receive
21	an annual salary of \$54,150. Welcome, Ms. Besser.
22	Will you please raise your right hand to be sworn
23	in?
24	FEMALE VOICE: do you swear or
25	affirm to tell the truth?

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 18
2	RAYANN BESSER: Yes, I do.
3	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Do you have an
4	opening statement.
5	RAYANN BESSER: Yes. I'll try to
6	keep it short.
7	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Just state
8	your name for the record and make sure it's close
9	to you.
10	RAYANN BESSER: My name is Rayann
11	Besser.
12	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Press the
13	button. Sorry about that. The mic is interesting
14	sometimes.
15	RAYANN BESSER: Thank you very
16	much. My name is Rayann Besser as I've said. I'm
17	currently a real estate salesperson for over ten
18	years now. I'm on various committees, which you
19	have in my file. My experiences in the real
20	estate industry have afforded an opportunity to
21	see the uniqueness of the city and our
22	neighborhoods firsthand. I work closely with
23	individuals, families and seniors. It allows me
24	an intimate understanding as to what their needs
25	are. They want affordability, convenience and a

1 COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 19 good quality of life; they would also like to see 2 another tax credit, but I don't know if that will 3 happen in the near future. Working on the City 4 5 Planning Commission for the past two years has given me a deeper appreciation of how their goals 6 7 can be achieved. I have witnessed the passion and 8 dedication by many of you on their behalf and I 9 commend you for that, as well as the borough presidents and the City Council, other members 10 11 that are not here and the community boards. We do 12 have something in common; we want the best for our 13 communities. We want orderly growth, affordability, sustainability, preservation of 14 15 neighborhood character and economic opportunities. 16 I would be grateful to continue to serve as part 17 of this body that strives each day to make new 18 York a better place to live, work and enjoy. 19 Thank you for your support. 20 Thank you very CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: 21 Do any members on the Committee have any much. 22 questions? Council Member Lew Fidler?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Ms. Besser,
24 I understand that you're the real estate broker
25 for Council Member Oddo?

COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 20 1 RAYANN BESSER: Yes, I am. 2 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I just want 3 to know if he's as difficult to deal with in that 4 5 context as he is for those of us who are in his б fantasy baseball league. 7 RAYANN BESSER: He's a pleasure. 8 He really is. 9 [laughter] 10 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Are you 11 sure? 12 RAYANN BESSER: Well, you know ... 13 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Any other 14 questions? Seeing none, everyone, thank you very 15 much. At this point in time, I'm going to ask the 16 counsel to the Committee to please call the roll 17 and the Chair recommends an aye vote on all 18 appointees for today. 19 COUNSEL: Rivera? 20 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: I vote aye and 21 congratulations to all the appointees on today's 22 calendar. 23 COUNSEL: Comrie? 24 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: [no audible] 25 response]

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 21
2	COUNSEL: Fidler?
3	COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Tempted as
4	I am to abstain on Council Member Nelson, I vote
5	aye on all and congratulations to everybody.
6	COUNSEL: Jackson?
7	COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I vote aye
8	on all and especially my constituent, Peggy
9	Shepard, who's been a longtime activist in the
10	environmental community.
11	COUNSEL: Vann?
12	COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: I vote aye on
13	all, except for Mike Nelson, I vote aye aye.
14	COUNSEL: Gentile?
15	COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: In the
16	spirit of Brooklyn unity, I'm voting aye for Mike
17	Nelson and aye on all, particularly I want to
18	congratulate Pam Brier for all the good work she's
19	done in Brooklyn at Maimonides Hospital. We look
20	forward to your continued work on the Board of
21	Health. Also, let me just mention that I've
22	worked the Sandy Hook Pilots in the past and I'm
23	currently working with the Waterfront Alliance on
24	the very first eco dock in New York City, which
25	will be up and running in Brooklyn next summer.

COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 22 1 2 So I vote aye on all. COUNSEL: Dickens? 3 4 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: I vote aye 5 [off mic]. б COUNSEL: Vacca? 7 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: [no audible 8 response] 9 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [off mic] Wait a minute. [off mic] because I love you, I'm 10 going to vote yes. 11 12 COUNSEL: Crowley? 13 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I vote 14 aye. 15 COUNSEL: Koslowitz? 16 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote 17 aye. COUNSEL: Oddo? 18 19 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I'm voting no 20 on Nelson because he got married. 21 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Do you vote 22 yes for your broker? 23 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I want it 24 stricken from the record anything Lew Fidler said 25 about me when I wasn't here. Chalk it up to

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 23
2	jealousy, as he is in sixth place and as we stand
3	here today, I am in first.
4	[background conversation]
5	COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I will vote
6	aye on all, but I have to abstain on Ms. Besser
7	because we have a professional relationship. She
8	is actually my real estate broker at Defalco
9	Realty and is in the process of selling my
10	apartment, which by the way is a lovely triplex in
11	the middle of Staten Island. Where's the camera
12	here?
13	[laughter]
14	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: What's the
15	listing price?
16	COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Buy this
17	apartment.
18	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: What's the
19	listing price?
20	COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Is that
21	unethical? Call Conflicts of Interest. Somebody
22	buy my apartment. Sheesh. Seriously, we
23	consulted with the Council's office and given the
24	nature of the professional relationship, we
25	decided it would be in everyone's best interest

