

Minutes
Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee
March 12, 2010

Attendance:

Karen Herr, Mason County Auditor
Mike Rutter, Mason County Facilities Manager
Libby Avery, Mason County Transit Community Center
Pete Laserinko

Karen Herr called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Karen asked everyone to introduce him or herself and sign in.

Karen talked about the overview of HAVA (Help America Vote Act).

The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to reach out to voters with disabilities. Counties adopting a vote by mail system we must take appropriate steps to provide voters with disabilities an equal opportunity to vote independently and privately.

Karen went through the steps in RCW 29A.46.260.

There are three major requirements:

- First – To eliminate punch card.
- Second – Statewide Voter Data Base.
- Third – AVU (Accessibility Voting Unit) each polling site.

Karen did a demonstration on how the AVU voting equipment works. Karen talked about the visually impaired lady who arrived by the metro bus to vote on the AVU and also, our young gentleman who votes every time he is eligible to vote on the AVU.

There was talk about locations for additional ballot drop boxes.

- a. The Port of Allyn
- b. City Hall
- c. Library in Shelton
- d. Transit Community Center on Franklin Street.

Libby Avery question to Karen do you have any concerns about vandalism. Yes, but the ballot drop boxes are pretty tough well put together.

Libby suggests Transit Community Center on Franklin Street would be a good place in a couple of years after the remodel. For having a ballot drop box outside the building and also as a polling site. By then the bus will stop right in front of the building.

Pete Laserinko talked about people with disabilities and the elderly that drive. If the library had a drive by drop box they won't have to leave their cars just drop the ballot into the ballot box. Pete also recommends the Memorial Hall for a polling site.

Between the committee they agreed the Port of Allyn should have a ballot drop box. Libby Avery was just their good area; the bus stop in front of the building and at night lighting is good.

The committee talked about having a poll site open four hours before a Primary and General Election in Belfair area.

In the future in Matlock and the Skokomish Nation Reservation there should be ballot drop box.

Karen gave each committee member Accessible Voting pamphlets to pass out.

The next Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee will be on June 17, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. at Transit Community Center

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Susan Blankenship