

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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June 12, 2013

Start: 11:18 a.m.

Recess: 11:26 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room  
City Hall

B E F O R E:  
JOEL RIVERA  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Speaker Christine C. Quinn  
Council Member Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.  
Council Member Elizabeth S. Crowley  
Council Member Inez E. Dickens  
Council Member Erik Martin Dilan  
Council Member Lewis A. Fidler  
Council Member Vincent J. Gentile  
Council Member Robert Jackson  
Council Member Karen Koslowitz  
Council Member James S. Oddo  
Council Member James Vacca  
Council Member Albert Vann

## A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

Irwin Cantor  
Candidate for Review  
City Planning Commission

Kevin Pin  
Committee Clerk  
New York City Council

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Good morning ladies and gentlemen. We will now begin the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections. Can we get order in the Committee Room? Before we begin let me introduce the members who are here with us today. We have Council Member Erik Dilan, Council Member Liz Crowley, Council Member Al Vann, Council Member Vincent Gentile. We have Council Member and minority leader Jimmy Oddo, Council Member Karen Koslowitz, our Deputy Majority Leader Leroy Comrie, Council Member Robert Jackson, and we also have the staff of the Committee. We have Chuck Davis, Yasmin Vega [phonetic] Amatole Booth [phonetic] who is our new Counsel to the Committee here, Taiesha Guy [phonetic] is new to the Committee and Diana Oreaga [phonetic] as well. So, today we have before us one candidate for review, Irwin G. Cantor [phonetic] a resident of Queens, is a candidate for reappointment by the Queens Borough President to the City Planning Commission. If the Council gives its advice and consent Mr. Cantor will serve a five year term that begins on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 and expires on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018. First I

1  
2 will briefly describe the functions of the City  
3 Planning Commission. The City Planning Commission  
4 has 13 members, seven appointed by the Mayor, one  
5 by the Public Advocate and one by each of the  
6 borough presidents. The Planning Commission is  
7 responsible for the long range planning to ensure  
8 orderly growth and development, assist in  
9 development the ten year capital plan, pairs and  
10 modifies the zoning resolution among a number of  
11 other critical functions. Planning Commission  
12 members serve five year terms. There is no  
13 limitation on the number of terms that a Planning  
14 Commission member may serve. Planning Commission  
15 members are prohibited from holding any other city  
16 office while they serve on the Commission. The  
17 Chair receives an annual salary of \$205,180. The  
18 member who is designated as Vice Chair receives an  
19 annual salary of \$62,271. The other members  
20 receive an annual salary of \$54,150. Welcome, Mr.  
21 Cantor, will you please raise your right hand to  
22 be sworn in?

23 FEMALE VOICE 1: Good morning. Do  
24 you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth,  
25 nothing but the truth, so help you?

MR. IRWIN CANTOR: Yes, ma'am.

FEMALE VOICE 1: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very much. Do you have an opening statement you would like to share?

MR. CANTOR: [off mic]

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Is the, is your?

MR. CANTOR: Oh, I'm sorry. Better?

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Yeah.

MR. CANTOR: I'd like to thank Borough President Helen Marshall [phonetic] for her confidence in me over the past 15 years. It's been a pleasure being on the Commission. I hope I will receive the same favorable opinion from you people as you have done for me in the past. Other than that, I had an old friend by the name of Sandy Lindenbaum [phonetic] God rest him. And he said to me, Irwin, if you talk to much you get in trouble. So, I would rather be here to be responsive to your questions.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very much, Mr. Cantor. Do any Committee Members have,

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Council Member Karen Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I just want to say from experience that Mr. Cantor has served our borough very well and I fully recommend him for...

MR. CANTOR: Thank you, Ms. Koslowitz.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you. Council Member and Majority Leader Leroy Comrie?

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I just want to echo what Council Member Koslowitz has said. Mr. Cantor has served with distinction and we as a delegation are honored to have him continue to want to serve in that capacity on the City Planning Commission.

MR. CANTOR: That's very kind of you, thank you, sir.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you. Do any other members have any statements or questions? Seeing none, since you have two strong recommendations here and from the Queens Borough President the Chair is going to recommend an aye vote and if the Clerk can please call the roll?

MR. KEVIN PIN: [phonetic] Kevin

1  
2 Pin, Committee Clerk, roll call on the Committee  
3 on Rules, Privileges and Elections. Council  
4 Member Rivera?

5 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: I vote aye,  
6 congratulations.

7 MR. CANTOR: Thank you. I feel  
8 very pleased, proud, and also, you guys made me  
9 work hard for all this stuff. But thank you also  
10 very much.

11 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Well, we're  
12 not done yet.

13 MR. CANTOR: Oh, excuse me.

14 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: It's only one  
15 vote. You need more than one vote. Yeah.

16 MR. CANTOR: Oh. Oh, you see, see  
17 what happens when I talk too much? [laughter]

18 MR. PIN: Comrie?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye,  
20 congratulations on continuing, sir.

21 MR. PIN: Dilan?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: I vote aye.

23 MR. PIN: Jackson?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Yes.

25 MR. PIN: Vann?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Yes.

MR. PIN: Gentile?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I vote  
aye.

MR. PIN: Crowley?

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I vote aye  
- - .

MR. PIN: Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye, and  
congratulations.

MR. CANTOR: Thank you.

MR. PIN: Oddo?

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

MR. PIN: By a vote of nine in the  
affirmative, zero in the negative, no abstentions,  
the item has been adopted. Members, please sign  
the Committee Report.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you,  
very much. We're going to keep the rolls open for  
some time to allow other members to come vote as  
well. [off mic] [background conversation]

MR. PIN: Dickens?

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

MR. PIN: The vote stands at ten in



1  
2 the affirmative. [background conversation]

3 [pause]

4 MR. PIN: Fidler?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

6 MR. PIN: Speaker Quinn?

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Aye on all.

8 MR. PIN: Vote stands at 12 in the  
9 affirmative, zero in the negative, no abstentions.

10 [pause] Vacca?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Votes aye.

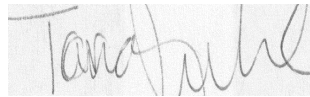
12 MR. PIN: Final vote on the  
13 Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections, 13  
14 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no  
15 abstentions.

16 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: This hearing  
17 is hereby adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Tara Juhl 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

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tara Juhl".

Date 6/25/13