



**Joint Clallam-Jefferson County
Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee**
per RCW 29A.04.223



DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 9, 2018 3:00 p.m.
Jefferson County Courthouse, FFCR

Members:

Representing Clallam County:

Shoona Riggs, Auditor
Becky Pettigrew, Election Manager - present
Sherry Price, Election Deputy

Representing Jefferson County:

Rose Ann Carroll, Auditor - present
Betty Johnson, Election Coordinator - present
Brenda Huntingford, Chief Deputy Auditor
Sandi Eldridge, Voter Reg. Coord. / Outreach & Education Coordinator - present

Representing the Community:

Pat Teal, Disability Awareness Starts Here, DASH
John Ammeter
Celeste Bennett – present
Bethel Prescott, Affirmative Action Committee Chair for the JC Democrats
Marty Gilmore, Jefferson Co. Democratic Committee Chair
Kristina Hestenes-Stimson, Jefferson Co. Democratic Committee Elections Chair

Guest: David Griffiths, Active with State Disability Caucus and works with State Affirmative Action Committee.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

Review the Committee's role:

- ✓ Accessibility – Advise the Auditor's Office on how to make voting more accessible to the disabled community
- ✓ Outreach – Assist the Auditor's Office in communicating with voters in the disabled community
- ✓ Education – Help the Auditor's Office to inform voters in the disabled community and educate staff on disability issues

Old Business

- Approve the April 25, 2018 meeting minutes
 - o Motion to approve made by: Rose Ann
 - o Motion 2nd by: Celeste
 - o All in favor: unanimous
- Braille Library – outreach project.
 - o Mailer was sent to 130 Clallam County residents and 53 Jefferson County residents listed at the Braille Library.
 - o Difficult to quantify its effectiveness. Mailer was mailed the week of June 25th. No voters used the Accessible Voting Unit (AVU) in either county for the August, Primary election.
 - o Becky said she was contacted and invited to the “Vision Loss Fair” and thinks it may have been the result of someone getting the flyer.
 - o It was decided both counties would utilize this same process at the beginning of each year and identify all possible election dates that year and the dates AVU’s would be accessible for each election.

New Business:

- Clallam County Elections was invited to the Vision Loss Fair in Sequim Sept. 7th. They demonstrated their new Accessible Voting Unit. Becky discussed how the event went. Brenda from Jefferson County also attended.
 - o Clallam County brought their Accessible Voting Unit to demonstrate.
 - o Two people who are blind voted a test ballot. They found it very interesting and will pass on the information of availability.
 - o Becky will send Betty the contacts made at the Vision Loss Fair to add to her contact list.
- It’s time to review “the plan” and make any additions and/or changes to improve its purpose and success. We are required to review the plan annually. The last revision consisted of adding the new ballot drop box locations and some formatting changes. The plan was reviewed and adopted during the Sept. 27, 2017 meeting.
 - o Clallam County has additional ballot drop boxes. Becky will send the list to Betty to add to the “Plan”.
 - o The revised “Plan” will be sent to the committee with the draft minutes from this meeting.

Other:

- A new member will be added to our committee – Bethel Prescott. She is the Affirmative Action Chair for JC Democrats.
- The following VAAC contacts for publishing articles to elderly and homebound was provided by Celeste 10/9/18. We should send info for their newsletters (1st Wed. each month):
 - o Mary Coupland, compassandclockmc@gmail.com.
 - o Trish Rodgers, (assists Brian Jackson, who owns Home Instead franchise for Olympic Peninsula) trish.rodgers@homeinstead.com
 - o Bethel Prescott, Affirmative Action Chair for JC Democrats, bethelprescott@gmail.com
- Celeste said there is a new free screen reader. She will let Becky and Betty know the name of it so they can add it to their websites.
- Becky informed the group that Clallam County will have a new web presence shortly. She asked if Jefferson County had reviewed their new website for ADA usability. We hadn't done that yet but will look into it. Celeste informed us that the UW has a department that will look at it and make recommendations. She will give Betty the contact info so our website can be reviewed. Becky said using headers and sub headers make it easier for screen readers to read.
- Celeste tested the MyVote site to vote/print a ballot. She said the site was easy to get around if you are disabled.
- Becky said there was a fair that had a lot of info disabled persons organized by NFFB (National Federation for Blind).
- Celeste said there is a Senior Resources meeting once a month.
- Someone from San Juan Villa contacted Betty about our AVU. Betty suggested she come in and check out the AVU and determine if it would be helpful to some of the residents there. If helpful, she could bring a group of residents here to vote their ballot.
- We should send a letter to the activities coordinator of various locations for disabled / senior housing and invite them to try our AVU so they will know what it is and how it works.
- Becky asked if ballot drop box sites need to be ADA accessible in a drive up lane. She will share the answer when she finds it.
- Celeste said Dragon Read was a really good software for sighted people.
- Rose Ann suggested we send info to the following locations for outreach:
 - o ECHO
 - o DASH
 - o JCCB
 - o Hospital – physical therapy

- Eye Doctors / Ear Doctors
- Homes for elderly / Assisted living
- Transit – Dial-a-ride
- Blue Bills
- Elks / Kiwanis / Rotary
- Dems / Reps
- Vet Connect
- American Legion
- WSU / Peninsula College

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be in the spring of 2019 with Clallam County hosting. Clallam County will determine the date/time and location and will send the meeting notification to members once it has been determined.

Motion to adjourn made by: Celeste

Motion second by: Rose Ann

All in favor: unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.