

CITIZEN'S REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

Hearing Room: Secretary of State Auditorium
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2011
9:30 A.M.

Reported by:
Kent Odell

APPEARANCES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Peter Yao, Chair
Cynthia Dai, Vice Chair
Gabino T. Aguirre
Vincent Barabba
Maria Blanco
Michelle R. Di Giulio
Stanley Forbes
Connie Galambos Malloy
Lilbert "Gil" Ontai
M. Andre Parvenu
Jeanne Raya
Michael Ward

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Elaine Kuo
Jodie Filkins Webber

STAFF PRESENT:

Dora Mejia, Secretary of State's Office
Cy Rickards, Counsel, Secretary of State's Office
Anne Osborne, Secretary, Secretary of State's Office
Dan Claypool, Executive Director

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P R O C E E D I N G S

JANUARY 20, 2011 9:34 A.M.

CHAIRMAN YAO: Good morning, everybody. The time is five minutes past 9:30. And I'm going to reconvene the Citizens' Redistricting Commission. We took a recess last Friday at around five o'clock, so this is a continuation of the same meeting.

May we have a roll call at this point in time?

MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Aguirre?

COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Here.

MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Barabba?

COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Here.

MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Blanco?

COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Here.

MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Dai?

VICE CHAIR DAI: Here.

MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Di Giulio?

COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Here.

COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Commissioner Filkins
Webber?

Commissioner Forbes?

COMMISSIONER FORBES: Here.

COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Commissioner Galambos
Malloy?

COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Here.

1 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Commissioner Ontai?

2 Commissioner Parvenu?

3 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: Present.

4 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Commissioner Raya?

5 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Here.

6 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Commissioner Ward?

7 COMMISSIONER WARD: Here.

8 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Commissioner Yao?

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: Here.

10 All right, I do believe we have a quorum so we
11 will -- the first order of business is the swearing in of
12 our newest Commissioner, so can we -- Mr. Claypool,
13 you're going to make the introduction?

14 MR. CLAYPOOL: Thank you. My name is Dan
15 Claypool, I'm the -- also the newly elected -- or not
16 elected, I'm the newly appointed Executive Director.

17 I have the great pleasure of being able to
18 introduce Ms. Maria Blanco. She is from Los Angeles.
19 She holds a law degree from UC Berkeley School of Law and
20 a BA from UC Berkeley.

21 Commissioner Blanco is the Vice-President of the
22 Civic Engagement for the California Community Foundation.

23 She is the -- the CECCF LA's purpose is to help
24 strengthen communities and build a brighter future for
25 Los Angeles County.

1 Previously, Commissioner Blanco was the Executive
2 Director of the Earl Warren Institute of Berkeley School
3 of Law. And she is registered with the Democratic Party.

4 I'd like everyone to give her a round of
5 applause.

6 [Applause]

7 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Thank you.

8 **Item 1. Swearing-in of Maria Blanco as a Commissioner.**

9 MR. CLAYPOOL: We will now have Ms. Mejia, from
10 the Secretary of State's Office, and she will swear in
11 Maria Blanco.

12 MS. MEJIA: Good morning.

13 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Good morning.

14 MS. MEJIA: Raise your right hand and repeat
15 after me, stating your name after I say "I."

16 I, Maria Blanco, do solemnly swear that I will
17 support and defend the Constitution of the United States
18 and the Constitution of the State of California against
19 all enemies, foreign and domestic, that I will bear
20 truth, faith, and allegiance to the Constitution of the
21 United States and the Constitution of California, and
22 that I take this obligation freely, without any mental
23 reservation, or purpose of evasion, and that I will well
24 and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about
25 to enter.

1 MS. MEJIA: Congratulations.

2 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Thank you.

3 [Applause]

4 MS. MEJIA: And I turn it back to the
5 Commissioner.

6 CHAIRMAN YAO: Ms. Blanco, would you like to say
7 a few words for us?

8 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Just I'm extremely pleased
9 to serve on this Commission. I consider it a great
10 honor. This is something that the citizens of California
11 have been looking forward to for a very long time and I
12 hope I meet their expectations, and do not disappoint
13 them. And I look forward to working closely with my
14 fellow Commissioners.

15 CHAIRMAN YAO: Thank you.

16 Two or three things I'd like to do before we get
17 going with the agenda item. Number one is I'd like to
18 ask Commissioner Forbes to kind of summarize what we have
19 done in the -- in the three days that we spent last week.

20 And then after that I'd like to invite our
21 Executive Director to say a few words.

22 And then following that we'll discuss the agenda
23 in a little more detail and then we'll proceed with the
24 order of the business.

25 Commissioner Forbes.

1 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Thank you, Commissioner
2 Yao.

3 The full Commission met last week for three days.
4 Five of the newly selected members were sworn in. Ms.
5 Blanco was not in attendance, as she was out of the
6 country.

