

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 on 08/27/24)

San Francisco Elections Commission
Wednesday, May 15, 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 6:02 PM.

Present: President Robin Stone, Commissioner Lucy Bernholz,
Commissioner Cynthia Dai, Commissioner Renita LiVolsi, Commissioner Kelly
Wong

Excused Absence: Vice President Michelle Parker

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

Unnamed gentleman spoke about just discovering the Elections Commission and shared comments about trust (or lack thereof) of government/elected officials and being aware of corruption.

3. Approval of previous meeting minutes

March and April meeting minutes were approved after Commissioner Dai indicated she had submitted some edits and also questioned some abbreviated details. President Stone reminded the Commission that minutes should be an overview of action items and resolutions as per the agenda items. For greater detail, the meeting agenda, YouTube video, and transcripts are all available on the webpage and offer more detailed reference.

Public Comment

No public comment in person or via remote.

4. Director's Report

Director Arntz presented his May report and answered questions. He noted that Friday 17 is the beginning of the nomination period for candidates to file for mayor and board supervisor contests. Commissioner Wong expressed her appreciation for the non-citizen voting reformatted web page and also said she would be interested in attending the June language accessibility advisory committee meeting. She also had questions regarding the potential response of the Election Department regarding election disinformation and related response(s) to election issues, especially AI matters. The Elections Department will respond to voting/site issues related to election operations but does not review or regulate campaign speech. The Department has attended hearings at the request of Supervisor Preston and will continue to be a part of the discussion regarding AI and its potential role in elections matters. Commissioner LiVolsi asked about the Racial Equity Report and registration as the result of outreach.

Public Comment

No public comment in person or via remote.

5. Commissioners' Reports

President Stone reminded the Commission of the rescheduled June meeting on June 5th in Room 416. She also shared an update regarding the digitization of old Commission materials pending the budget approval.

Public Comment

No public comment in person or via remote.

6. Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Commission's Process for Performance Review of the Director of Elections and Commission Secretary

President Stone reviewed the process and timeline regarding the Director's evaluation. Evaluation forms and documents were sent to each Commissioner and also reviewed. The Commissioners asked about the possibility of a 360-degree evaluation but that is not an option per DHR. President Stone indicated she will reach out to DHR and inquire about any available survey tools. Previously, when contacting DHR regarding the Director's evaluation, the only information they could provide would be any EEO incidents. There is no tool to review departmental hiring and retention figures or measure/access department feedback. City Attorney Russi clarified that the City does not have a standard evaluation form/process that could be used in this instance.

Public Comment

No public comment in person or via remote.

7. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

There were no suggestions.

Public Comment

No public comment in person or via remote.

8. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM