

County of Santa Clara

Registrar of Voters

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Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Aug 18, 2020 | 1:30-3:00 via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://sccgov-org.zoom.us/j/95468505000>

Meeting ID: 954 6850 5000

Dial in number: (669) 219-2599 US (San Jose)

Members: Christine Fitzgerald, Fred Nisen, Bill Herson, Maya Bareket, Tricia Kokes, Lisa Quan, Ingrid Ruiz, Jennifer Lucas, Jenny Panighetti, Lisa Cohen, Matt Cohen, Chris Gianola

Staff: Shannon Bushey, Virginia Bloom, Pamela Hamilton, Julie Saenz, Mike Fong, Bob Nguyen, Paulo Chang, Ryan Aralar, Chipu Mulenga, Christina Rivas-Louie, April Bracamonte, Martin Weakley, Liz Oveido, Michael Borja, Kelly Siegel, Nina Jordan

a. Review and approve minutes

- I. July 21, 2020 minutes: motion to approve minutes by Maya Bareket and second motion by Fred Nisen to approve minutes passed unanimously.
- II. New member introduction of Patricia "Tricia" Kokes – Silicon Valley Independent Living Center and with the Mobility of Transportation Advisory Committee.

b. ROV Division Reports

- i. Vote By Mail Division (VBM) (Pam Hamilton, Election Process Supervisor)
 - Emergency Ballot Delivery Program – This enables voters that are either hospitalized, incarcerated, or persons with disabilities the capability of receiving their ballots. A voter may assign a facility coordinator the ability to receive a ballot on their behalf.
 - For this November's Election the ROV will be contacting facilities in Santa Clara County. The Public Health Department provided us names to facilities which we will mail out packets to convalescent homes, rehabilitation homes and assisted living homes addressing these packets to the Director.
 - A Voter can have the coordinator at their facility fill out the Facility Coordinator Application, come to the Registrar of Voters office to pick up the ballots, take the ballot to their facility to have all the residents vote and then the coordinator would bring back the ballots to the ROV later that day.
 - The Facility Coordinator Application can be either faxed to (408) 293-6002 or emailed to emergencyballot@rov.sccgov.org. The deadline is 7 days before the election. If by chance, on the 5th day the voter wants to pick up a ballot, they will

need to fax this in and pick ballot up from the ROV. Prior to 7 days from the election we may change a voter mailing address to the care center and the ballot would be mailed to them. If shorter than 7 days, the coordinator will need to pick up the ballot from the ROV.

- Members requested a copy of the Emergency Ballot Delivery Program to be emailed to them. ROV requested members to provide us with Facility names so that ROV may provide a packet to share our materials.

ii. Voter Registration Division (VRD) (Julia Saenz, VRD Manager)

- Presentation of VCA Mailer No. 1 – This mailer will be mailed out early next week with the message to “Vote safe and from home.”
- Message includes that Vote centers will be open 4 days, beginning October 31st through November 3rd.
- All voters will automatically be mailed a vote-by-mail packet 29 days before Election day.
- The ROV office will be open for early voting starting on October 5th. The ROV office will also be open the two weekends prior on October 24th and October 25th and October 31st and November 1st from 9:00am to 5:00pm and on weekdays the ROV office is open from 8:00am to 5:00pm Monday through Friday.
- Member asked if this message is posted on our website. ROV confirmed we are doing all we can to get the message out to everyone. This message is advertised on our website, on grocery shopping carts, VTA busses and on billboards throughout Santa Clara County.
- ROV has a second mailer which is scheduled to go out on E-29 which is the same time the Vote-by-mail packets go out.
- Member asked if the VBM packets are prepaid postage. ROV confirmed Santa Clara County vote by mail packets are all prepaid postage envelopes and has been for quite some time.
- The final drop box lists will be available sometime in September and this list will be included in the vote-by-mail packets, in the County information guides, and this information will be posted on our website.

iii. Precinct Operations Division & Outreach (Paulo Chang, Precinct Ops Manager)

- Vote Center Update – We are close to our target number of 100 vote centers. We found out Santa Clara University has decided to close their doors for the year and decided to close their campus to students.
- Member suggested to reach out to the Santa Clara Mission Church as it is on the Santa Clara University campus. ROV thanked member for the suggestion and we will explore this.
- Vote Center Staffing Updates – We are confident we have full classes for training to work at the vote center as County extra help or as a volunteer which is a paid stipend. The first three weeks we will have full classes, 100 leads returning and 400 poll workers returning to support us for this November’s election.
- ROV asked members to spread the word of ROV hiring, the need for bilingual staff and for those interested to visit our website to apply as a volunteer or as a temporary extra help with the County.
- VEOC – Meeting twice a month. Members have been asking our outreach team about the USPS and how it is affecting us. ROV addressed members concerns about the local post office services and assured members the Lundy main post office confirmed they will not have any issues for this November’s election.

- ROV encouraged members and voters to return their ballots to one of our 98 different drop boxes and starting October 31st we will have 100 vote centers throughout the county up until Election Day.
- iv. Public and Legislative Affairs (PLA) Virginia Bloom, AROV
- Media Toolkit was presented – The media kit was emailed to all members of the LAAC, VAAC and the VEOC on Friday, 8/14/20. It is available in all languages.
 - ROV invited members to share the Media Kit on their newsletter links and on their social media sites.
 - Our stickers will be included in our VBM package for this election and we have created the “I VOTED” placard to be placed in cars or in windows of their homes.
 - Member asked if information is in Braille. ROV will follow up on Braille. Member suggested reaching out to the local “The Vision Center” and the “Lighthouse Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired” in San Francisco works with lines of visually impaired.
 - Today is the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment.
 - Registrar Bushey thanked all members for attending, providing feedback, and sharing great ideas and suggestions.
 - Registrar Bushey shared that today is the “100th Anniversary of Women’s Vote.” We posted pictures on our social media.

II. Next steps

- a. Future meeting key dates – Members requested a September meeting date. Members agreed the last VAAC meeting date of Tuesday, September 15th at 1:30pm.
- b. Future agenda items - list of vote center and drop boxes; RAVBM and the emergency ballot and delivery.