

Orange County Registrar of Voters

COMMUNITY ELECTION WORKING GROUP MARCH 1, 2023 SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA

Bob Page called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

ATTENDEES:

Adria M. Jimenez, City Clerk, City of Buena Park

Theresa Bass, City Clerk, City of Anaheim

Jennifer Hall, City Clerk, City of Santa Ana

CEW Chair, Lucinda Williams, City Clerk, City of Fullerton

Namhyee Kim on behalf of Tammy Kim, Managing Director, Korean American Center / Korean Community Services

Vice Chair, Mike Chen, President, Overseas Community Care Network of Orange County

Alba Ramiro, Parish Ministry Coordinator, Catholic Charities of Orange County

Eddie Marquez, J.D., Executive Board Member, OC Hispanic Chamber

Marisol Ramirez, Community Engagement Lead, Regal Medical Group

Evelyn Farooquee, Program Director, Easterseals of Southern California

Judith Barnes

Moneka Walker-Burge

David Landry, Chairperson, Peace and Freedom Central Committee

Jan Urban, Representative, League of Women Voters of OC

Lyle Brakob

Garrett M. Fahy, Election Law Attorney

Briana M. Calleros, Community Leader

Justin Berardino, Deputy Director, Operations, Registrar of Voters

Imelda Carrillo, Election Services Manager, Registrar of Voters

CEW Secretary, Marcia Nielsen, Candidate and Voter Services Manager,

Registrar of Voters

Bob Page, Registrar of Voters

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Bob Page thanked the group for attending. He handed the meeting to CEW Chair, Lucinda Williams, City Clerk, City of Fullerton.

The Registrar of Voter's staff self-introduced. CEW Secretary, Marcia Nielsen confirmed the attendees for the meeting and quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes from 8/31/22 was made by Adria M. Jimenez and seconded by Theresa Bass. The minutes were APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

RECOGNIZE NEW MEMBERS

The group welcomed new city clerk Jennifer Hall, City of Santa Ana who was present at the meeting and Beck Levin, Disabled Community Representative, who was not in attendance.

ANNOUNCE MEMBER RENEWALS

Some current member terms are set to expire 12/31/24. There is one vacancy for a Youth Representative. Applicants aged 18-25 can apply online or send applications to Imelda Carrillo.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Mike Chen nominated Jennifer Hall, City Clerk of Santa Ana for Chair and she accepted the nomination which was seconded by Lucinda Williams. Jennifer Hall was elected UNANIMOUSLY.

Adria Jimenez nominated herself for the position of Vice Chair. Lucinda Williams Seconded the nomination which was approved UNANIMOUSLY.

OPEN FORUM

There was no discussion.

CEW BYLAWS - POTENTIAL AMENDMENTS

Bob Page displayed CEW bylaws to identify areas of potential amendments. He provided a slideshow of suggested changes to align with how we conduct meetings.

Bob Page will send out redlined copies for three suggestions on potential amendments to CEW bylaws. These include conducting the election of Chair and Vice-Chair in the first meeting of the year, having the meeting via zoom or a hybrid model, and using the Rosenberg's Simple Rules of Parliamentary Procedure for the 21st Century.

NOVEMBER 8, 2022, GENERAL ELECTION RECAP

Bob Page reviewed data for the November 8, 2022, General Election. We had 181 Vote Center Locations throughout the county plus six pop-up voting locations.

The Registrar of Voter's office hosted an Open House to display enhanced outreach and observation programs along with the use of a PR consultant to assist with voter education. The event was well received and created opened dialogue.

Bob Page compared overall turnout to two prior General Elections 2018 and 2020 and reviewed VBM return methods.

Bob Page presented record-high data reflecting late ballots and how they create operational challenges resulting in discussion on how we can expedite processing.

Bob Page shared data on voting in-person that shows the volume of voters that vote on the last four days of voting far exceeding the amount of voter who participate in the election on the first seven days of voting. Changes to Vote Center hours were discussed as well as the consequences of those changes.

Bob Page discussed accessibility data of curbside voting, drive-thru voting, the use of RAVBM and our bilingual CSR staff. Data was given reflecting how many voters requested a ballot in a language other than English.

JANUARY 31, 2023, CITY OF SEAL BEACH DISTRICTS 3 ND 5 RUN-OFF ELECTION RECAP

Bob Page reviewed Seal Beach Election held on January 31, 2023 and explained that the Seal Beach City's charter required the Run-Off Election because no candidate from, District 3 and 5 received more than 50% of the votes cast in the November 8, 2022 General Election. It was an all mailed ballot election.

There was discussion regarding Vote Center activity and time frames, and ballot drop box location evaluations along with an action plan to discuss these items with the City Clerks.

2024 ELECTION PREPARATION

Bob Page reviewed turnout trends and Orange County's Vote Center operational hours. The group discussed the possibility of shifting schedules in the future to better serve voters. Feedback was requested, and the idea was supported. There were NO decisions made but the group would like a follow-up.

Imelda Carrillo, Election Services, Orange County Registrar of Voters, stated that her team plans to reach out to City Clerks in search of larger Vote Center sites for maximum number of voting equipment to better assist with turnout data. Bob Page will update the group on this item.

UPDATES FROM CEW VAAC AND CEW LAAC

Imelda Carrillo provided feedback from the virtual meeting held on February 16, 2023, on VAAC where she explained that her team will be conducting a complete review of Vote Centers and ballot drop boxes before the next election.

Committee members were encouraged to participate in outreach events to obtain feedback form voters and educate the public on voting options.

Imelda Carrillo announced Inaugural Award received for outstanding service to Disability Rights California (DRC).

Enedina Chhim, LAAC, and Tim Cheng, discussed improvements to the toolkit and materials provided in the last election. Some outlets discussed were social media, multiple locations, combined with outreach events, better communication to the communities to recruit staffing with Vote Centers and ROV.

FUTURE BUSINESS ITEMS

Bob Page asked for agenda topics for our next meeting. Some suggestions were as follows:

- Reference the New Election Laws pamphlet on our website for review and gave instruction on its location. ocvoter.gov/election-library.
- Option of having students help on Election Day at Vote Centers, with County Board of Education.

Board of Supervisor, Chairman Don Wagner asked Bob Page to explain the measures in place to maintain voter rolls and security to prevent modification of our election system. Bob Page will update the CEW group with the date of that meeting.

Bob Page informed the group that candidate filing will begin September 14, 2023. We will have a meeting tentatively in June/July before the General Election. He would like to have three total meetings for this year.

Election Integrity will be present at the next CEW meeting. Bob Page would appreciate support from all entities. We will vote on bylaws and amendments. Subcommittee meetings will commence.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned. Bob thanked new chair and vice-chair and everyone for their feedback.

The meeting concluded at 10:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Nielsen, Secretary