

Santa Cruz County

Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee

Thursday, February 21, 2019, 10:30 a.m.

701 Ocean St., 3rd Floor PLH Conference Room

Minutes

Attendees: Janet Crosse, Gail Pellerin, Veronica Elsea, Lynn Stipes

Legislative update – Gail reported that Tricia is in Sacramento attending legislative committee meetings today. They are just beginning a new session.

November 6, 2018 election debriefing – Veronica reported getting better feedback after this election. Voters seemed to have a better experience overall after the extended training that we provided with her attending all the classes. Most complaints were regarding polling sites and or poll workers being too loud.

Gail reported that Santa Cruz County had the largest increase in number of eligible voters in the state.

State VAAC – First meeting for the new year will be March 20. Gail and Veronica plan to attend.

Voter Outreach – Helen absent, no report.

High school voter registration weeks are scheduled for the last two weeks in April.

The Future of Voting in Santa Cruz County - Gail reported that Santa Cruz County will be upgrading our current voting equipment, keeping with the same vendor we currently use.

Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail ballot system – Dominion’s system is at the top of the list. Veronica reported that everyone she knows of who tested the system still needed sighted help to complete the process. More work needs to be done.

Vote Centers – Gail reported that there simply is not enough time for Santa Cruz County to complete all the necessary steps to be ready for Vote Centers in 2020. We will continue with polling sites and will be adding CVR centers to bring the total number up to 10. Lynn will contact city clerks and county supervisors for suggestions on possible locations for additional CVR Centers. The current plan is to go to the Vote Center Model for 2022. There will be community meetings in 2021 in preparation.

County Commission on Disabilities – There are 3 vacancies on the commission. Lynn will send out a copy of the recruitment flyer to VAAC.

Future Agenda items – Future of California Elections (FOCE) conference April 11 in Sacramento. HAVA Accessibility training will be at the Secretary of States office in Sacramento in March.

Meetings in 2019 – 10:30am, PLH Conference Room

- May 23
- August 22
- November 21