7 Commissioner Galambos Malloy joined by phone from
8 Columbia the first day, but was out of contact for days
9 two and three.

10 In addition, the Commission hired an Executive
11 Director, Daniel Claypool. Mr. Claypool, who worked for
12 the Office of State Audits, was one of the individuals
13 who had been responsible for establishing the procedure
14 for recruiting and selecting the pool from which the
15 Commissioners were ultimately chosen.

16 We also set the per diem rate standard that a
17 minimum of six hours of Commission work equal one day.
18 And tentatively set our February meetings to take place
19 in Claremont, in Southern California.

20 This was done, in part, as part of our outreach
21 effort that we'll ultimately reach the entire State.

22 We also established a subcommittee structure.
23 The five subcommittees that were established were the
24 Management; Finance Subcommittee, Technical; Legal; and
25 Outreach and Public Information Subcommittees.

1 Finally, we reluctantly accepted the resignation
2 from the Commissioner of Elaine Kuo and directed staff to
3 notice for future meetings our election of a replacement.

4 Since Ms. Kuo represented the Democratic Party,
5 per Prop 11, the remaining members will select a
6 replacement from the seven Democratic applicants
7 remaining in the original final pool of 36.

8 And we are meeting in Sacramento on January 20th
9 and 21st, and January 26th, 27th, and 28th.

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: Thank you.

11 Mr. Claypool. You're welcome to come to the
12 podium, you're welcome to speak from this here, your
13 choice.

14 MR. CLAYPOOL: I was afraid that no one would be
15 able to see me over there, I'm kind of blocked in.

16 First of all, as I had said earlier to the
17 Commissioners, I thank you again for this opportunity. I
18 have finally closed out my obligations with the -- with
19 the Bureau of State Audits.

20 And we are moving ahead with a lot of the plans
21 that I've been thinking about since I found out that I
22 was going to be working for you.

23 Specifically, tomorrow I would like to be able to
24 present to all of you a plan for -- or a preliminary plan
25 for what I think we need for staffing and start moving us

1 towards picking up the different individuals that we're
2 going to need to make this work.

3 I'm looking at the different applications this
4 evening for the administrative position. The Secretary
5 of State's Office is working to get me the different
6 applications for the communications officer.

7 When I get those what I would like to be able to
8 do is to go through them and then speak with you about
9 the different individuals that are applying.

10 We have space, now, over at 12th and K, and we
11 will be sharing that space with the Commission for
12 Economic Development.

13 The Secretary of State's Office has done a
14 wonderful job of putting together space for all of you
15 when you come into town. If you need a place to stay, we
16 will get you cards so that you can access that building
17 and the protocol for getting in.

18 It has office space for -- it has office space
19 for our chief counsel, as well, and myself and one other
20 individual, and a large meeting room for us. We also
21 have other meeting facilities that we can use.

22 And, finally, we will be looking at the salary
23 structures tomorrow, I believe. That will be presented,
24 along with some contracts that the Secretary of State is
25 proposing for us to make our operations move more

1 smoothly.

2 So, that's what I've done so far. Does anyone
3 have any questions?

4 CHAIRMAN YAO: I'm sure we'll have lots of
5 questions for you as the day goes on. Thank you very
6 much for your introductory remarks.

7 MR. CLAYPOOL: Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Actually, before I get
9 on the discussion of the agenda let me open up the floor,
10 the microphone to anybody in the audience that would like
11 to address this Commission on items that's both on the
12 agenda and off the agenda. Any individual interested in
13 addressing the Commission, please step up to the
14 microphone.

15 All right. Seeing, no one approaching the
16 microphone, I'll bring the discussion back to the
17 Commission.

18 We have, from the last meeting, agenda item
19 number 1 through number 10, and those are the agendas
20 that we have discussed at various stages of the matter.
21 So, we'll continue doing a lot of that.

22 And item number 11 and 12 -- 11, 13, and 13 were
23 added as of the last -- after the last meeting, if I'm
24 not -- if I'm correct. It may have been added before the
25 close of the meeting.

1 So, in any case, I believe that the first time we
2 can address those items is 10 or 14 days from the time
3 that we put the item on the agenda so, in which case, it
4 will put it at a minimum next week. Is that the latest
5 reading on that?

6 MR. RICKARDS: That's correct. We noticed the
7 revised agenda the same day of your last meeting, we got
8 it out that night. So, 14 days from then --

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right, so --

10 MR. RICKARDS: -- which I believe is -- I don't
11 have a calendar right in front of me, I believe that's
12 the 28th.

13 CHAIRMAN YAO: Right. So, on Friday, next week,
14 is when we can start addressing item 10, 11 and 12.

15 With regard to item number 1 through 10,
16 Commissioner Dai and myself had a phone conversation and
17 let me kind of summarize for you as to some of the points
18 that we think we want to bring before the entire
19 Commission for discussion.

