

**BOX**

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**Commissioners'  
Conference Minutes**

**1910**

**MINUTES of the Mayor's Conference of Commissioners  
held in the Mayor's Reception Room, May 23, 1910.**

**Present:** City Chamberlain Hyde, and Commissioners Purdy, Baker, McGuire, Waldo, Thompson, Edwards, Drummond, Higgins, Kennedy, Stover, Lederle, Martin, Robinson, Fosdick, Whitney and Tomkins.

Corporation Counsel Watson and Tenement House Commissioner Murphy were absent from the city, and could not be present.

The Mayor informed the Commissioners that it had been his purpose, since taking office, to have the Commissioners meet with him in conference at least once a month, but that owing to the pressure of work he had been unable to do so until now. He stated that the object of these meetings was for the interchange of opinions and the discussion of questions in which the various departments were mutually interested, so as to promote cooperation among the departments.

The Mayor and the Commissioners discussed the advisability of having the new charter provide that the landscape architect of the Park Board should have placed upon him the duty of doing the landscape work of other departments like Charities and the Health Department.

The advisability of reviving the old park police force in order to keep order in the parks was discussed. Commissioner Baker said that he would be unable to supply all of the men from the regular police force that the Park Commissioners wanted for duty in the parks. This matter was taken under advisement by the Commissioners interested.

The Mayor called the attention of Dock Commissioner Tomkins to the fact that his department appeared to offer peculiar opportunities for peculations by employees, as in-  
stanced

by the recent disclosures involving dockmasters. Commissioner Tomkins stated that in order to prevent these thefts in the future as much as possible he had adopted the plan of shifting these dockmasters frequently, not allowing any one man to remain long in any one post.

The Mayor called the attention of all the Commissioners to the importance of paying careful attention to all complaints received, whether anonymous or otherwise. He stated that frequently the anonymous complaints proved to be the best, as men would write the truth invariably without giving their names when they would not be willing to do so under their names.

Commissioner Baker suggested the advisability of creating the position of City Architect. At present he said there was no uniformity in the architectural style of police stations, and that some of the newer ones were monstrosities. He said that such a City Architect could design the smaller buildings for the other city departments.

Robert Adams

May 23/10

Record of the Mayors  
talk to his Cabinet  
Officers

CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

B. <sup>X</sup>

October 31, 1910.

To the  
Corporation Counsel.

S i r :

I hereby transmit to you the Minutes of  
the Mayor's Conference of Commissioners held in the Mayor's  
Reception Room, May 23, 1910.

Will you kindly have same returned to this  
office after you have read it, and oblige?

Respectfully,

*Robert Adams*

Secretary.

Enc.

*Thanks*

*ORW*