

CITIZENS' ELECTIONS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (CEOC)

Voter Participation Workgroup Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2024 | 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. | Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Chair: Jude Ahmed, Stanley Tsao, Hanna Floss and Christopher Hays

Absent: N/A

Special Guests: Naheed Aaftaab, Jacob Lodge, and Janice Case

Council Staff: Tania Mondaca and Ternia Wilson

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair Ahmed called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM.

2. Check-in Question

Chair Ahmed presented a check-in question and attendees took turns introducing themselves.

3. January 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Member Floss moved approval of the January 9, 2024 meeting minutes. Member Hays seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

4. King County Elections Presentation

King County Elections staffers Naheed Aaftaab and Jacob Lodge provided the info below.

The following is an overview of part one of the presentation: SB 6313 passed in 2020, requiring public universities to open engagement centers to provide ballots. The goal of the bill is to reduce barriers, improve ballot access, and improve civic engagement. There are centers located at multiple WA universities. Centers are only open during November elections. The UW Seattle hub offers same day registration, replacement ballot and ballot returns. The UW Bothell hub is only open on election day and offers replacement ballots. Members asked various questions.

The following is an overview of part two of the presentation: KCE's outreach principles include strategic, intentional, reliable, and collaboration with communities. The voter education fund includes 22 multiyear grants and 16 seed grants. The civic education pilot program so far includes 2 staff, 1 teacher, and 5 interns, 34 classroom visits, an interactive curriculum, career development for interns, and classes in Spanish. Voting in detention centers: curriculum developed in CE pilot for juvenile detention center, MRJC, creation of promotional material, collaboration with other departments including healthcare and public defenders, and sharing digital and physical resource packets. There have been 24 community events last year, over 1500 new voter citizens registered as of February 2023, and more communications through social media and radio including Spanish speaking content. Members asked various questions.

5. 2024 Voter Participation Workplan

Staffer Mondaca reviewed the workgroup's workplan and asked if they wanted to make changes to the order of topics. Members directed staff to keep the schedule as is. Members gave staff direction on information they'd like to receive at the March workgroup meeting.

6. End of Year Report Update

CEOC Chair Juarez will go before the Government Accountability and Oversight committee on February 13th to provide briefing of the CEOC 2023 end of year report.

7. Staff Updates

Staffer Mondaca reported that there is a learning retreat on March 20th and reminded members to submit their financial disclosure forms by February 29th.

8. Adjournment

Chair Ahmed adjourned the meeting at about 3:55 PM.