Order of Business

1. Call to Order & Roll Call
The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Members Jung and Mogi were present. Director of Elections John Arntz and Secretary Chan were also present.

2. General Public Comment
Mr. Brent Turner mentioned that there has been news about LA’s tabulation system being certified by the Secretary of State, claiming to be open source. But he hasn’t been able to see any of the code and is doubtful of this claim. He encouraged the Committee to move expeditiously on getting San Francisco established with an open source voting system.

3. November 2018 Election
Chair Donaldson asked Director Arntz if there were any significant changes to the election plan from the June experience, noting some of the problems that occurred then. Director Arntz said no, that the basic plan worked well and they just had to tweak some elements to anticipate level of voters at the City Hall vote center, and to better train poll workers regarding clear instructions on accessible voting, and the specific needs to assist non-citizen voters who are voting for the first time (under Prop N).

Right now they are in the prep stage, getting the database together, the ballot prepared, content and artwork refreshed, and major outreach activities to reach non-citizen voters. They are working closely with the unified school district to involve high school students in the process (the Ambassador program). The school district is generally very welcoming to this, but they have varying responses from individual instructors/teachers. (Vice President Mogi has been a central liaison between the district and the department).
The election cycle will start Friday with ballots to overseas vote by mail voters. the polling places confirmed. They are connecting with their observer panels. They have to figure out logistics around staging about 300 vehicles from Stonestown shopping center (normally they use the space around their warehouse for those but haven’t been able to the last couple of years) for this election.

Because they have to separate the “normal” voting process for citizens from non-citizens, essentially is is like running 2 elections simultaneously, keeping the databases totally independent of each other. He said there is only 7 non-citizens who have registered to date, but he expects the majority will come in later. Asked if information about non-citizen voters is potentially available to ICE, Director Arntz said yes. Even without a subpoena they could get it. Asked what happens to the information after the election, Director Arntz said they maintain that information indefinitely just as they do the regular voters’ information.

4. Open Source Voting
President Donaldson noted the job description for the Project Manager being a little “low” on the compensation level vis a vis comparable types in the area. Director Arntz was asked if there was any update to the situation. He had none. President Donaldson asked about how the $960,000 in the Department budget for the open source project was allocated. Director Arntz said there were no specific earmarks for particular aspects of the project. They are program funds for the overall project. He explained briefly how the money gets allocated to the Department’s budget, and when it will be accessible.

Public Comment
Mr. Brent Turner said it would be good to have a clear understanding of how the funds are allocated. He expressed concern that no public or Commission oversight of the project will not be included going forward with the Department of Technology.

President Donaldson commented that in meetings with Director Arntz and Director Gerull he felt confident that they are open to this dialog.

5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
Commissioner Jung moved to approve the minutes of July 13, 2018, seconded by Vice President Mogi. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

6. Agenda items for future meetings
President Donaldson noted that he will be looking to find a replacement for the Chair of this committee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 PM.

Meeting minutes adopted October 10, 2018