# Elections Commission City & County of San Francisco

Lucy Bernholz, President Charles Jung, Vice President Roger Donaldson Viva Mogi Christopher Jerdonek Becca Chappell



John Arntz, Director of Elections

Martha Delgadillo, Secretary

### **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

San Francisco Elections Commission Wednesday, April 21, 2021 3:00 p.m. Remote meeting via WebEx

### **Order of Business**

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 3:00 p.m.

Present: President Bernholz, Vice President Jung, Commissioners: Jerdonek, Mogi,

Donaldson, and Chappell

Also present: Director of Elections Arntz, Deputy City Attorney Shen, and Secretary

Delgadillo

### 2. General Public Comment - None

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings June 17, 2020 and March 17, 2021

Motion to approve all meeting minutes made by Commissioner Jerdonek, seconded by Commissioner Donaldson

President Bernholz	Yes
Vice President Jung	Yes
Commissioner Jerdonek	Yes
Commissioner Donaldson	Yes
Commissioner Chappell	Yes
Commissioner Mogi	Yes

6 Yays 0 Nay 0 Abstain Motion passed

4. Resolution on Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement

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Vice President (VP) Jung reported his findings, shared his research and discussed his proposed edits to the acknowledgment.

Commissioner Jerdonek asked if a City representative could join the next meeting to explain further how this acknowledgment came to be. President Bernholz will reach out to the City's Office of Racial Equity, or Human Rights Commission, and the Association of the Ramaytush Ohlone to extend an invitation to meet with the Elections Commission at a future meeting.

### **Public Comment**

Lauren Girardin commented on the reasons for the acknowledgement and offered to send links providing relevant information.

## 5. November 3, 2020 Consolidated General Election

The Board of Supervisors (BoS) has certified the November 3, 2020 election results but this commission had not yet assessed the election.

Commissioner Donaldson stated the commission had also not reviewed the March 2020 election. Commissioner Donaldson asked for the same information to be compiled for assessing the March and November 2020 elections.

## **Public Comment**

David Pilpel suggested listing the commission's review of each election as separate items on the next agenda.

## 6. Outreach Plan for Redistricting Task Force (RTF)

President Bernholz gave an update on the instructions and application form, and their translation. There will be a press release drafted by VP Jung. Director Arntz will assist with distribution, and the Elections Commission will reach out to any others not on his list. A draft op-ed was created and presented by Commissioner Mogi.

Commissioner Jerdonek was asked about the commission's application criteria concerning persons paid by a political campaign and the commission discussed clarifying this restriction. The commission suggested amendments to respond to Commission Jerdonek's question – to clarify that "political campaign" should refer to "San Francisco candidate campaign" – and to extend the deadline for applications.

## **Public Comment**

David Pilpel suggested adding two deadlines to the calendar, for Signature in Lieu and Nomination Papers, for candidates for the Board of Supervisors.

Jen Tse agreed on excluding persons who have previously been paid for City and County of San Francisco campaigns.

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Lauren Girardin was pleased to hear about the possibility of extending the application deadline date for equity reasons.

Motion made by Commissioner Donaldson to make the changes as discussed by the commission, to the criteria regarding persons paid by local campaign and the deadline, seconded by Commissioner Mogi.

President Bernholz	Yes
Vice President Jung	Yes
Commissioner Jerdonek	Yes
Commissioner Donaldson	Yes
Commissioner Chappell	Yes
Commissioner Mogi	Yes

6 Yays 0 Nay 0 Abstain Motion passed

Motion made by Commissioner Jerdonek to authorize President Bernholz and Commissioner Mogi to work together on an op-ed regarding RTF, seconded by Commissioner Chappell.

President Bernholz	Yes
Vice President Jung	Yes
Commissioner Jerdonek	Yes
Commissioner Donaldson	Yes
Commissioner Chappell	Yes
Commissioner Mogi	Yes

6 Yays 0 Nay 0 Abstain Motion passed

## 7. Amendments to Commission Bylaws

DCA Shen briefly described the proposed amendments, including the primary edits to the provision regarding the Budget and Oversight of the Public Election's Committee (BOPEC). DCA Shen confirmed that the scheduling and composition of BOPEC would be left to the discretion of the commission's president. The commission also proposed amendments regarding gender inclusion to change his/her to they/their.

### **Public Comment**

David Pilpel made suggestions to recommended edits in the bylaws.

Lauren Girardin made recommendations based on the gender inclusion policy.

VP Jung moved to adopt the revisions proposed by DCA Shen with two modifications: 1) the bylaws will continue to refer to BOPEC as a standing committee. 2) the

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amendments will replace gendered his/her pronouns with the gender-neutral they/their, seconded by Commissioner Donaldson.

President Bernholz	Yes
Vice President Jung	Yes
Commissioner Jerdonek	Yes
Commissioner Donaldson	Yes
Commissioner Chappell	Yes
Commissioner Mogi	Yes

6 Yays 0 Nay 0 Abstain Motion passed

# 8. Commissioners' Report

Commissioner Donaldson asked Commissioner Mogi if she has heard of any action on by the Board of Education (BOE) to appoint a member to the Elections Commission. Commissioner Mogi responded that the BOE has stated that it will focus on school reopening before other matters.

President Bernholz announced meeting with the Human Rights Commission on Friday, April 23, 2021.

### **Public Comment - None**

## 9. Director's Report

Director Arntz updated the commission on the translation of RTF forms. He also updated the commission on the potential recall of the Governor and that the potential recall election will likely be held in late November or early December. Due to the delay in redistricting data, the Secretary of State has also discussed moving the 2022 primary election from June to a later date.

#### **Public Comment**

David Pilpel asked about the department's pre proposal conference for a redistricting consultant.

## 10. Discussion and possible action regarding items for future agendas

- a) Land Acknowledgement
- b) Review the March 2020 election.
- c) Review the November 2020 election.
- d) Annual Report.
- e) Outreach online voter materials.
- f) Update on the application process for the RTF.

Adjournment at 5:01 pm