

## **Registrar of Voters**

## **Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting**

Thursday, July 27, 2023 – 11:00a.m.

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

## **Minutes**



- 1. Welcome and Housekeeping
  - a. Today we have American Sign Language Interpretation. Our interpreters are Rex Sarazen and Denise Lotz.
  - b. Thank you all for attending the April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Voters Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting
- 2. Introductions
  - a. We will do introductions as we have new people attending the meeting.
- 3. Old Business
- 4. Election Administration Plan
  - a. On April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Alameda County was approved to conduct elections under the Voters Choice Act. One of the requirements of that approval process was for the Registrar of Voters (ROV) to create an Election Administration Plan (EAP) which sets out

how the ROV will conduct elections under the Voters Choice Act. This plan must be reviewed, updated, and re-approved by the Secretary of State every 2 years. Due to the upcoming Presidential Election Cycle, counties have been asked to provide the updated plans early.

To that end, on April 12<sup>th</sup> the ROV held a public development meeting to allow our community partners to provide suggestions and feedback on the current plan. We received some very good suggestions both during the meeting and via email following the meeting. Using many of the suggestions a draft renewal EAP was created. The public, stakeholders and community groups were given the opportunity to provide suggestions on the draft renewal EAP at two public consultation meetings which took place on Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation was available at both meetings.

- b. We received a considerable amount of feedback and suggestions from the community at the meetings and via email prior to the meeting. We incorporated those suggestions where appropriate, and the latest draft of the EAP was posted on our website on Monday.
- c. The current plan is to post a public notice on August 7<sup>th</sup> for a public hearing to take place on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Following that ROV will consider the public comments from the hearing and amend the EAP as appropriate. The goal is to submit the plan to the California Secretary of States office on September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- d. Fred asked where the EAP was published, and David confirmed it was published on our website in the VCA section and it was published on Monday.

### 5. Outreach

- a. Betty confirmed that outreach had completed 130 events since April and 15 of the events were for voters with disabilities.
- b. Registrar of voters is attending the Pride Month event on Saturday at the Ed Roberts Center.
- c. Michai asked how many communities, churches etc. has the Registrar of Voters reached out to. Betty said that the Registrar of Voters had reached out to many different communities. From the 15 voters with disabilities events the majority were sourced from the Ed Roberts Center and from Center for Independent Living. Michai offered the Registrar of Voters help in finding events.
- d. Marianne asked if the Registrar of Voters had reached out to East Bay Center for the Blind? Betty confirmed they reach out monthly to that organization but have not been able to do events with them due to the center being short staffed.

## 6. Upcoming Elections

- a. Oakland USD District 5 Election
  - i. Will be on November 7th, 2023
    - There will be two vote by mail drop boxes open within the jurisdiction along with the drop boxes at the courthouse and warehouse locations
    - 2. The two drop boxes are.
      - a. Peralta Hacienda Historical Park
      - b. Oakland Public Library Cesar E. Chavez Branch
  - ii. There will be one vote center which will be open for 11 days.
    - a) That is at Think College Now located at 2825 International Blvd. Oakland CA.
  - iii. The registered voter count is approximately 25,000.

- b. Presidential Primary Election March 5<sup>th</sup> 2024
  - i. We will have 100 Vote Centers.
    - a) We have received approximately 50 lease cards securing the locations and are waiting for another 30 that facility owners are working on. We have 20 locations that we are in the process of replacing due to cancellations, renovations or after further review by the Registrar of Voters.
    - b) We are updating our Election Worker Training materials and our online training.
    - c) We are reviewing election processes and planning work flows.
    - d) Fred asked if he would be able to do training for the election worker training team prior to the election. David confirmed that we would greatly appreciate that, and we will be in contact once we can confirm the location and some possible times nearer to the election.
    - e) Marianne asked if about the drop boxes. David confirmed there are 66. Marianne asked if there is video surveillance. David confirmed there is not.
    - f) Fred asked about becoming a committee member and how someone applies. David confirmed there is an application on the Registrar of Voters website in the VAAC section.
- Confirm Next Meeting Date and Time: Next Meeting is October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 11am
- 8. Close Meeting



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# **MEETING ATTENDEES**

## REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

CYNTHIA CORNEJO – DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

DAVID PINK – ELECTION DIVISION MANAGER

LOLITA FRANCISCO – ELECTION DIVISION MANAGER (ABSENT)

MICARDO REYNOSO – POLL WORKER TRAINING COORDINATOR

JEFF NORMART – POLL WORKER RECRUITING

BETTY DAVID – OUTREACH COORDINATOR

### AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS

REX SARAZAN – FOCUS INTERPRETING
DENISE LOTS – FOCUS INTERPRETING

## **COMMITTEE AND PUBLIC ATTENDEES**

FRED NISEN – DISABILITY RIGHTS CALIFORNIA
LUCY WEISS – DISABILITY RIGHTS CALIFORNIA
MARIANNE HAAS – PUBLIC
SHANE KEALY – PUBLIC
MICHAI FREEMAN – PUBLIC
MAYANK PATEL – PUBIC