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 24
2	that I abstain, but I vote aye on all the other
3	members.
4	COUNSEL: We're just going to wait
5	a minute for the Speaker to come down and join us.
6	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: On a side
7	note, Council Member Nelson, you can state that if
8	you run for any other position in Brooklyn, you
9	have the votes and the vote of confidence of all
10	your Brooklyn council members, so that's a good
11	plug. Perfect. Since we do have some extra time,
12	Council Member Eugene has a statement concerning
13	Roland Lewis and Pamela Brier appointments for
14	today.
15	Pam Brier, he states, "I have had
16	the pleasure of knowing Pam Brier for more than
17	two decades and I support her reappointment to the
18	Board of Health. Ms. Brier is an outstanding
19	leader in the field of healthcare and cares about
20	people regardless of their background. Anyone who
21	is familiar with Ms. Brier knows that she has an
22	exemplary background in health and medicine and
23	has been doing an outstanding job as president of
24	Maimonides Medical Center since having been
25	elected to public office, I have always had the

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 25
2	pleasure of working closely with her medical
3	center through Ms. Brier to provide critical
4	medical services to patients and people who
5	would not have had the opportunity to receive the
6	medical care due to their citizenship status and
7	their ability to pay. New York City is a melting
8	pot. We need health leaders who understand the
9	medical needs of everyone regardless of national
10	origin, ethnicity and religion and this is
11	certainly true of Pam Brier. Ms. Brier has an
12	outstanding track record and will be a great asset
13	to the Board of Health. I enthusiastically
14	support her reappoint to the Board of Health."
15	And with Roland Lewis, Council
16	Member Eugene states, "I want to express my
17	support for Roland Lewis' appointment to the
18	Waterfront Management Advisory Board and
19	acknowledge Roland Lewis as a true leader in the
20	area of Waterfront Management. I am pleased to
21	have someone like Mr. Lewis who is from Flatbush
22	and has made a significant difference in
23	waterfront policy. Mr. Lewis has an outstanding
24	background in the area of waterfront management
25	and I commend him for all of his efforts, and I

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 26
2	know that he will make a valuable contribution to
3	the Waterfront Management Advisory Board once
4	approved." And to Council Member Nelson, I urge
5	all my colleagues to vote no.
6	[laughter]
7	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: That was just
8	adlibbed. We've been joined by Council Member
9	Comrie. Can you please vote? So far, everyone
10	has voted no on Council Member Nelson.
11	COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I'll keep
12	that bandwagon going then, but congratulations to
13	all of the candidates and thank you for wanting to
14	be of service and hopefully making New York City-
15	doing the planning to make New York City the best
16	port city in the world. I vote aye on all. And
17	to the attorneys for the Landmarks Preservation
18	Commission, thank you for your service.
19	Condolences to you for all of the long meetings
20	that you hold and I really appreciate everything
21	you're doing for landmarks preservation. To the
22	mayor's appointees to the Board of Health, Ms.
23	Brier, who I had the honor of appointing when I
24	was chair, thank you for considering continuing
25	your service and to Dr. Gowda, we'd encourage you

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 27
2	to make sure you exercise your opportunity to
3	vote-that was just noted to me before I left and I
4	hope that you will be a great addition to the
5	Board of Health. I vote aye on all. Thank you.
6	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: We've been
7	joined by the Speaker of the New York City
8	Council, Council Member Christine Quinn.
9	SPEAKER QUINN: I'm going to vote
10	aye, but Pam Brier makes it very difficult. No,
11	I'm only kidding. I'm voting aye on all,
12	particularly enthusiastically-no offense to
13	anybody else-about Pam Brier and I'm very excited
14	about our waterfront extravaganza starting off.
15	So I vote aye on all. Thank you.
16	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very
17	much, Madam Speaker. We grilled Council Member
18	Nelson. Grilled him hard. Thank you very much
19	everyone.
20	[background conversation]
21	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: This meeting
22	is adjourned. Oh no, did we call the vote? Oh
23	no, let's call the vote. What was the vote
24	count? Hold on one second. Wait for Billy.
25	COMMITTEE CLERK: William Martin,

1	COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, ELECTIONS 28
2	Committee Clerk, final vote in the Committee on
3	Rules. All items have been adopted by a vote of
4	12 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and no
5	abstentions with the exception of M638, which has
6	been adopted by a vote of 11 in the affirmation, 0
7	in the negative and 1 abstention. Thank you.
8	CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: This meeting
9	is adjourned.
10	[gavel]

## CERTIFICATE

I, Kimberley Uhlig 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.

Kimberley Uhlig

Signature

Date \_\_\_\_\_10/1/11\_\_\_\_\_

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