

**Members:**

Benjamin McMullan  
Bill Hershon  
Craig McCulloh  
Fred Nisen  
Michael Levinson  
Wilhelmina Riley



Mark Church  
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SAN MATEO COUNTY

**VOTING ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VAAC)**

Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2017

10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

(Meeting held at 555 County Center Plaza, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Redwood City, CA)

**Members Present**

Craig McCulloh, Chair  
Mike Levinson, PCC  
Wilhelmina (Sammi) Riley, PCC  
Bill Hershon, Disability Rights California  
Fred Nisen, Disability Rights California  
Ben McMullan, Center for Independence for Individuals with Disabilities

**Staff Present**

Anthony Suber, Elections Specialist III, (VAAC Secretary)  
Jim Irizarry, Assistant Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder  
Jennifer Tagg, Department Systems Analyst, Elections-Registration Division

**Items Discussed**

1. Introduction of Committee Members and Announcements
2. Review and approved Meeting Minutes from August 10, 2017 Agenda
  - S. Riley made a motion to approve, seconded by M. Levinson, as amended, motion carried (amended to postpone naming of SB 450 meeting).
3. VAAC Public SB 450 Hearing
  - **VCA Messaging:** F. Nisen wanted to ensure our material is conveying that voters have three (3) options to choose from to vote and not that the County was advocating for any method of voting. F. Nisen wants to ensure the message is identifying the options that work best for each voter. He cautions SMC not to push a vote-by-mail voting option (a. combined with b.).
  - C. McCulloh outlined options that already exist. J. Tagg also emphasized the Vote Centers are open for longer periods of time in the Voters Choice Act (VCA) model.
  - J. Irizarry reviewed the timeline of presenting the Voters Choice Act to the BOARD OF SUPERVISORS in a study session on September 12. It is a public meeting for the BOARD OF SUPERVISORS to receive information, ask questions and make suggestions. A report will be provided to the BOARD OF SUPERVISORS and it will discuss partnerships that the Elections Division has with community groups such as the VAAC. On September 26, the Elections Division will introduce a resolution to the BOARD OF SUPERVISORS for the

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department to move forward with the VCA and proceed with the June 5, 2018 election in the Vote Center Model. The goal is to get the support of the BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. We may have a State representative at the September 26 meeting to demonstrate the States support. M. McCulloh encourages the VAAC to attend the September 26 meeting in a showing of support.

- **Power Point:** J. Irizarry reviewed the Power Point and we determined updates are needed to reflect items more specific to the disability community. It was decided to ensure that we stay consistent and use Voters Choice Act on all material. Where possible we will state "California's Voters Choice Act". We also want to update the seal used to show the County seal to stay with consistent branding. We also need to add *Accessible Assistance* at all Vote Centers to the slide discussing those options.

**ACTION ITEM:** J. Tagg will investigate if we need to make a Public Notice on "reasonable changes" to the plan

**ACTION ITEM:** Once the Voters Choice Act POWER POINT has been updated it will be reviewed with the VAAC members.

- **Meeting Title:** (Final decision below)  
Voters Accessibility Advisory Committee - Public Hearing and Request for Input  
Voters Choice Act for the Disability Community:  
How it impacts your voting options
- **Format:** 2-hour meeting, 30 mins for introductions and VCA / VAAC presentation, 10 mins break, 30 mins for public input, 10 min break, 30 mins for Q&A. During both breaks the voter registration table and voting equipment will be on display for registration and testing.
- **Invitees:** Inviting some key community leaders including: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Members, County Manager, Chief of the Health Systems, other elected officials
- **Outreach:** TABLED UNTIL NEXT MEETING (invite Elections Outreach Reps.)

**ACTION ITEM:** F. Nisen will email information related to Outreach

- **Logistics:** 1:30 – 4:00 pm
- **Next Steps:** We need to get recommendations on the Power Point for the next meeting and focus on the Format of the meeting including presenters/speakers. Mr. Church or J. Irizarry will present the Power Point on the VCA at the public meeting and the closing remarks.
- Confirmed meetings for September 21, 2017 and October 5, 2017 to be held at 555 County Center Plaza at 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

**Meeting Adjourned at 12:08 PM**