20 You may want to jot down these items as I speak.

21 Under item number 3, on the Commission
22 governance, we're going to talk about the process of
23 selecting the replacement Commissioners. We cannot talk
24 about candidates, but the process of selecting a
25 replacement I think is something that we -- that's well

1 within the Commission governance and we will initiate
2 that discussion.

3 We're going to get deeper into the subcommittee
4 discussions, including finalizing the membership,
5 identifying meeting dates.

6 I think we share with everybody the charter of
7 each of the Commission's subcommittees last time. Maybe
8 we need to finalize that or discuss it a little further.
9 And I'm also hoping that we can identify some of the high
10 priority tasks for each of the subcommittees with,
11 perhaps, some assigned due days for these tasks.

12 Obviously, we need to identify the meeting place
13 of, in addition to the meeting date. And perhaps a
14 discussion of whether we want to video stream the
15 meeting, or provide audio, only, or provide a delayed
16 posting of the video of such meetings onto the internet.

17 So, these are items that are to be discussed from
18 this point on.

19 Another item that would be included is item
20 number 3, is continued discussion of the rotating
21 chairperson. I think we had a show of hands as who was
22 interested and I think Anne Osborne may have asked you to
23 submit your name to you because the video wasn't
24 available for staff to review in time for this meeting.

25 And if we do want to rotate it, who's going to be

1 next?

2 I, in particular, am interesting in having a
3 different chairperson if we do meet in the City of
4 Claremont, I think it would be appropriate to do so as
5 compared for me to chair the meeting in my home town.

6 All right. Item number 8 is the discussion of
7 the -- is a broad topic on discussing any redistricting
8 matters. And I think that would be a good item to
9 initiate the discussion on the outreach framework, not
10 just the process flow, but the -- but the philosophies,
11 concepts, ideas. I believe, this item, we're going to
12 spend a big block of time over the next couple of days.

13 Item number 9 is the schedule, operation, and
14 location of future meetings. I will brief you on my
15 finding of the possibility of meeting in Claremont.

16 And also there are issues we identified along the
17 way, including video, the issue of security, physical
18 security for us all being in one place, the cost, and
19 also maybe going into discussing as to whether we want to
20 broaden our outreach by having multiple locations within
21 the same month, okay, as compared to having one location
22 a month.

23 So far we set the meeting agenda covering one
24 month at a time and if we do want to try to go to as many
25 places as possible, then we need to agendize our meetings

1 slightly differently to make that happen.

2 And if we were to hold an off-site meeting, I
3 think we probably need to attack the agenda slightly
4 differently than we've been doing it. We probably need
5 to talk about the history a little bit, talk about what
6 we have done and where we are going. Because we have
7 held meetings here, in Sacramento, for the last couple of
8 years and a lot of people are very familiar with our
9 process.

10 When we go to a new site, we're going to
11 encounter a lot of people that are seeing us for the
12 first time. So, we may need to make some assignment in
13 terms of who's going to do these introduction.

14 And then, again, item 11, 12 and 13 are to be
15 delayed until, at the earliest, next week.

16 So, any other additional items that any of the
17 Commissioners want to include?

18 I think from -- I took a few notes between the
19 time I generated this list.

20 COMMISSIONER RAYA: I have one item. When we're
21 discussing calendaring, is there a more efficient way
22 that we can keep our availability updated?

23 VICE CHAIR DAI: I would suggest that we create a
24 group calendar and then everyone can update.

25 CHAIRMAN YAO: Let's include that as part of our

1 discussion on item number 9.

2 Also, there's interest in getting a better idea
3 on the funding availability for this Commission. So, I'm
4 hoping that sometime today, Friday, we'll initiate that
5 discussion so that we can gain a better understanding as
6 to how much money is left so that we can tailor our
7 plans, our activities accordingly.

8 Also, another item is it may be appropriate for
9 us to try to set up multiple -- I don't have a name for
10 it, but let me just create one, call-in sites where
11 somebody can perhaps address the Commission from a remote
12 site. If we do want to set that up, we do need to notice
13 it and include that as part of our agenda.

14 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: And also the remote
15 sites for Commissioners to participate from remote sites.

16 CHAIRMAN YAO: Right. Remote sites not only for
17 participants or the public to call in, addressing the
18 Commission, but also for Commissioners to use in the
19 event he or she can't make it to the meeting. Okay.

20 VICE CHAIR DAI: I wonder for item 10 if we can
21 request that our Executive Director actually put a plan
22 together for the training, or the number of required
23 trainings that we have to have and we probably want to
24 get those out of the way.

25 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Chairperson Yao,

1 on number 9, I'm wondering if we can, as we have that
2 discussion, have some detailed budget information
3 regarding the costs of transcripts, of videoing, of the
4 web conferencing, all the different alternatives we want
5 to consider?

