

County of Santa Clara

Registrar of Voters

Public and Legislative Affairs

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www.sccvote.org



Voter Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting

July 27, 2023 | 1:30-3:00 via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 918 8097 2106

<https://sccgov-org.zoom.us/j/91880972106>

Phone in: (669) 219-2599

Phone in: (669) 900-6833

Minutes

ROV Staff: Virginia Bloom, Evelyn Mendez, Bren Lehr, April Bracamonte, Mike Fong

VAAC Members- Tricia Kokes, Christine Fitzgerald, Charlotte Roman, Mike Nguyen, Lucy Weiss, Fred Niesen, Melanie Rolan, Matthew Cohen

Virginia Bloom, Assistant Registrar of Voters - Thanked all for being in attendance of the Advisory meeting, so good to see so many of you here with us. Welcome to all the new members. Glad to meet all of you as we move forward towards the November Special Election and March Primary Election.

I. Introduction of new members – Mar Abat

II. Review and approve minutes

April 27, 2023 Minutes - Tricia Kokes made the motion, seconded by Mike Nguyen to approve.

III. Reports and Updates

2023/2024 Elections Updates (Bren Lehr, Candidate Services Division Manager)

- i. 2023 Elections Updates** - July 25, 2023, Pacheco Pass Water District Special Landowner Election (Off-ballot due to an equal number of candidates for the 4 vacant seats)
- ii. August 29, 2023 Special Election (Mail Ballot)** – The ROV did not receive any resolutions by deadline.
- iii. November 7, 2023 Special Election** - San Jose - Evergreen Community College District, Trustee Area 7 for a vacancy; for calling a Measure Election, August 11 is the last date to file resolution.
- iv. March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary Election** - Signature in lieu filing period for all offices for which there is a filing fee opens on September 14, 2023 and runs through November 8, 2023. Candidates who obtain valid signatures during the signature in lieu filing period shall also use those signatures toward the required number of nomination signatures needed.

IV. Updates and Events (April Bracamonte, Precinct Operations Division Supervisor)

- i. **November 7, 2023 Special Election** - Special Election ratio for vote centers is 60K/30K voters which will equal 3 vote centers for this election, (2) for 11-days & (1) 1 day for a total of 3 locations. Our division is returning staff that is most experienced as leads & aides beginning in September. Early voting begins at vote centers on October 28, 2023.
- ii. **NVRD Event 2023 (National Voter Registration Day)** - The Registrar of Voters will be hosting an event at PayPal headquarters on First Street in San Jose on September 19, 2023. Flyers will be sent out ASAP and we ask your help to spread the word. There will be music, games, and lots of resources for the community.
- iii. **Voter Language Workshops** - Dates have been set and pending final approval. We will send out the dates to all members and these workshops will be held online. Please attend and invite friends.

V. March Presidential Primary (Evelyn Mendez, Public & Legislative Affairs Manager)

- i. **Hiring 2,000 election workers, Vote Center staff** – All divisions recruiting now.
- ii. **Outreach events** – Please share events with us at outreach@rov.sccgov.org
- iii. **Flyers** - We have flyers to pass out to spread the word.
- iv. **Social Media** – Please help spread the word on all our social media sites.
- v. **YouTube Ads** - We have ads on YouTube for “Now Hiring” in all languages.

VI. Committee member Comments

- i. **Christine Fitzgerald** – The San Jose Pride event will be held at end of August and will bring in tons of people on both days. I would like to suggest a flyer to be drawn up for folks to join VAAC and I can share at event.
- ii. **Tricia Kokes** – Interested in attending the PAYPAL event September 19th, 2023.
- iii. **Fred Nisen** - on State VAAC Committee and will gather more information on joining.
- iv. **Mike Nguyen** - The State VAAC will be sending out applications later this year.
- v. **Melanie Rolan** - The County is working on building a Transgender and non-Binary expansive center under MHSA. These groups of individuals may need help changing their voter information.
- vi. **Christine Fitzgerald** - Would like to address climate issues with voters standing in lines. Would like to come up with resolutions and how issues would be addressed if too hot. Mike Fong replied that our office does provide pop up canopies for use in the rain, etc.
- vii. **Melanie Rolan** – Other communities such as nursing homes, boarding care facilities, unlicensed facilities/room and boards. I think I can work with our organization to coordinate and help those individuals to vote.
- viii. **Fred Nisen** – The County has the Emergency Ballot Delivery Program, however not all administrators at facilities utilize this program to help voters. Asked to track AB 545 that is currently in the legislature.
- ix. **Mar Abat** – Asked when next VEOC meeting will take place? April Bracamonte replied that a meeting will take place soon and we will notify all the members.

VII. Next steps

- a. Future meetings - October 26, 2023; January 2024
- b. Future agenda items – AB 545 Curbside Voting; Weather related action plans for Vote Centers; State VAAC vacancies