

MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING

JULY 11, 1974

PRESENT

Frank P. Reiche, Chairman
Sidney Goldmann, Vice Chairman
Josephine Margetts, Member
Edward J. Farrell, Esq.
Herbert Alexander, Consultant
David F. Norcross, Executive Director

ABSENT

NONE

1) The minutes of the meeting of June 17, 1974 were approved as amended.

2) The minutes of the meeting of June 26, 1974 were approved as amended.

3) The minutes of the meeting of June 27, 1974 were approved as amended.

4) Anthony Scala, the Treasurer of the N. J. Republican Finance Committee and Conover Spencer, Executive Director of the Republican State Committee, appeared before the Commission to answer questions relative to a \$20,000 loan/contribution reported on an amended March 60-day report received on May 31, 1974, alleged to have been made to the N. J. Republican Finance Committee on 11/1/73 by the Livingston National Bank. After lengthy discussion, the Treasurer was requested to report back to Mr. Norcross with an indication of where the receipt was shown in the reports of either the N. J. Republican Finance Committee or the Sandman for Governor Finance Committee.

5) The Commission took up the matter of County Committees which have failed to file the Annual Report required by March 15, 1974. Those committees are: Burlington County Democratic Committee, Cape May County Democratic Committee, Cape May County Republican Committee, Cumberland County Republican Organization, Cumberland County Democratic Organization, Gloucester County Democratic Executive Committee, Hunterdon County Democratic Committee, Ocean County Democratic Organization, Sussex County Democratic Committee, Sussex County Republican Committee, Warren County Democratic Committee.

Responses had been received to the Executive Director's letter of June 18, 1974 from the Bergen County Republican Committee, and the Essex County Democratic Committee. The Camden County Democratic Committee had partially complied with a direction to file and the Gloucester Democratic Committee had contacted the Commission, but not filed as of July 10, 1974. The Executive Director was ordered to direct the Treasurer and Chairman of all committees which had not responded on or before July 10, 1974, to appear on August 8, 1974 on a staggered appearance schedule. The Executive Director was also directed to notify the State Committee by sending copies of the notifications to the State Committees.

6) Hearing: B. Herman, County Charter Study Candidate, Bergen County. Candidate Herman testified, before the Commission sitting in formal hearing, that he could not recollect what form he filed, but he recalled having filed whatever it was during the last week of October, 1973. Commission records, and the records of Bergen County, do not reveal evidence of a filing of any kind. The Commission considered all of the evidence and directed the Executive Director to issue a written reprimand to the candidate for failure to file. Vote 3-0

7) Hearing: The Commission, sitting in formal hearing, heard the testimony of all witnesses present who wished to testify in the matter of the Kenilworth Republican Club v. the Kenilworth Democratic Group. The Commission reserved decision after directing Christopher Detiz, Counsel for the Kenilworth Democratic Group, to supply additional information with respect to the cost of certain campaign paraphernalia. The hearing was continued until August 8.

8) School Board candidates who have not responded to the request for an explanation of failures to file in School Board elections will be given a notice to appear on September 12, 1974 by certified mail, return receipt requested. Staggered scheduling is to be used.

9) The Commission directed the Executive Director to take further administrative steps with respect to the failure of candidates to file the required 60-day reports.

10) The Executive Director submitted to the Commission a letter from the Executive Director of Common Cause requesting information and investigation with respect to the expenditures of candidates Wiley and Greenberg. Mrs. Margetts immediately disqualified herself from further action or consideration in the matter of Senator Stephen Wiley.

11) On the motion of Commissioner Goldman, a second by Commissioner Margetts, the Commission determined to re-open the matter of Sherman v. East Hanover, and refer the exceptions filed by Counsel, to the Hearing Officer. Vote 3-0

12) In the matter of Montville Citizens for Better Education, Alexander Parks presented the Commission with an investigation report. The Commission voted 3-0 to refer the matter to a formal hearing and appoint a hearing officer. (Motion Goldman, second Margetts)

Respectfully submitted,


David F. Norcross
Executive Director