

**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 (Final added 6/20/24)**  
**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 Russi, 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. He said that by August we will know all the local measures and have a sense of whether the ballot will exceed eight cards. Commissioner Wong suggested adding Chinese and Filipino media to the outreach for noncitizen voting. Commissioner Dai suggested targeting schools with underrepresented populations for the High School Ambassador program.

### **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.

## **Public Comment**

*Via Webex*

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

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.

## **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. After this discussion, the Commission concurred with the Department's recommendations to modify current policy.

### **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.