

Members:

Benjamin McMullan
Bill Hershon
Craig McCulloh
Fred Nisen
Michael Levinson
Wilhelmina Riley



Mark Church
Chief Elections Officer
40 Tower Road
San Mateo, CA 94402
650.312.5222 P
650.312.5348 F
registrar@smcacre.org
www.smcacre.org

SAN MATEO COUNTY

VOTING ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VAAC)

Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2019, 10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

555 County Center, Room 311 3rd Floor Redwood City, CA

Members Present

Craig McCulloh, Chair
Mike Levinson, PCC
Wilhelmina (Sammi) Riley, PCC
Bill Hershon, Disability Rights California
Fred Nisen, Disability Rights California

Staff Present

Kenny Lin, Elections Specialist III, (VAAC Coordinator)
Martin McTaggart, Elections Supervisor
Jim Irizarry, Assistant Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder

Conference Call

Sarah Verity, Gatepath

- I. Introductions and Announcements
 - a. Introduced Sarah Verity from Gatepath
 - b. Elections is in the process of selecting a new voting system
 - i. In-person demo with Hart, March 12-14
 - ii. In-person demo with Dominion, March 20-22
 - c. There is a Future of California Elections conference in Sacramento on April 11
 - i. Will include a panel on emergency medical ballots and best practices of holding open public meetings
- II. Review & Approve Meeting Minutes from September 18th, 2018
 - i. Sammi motioned to approve, 2nd by Fred, Mike abstained
- III. New Voting System
 - a. Elections sent out an RFI regarding a new elections system
 - i. Elections is looking for an all paper system instead of a DRE (Direct-Recording Electronic) system
 1. Paper systems use accessible ballot marking devices that use touchscreen, tactile interface or accessible devices to mark a paper ballot
 - ii. Jim wants to record an instructional video with new system
 1. Post on website, Vote Centers and include link in sample ballot

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- IV. Possible Vote Center Locations
 - a. Need to include seating when there are lines
 - b. Gatepath can offer facilities as Vote Center locations
 - c. San Mateo County Health is not an ideal Vote Center location
 - d. Look into harbor buildings – parking is difficult though
 - e. Need to have accessible restrooms
 - f. Evaluate accessibility of drop box locations

- V. Suggestions for Accessibility Improvements
 - a. Notify VAAC asap with voting system decision
 - i. VAAC will help develop Elections' accessibility training for Vote Center Representatives
 - 1. Sheraden Nicholau is a good person to reach out to regarding accessibility training
 - 2. DRC specializes in accessibility training

- VI. VAAC Recruitment
 - a. Will work on recruiting representation for people with mental disabilities and hearing loss
 - i. Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Commissions has a public comment period at their meetings
 - 1. They meet the first Wednesday of each month

- VII. State VAAC Discussion
 - a. New voting system will be a main part of 3/20 meeting
 - b. Elections will call in at Tower

- VIII. Decide on Next Meeting Time
 - a. Thursday May 16th 10:30am-12:00pm