

Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Feb. 3, 2010

In attendance:

Lynda Ring Erickson, Commissioner
Mike Rutter, Facilities Manager
Karen Herr, Auditor

Discussed the opportunity to apply for HAVA grant money to improve the administration of elections for voters with disabilities.

Karen asked the other two members for help in identifying persons with diverse disabilities who may be willing to serve on this committee. Lynda offered several suggestions and Mike will contact the Veterans Association.

Karen mentioned the need to add a ballot drop box in the Allyn area. Ideas for placement were; Port of Allyn, Fire Station, Post Office, MC owned pump-station, park & ride at Pickering, or Pickering Bakery. Another need is for a drive-by ballot drop box located in the Shelton area. Ideas for placement were; Memorial Hall, Sheriff's office, or Timberland Library. Karen will check out these areas, narrow the selection, and report back to the committee.

The committee reviewed and made corrections to our plan to improve the accessibility of elections for voters with disabilities in Mason County. Under (d) transportation – it was noted that Mason County Transit would transport individuals to the Auditor's office to access the eSlate voting device **free of charge**.

Lynda suggested we demonstrate the accessible voting device during one of the BOCC scheduled weekly meetings – to educate and encourage participation.

The committee plans to meet again during the last week of March. The objective will be to introduce new members, further discuss locations for additional ballot drop boxes, and to review and approve the proposed grant application.