

ELECTIONS COMMISSION
City and County of San Francisco

Robin M. Stone, President
Michelle Parker, Vice President
Lucy Bernholz
Cynthia Dai
Renita LiVolsi
Kelly Wong



John Arntz, Director of Elections
Marisa Davis, Commission Secretary

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

San Francisco Elections Commission
Wednesday, April 17, 2024
6:00 p.m.
City Hall, Room 408
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, California 94102
& Remote via WebEx

Order of Business

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

President Stone called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Present: President Robin Stone, VP Michelle Parker, Commissioner Cynthia Dai, Commissioner Renita LiVolsi, Commissioner Kelly Wong

Excused Absence: Commissioner Lucy Bernholz (via remote).

Also Present: Director of Elections John Arntz, Deputy City Attorney Brad Rossi, and Commission Secretary Marisa Davis.

President Stone stated the Commission's acknowledgement of the Ramaytush Ohlone people.

2. General Public Comment

In-person

No public comments.

3. Approval of previous meeting minutes

President Stone indicated she is deferring the approval of the March 28 meeting minutes to the May meeting.

4. Director's Report

Director Arntz presented information and answered questions pertaining to state petitions, engagement with the school district's communication group, community outreach, and noncitizen voting.

Public Comment

Via WebEx

Caller Brent Turner referenced that open source voting should be a primary concern/issue for the Commission.

5. Commissioners' Report

President Stone shared that she reviewed the process documents proposed by the former Commission president for reviewing the Director of Elections and Commission Secretary's performance and will provide a streamlined process for the Commission's consideration at the next meeting. She confirmed the Deputy City Attorney had already reviewed these processes.

President Stone also shared information from the Elections Group regarding tips, ideas, links, and resources for the media's coverage of election results.

6. March 5, 2024 Primary Election Review

Director Arntz reported that his department has completed the debriefing regarding the March 5 election, tabulated incident reports, and feels prepared that this information puts them in good standing for the November Presidential election. He also addressed reports on voting methods, polling place and temporary staffing issues, as well as safety and security considerations.

President Stone moved to designate the March 5, 2024 primary election as Free, Fair and Functional. Seconded by Commissioner Dai.

**MOTION TO DESIGNATE THE MARCH 5, 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION AS FREE,
FAIR AND FUNCTIONAL**

President Stone	YES
Vice President Parker	YES
Commissioner Bernholz	ABSENT
Commissioner Dai	YES
Commissioner LiVolsi	YES
Commissioner Wong	YES

5 Yays 0 Nays 1 Absent
Motion passes.

Public Comment

Via Webex

Caller Brent Turner commented on the need to upgrade voting system software.

7. Translation of Candidates' Names Into Chinese Characters

President Stone provided context about the history of the issue over the last year. Commissioners exchanged perspectives and implications pertaining to the two-year policy requirement and considerations for engaging the Chinese community as a candidate for elected office.

General Public Comment

In Person

Jen Nossokoff, Supervisor candidate for District 1, commented on her Chinese character name, the importance of being able to use this on her campaign materials, and her adherence to the rules and policy. She requested being allowed to use her preferred Chinese character name.

8. Racial Equity Progress Report

The office of Racial Equity set a deadline for submission for achievements for the last year and plans for 2024. The Commission discussed outreach and actions regarding marginalized populations, including unhoused voters, disabled and incarcerated communities, language barriers, and communities

with lack of representation due to small contingents. The Commission identified areas of success from last year and opportunities for the upcoming. President Stone will incorporate feedback from the discussion into slides and submit the plan to the Director of Elections ahead of the Department's submission at the end of the month.

There were no public commenters.

9. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

President Stone indicated the regular meeting date in June falls on a holiday and therefore the Commission will meet on June 5 (room 416) instead.

There were no public commenters.

10. Adjournment

President Stone adjourned the meeting at 8:04 PM.