6 CHAIRMAN YAO: Yes, we'll go into that in more
7 detail as we go to that item.

8 One last item I forgot to include in my list is
9 guidelines for this Commission to give to our Executive
10 Director. Case in point is how much -- how much
11 discretionary power does he have in terms of signing
12 checks, and issuing contracts, and on, and on.

13 So, that discussion will take place over the
14 next -- today and tomorrow.

15 All right, I think we can always add more items
16 to the agenda as we go along, but this is just a -- just
17 so that you get a feel of what are all the things we're
18 trying to accomplish.

19 Go ahead.

20 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: Commissioner Yao, on item
21 number 8 can we have some -- can we review preliminary
22 census data that might be available to us at this moment
23 with regard to the State of California?

24 I know that the actual data won't be in until
25 April, but I think that there is some preliminary data

1 that might be available to us to at least be familiar
2 with.

3 CHAIRMAN YAO: The question I have is the agenda
4 I cover is mainly for the next couple days.

5 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: All right.

6 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think maybe toward the end of
7 Friday we can talk about what we want to do next week.
8 If you want to squeeze that into the next couple of days,
9 I'll be happy to do it. But if you think it can -- it
10 should wait until next week we'll --

11 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: It can wait.

12 CHAIRMAN YAO: Wait until next week. All right,
13 thank you.

14 Any additional thoughts?

15 All right. So, any particular order that you'd
16 like to discuss all the things that we have included in
17 our agenda for the next couple days?

18 VICE CHAIR DAI: One other item is when are we
19 going to go into closed session to discussion candidates
20 for the chief counsel?

21 CHAIRMAN YAO: I'll ask Mr. Claypool to make a
22 recommendation on when would be the appropriate time to
23 go into closed session today in the discussion of
24 personnel matters?

25 MR. CLAYPOOL: So, this would be the personnel

1 matters for?

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: This mainly has to do with the
3 hiring of the -- the interviewing and making the hiring
4 decisions associated with the legal chief counsel.

5 I think the decision we probably need to make is
6 down-select from the current pool of applicants to a
7 smaller number so that we can schedule them in for
8 interviews.

9 MR. CLAYPOOL: And I would ask is this something
10 that we want to do today or tomorrow? The only reason, I
11 haven't had a chance to tally and to see whether I've
12 received everyone's list.

13 Q Would you be able to accomplish that by this
14 afternoon?

15 MR. CLAYPOOL: Certainly.

16 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay. So, we'll schedule that for
17 this afternoon.

18 MR. CLAYPOOL: Okay.

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: Because I think the sooner we
20 notice the candidates, the better off we'll be. Thank
21 you very much.

22 All right. If there's no suggestions for the
23 order of attacking all these agenda items, I'll just go
24 down numerically, starting with item number 3, then, the
25 Commission governance.

1 Anybody want to propose a topic within that
2 category?

3 COMMISSIONER RAYA: I'd like to start with the
4 process about selecting Commissioner Kuo's replacement
5 because I think that's pretty high priority.

6 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: And I'd suggest we
7 frame it. Hopefully, we're all in for the long haul, but
8 it's really the process if there ever is any Commissioner
9 who needs to be replaced, what process do we approach
10 that by?

11 CHAIRMAN YAO: Correct.

12 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, I just wanted to point out
13 that the first eight went through, you know, a process
14 that I think worked quite well. So I just want to put
15 that on the table as kind of trying to do this, you know,
16 by setting candidates that were in the top for a lot of
17 people into a pool, and then cutting that down, taking a
18 look at how that affects all of the factors, the
19 diversity factors that we're required to consider. And,
20 hopefully, coming to consensus as a group.

21 COMMISSIONER WARD: Having not been a part of
22 those discussions, could you guys give us more of a
23 framework of how you accomplished your task of selecting
24 the six?

25 VICE CHAIR DAI: Sure. So, to go into a little

1 more detail, all of us, individually, reviewed the
2 extensive amount of information that was available on all
3 the candidates. And that included the initial and
4 supplementary applications, the interview which, of
5 course, was available both in video and transcript form,
6 the letters of recommendation, the public comments on
7 each candidate.

8 Then, you know, we individually came up with our
9 thoughts on the top candidates. And then when we met as
10 a group, we asked to move certain candidates into a pool
11 for consideration.

12 Now, we had a bit of a harder task in that we had
13 to build a full slate. You know, this time I think we
14 have to look at the whole Commission as a slate and how
15 would the new Commissioner add to the diversity of our
16 Commission.

17 We did have some principles, which I have notes
18 here, but these other folks who are in that process can
19 remind us of some of the principles that we talked about
20 as a group. Philosophies, similar to what we're going to
21 do for the outreach framework where one of them, I know,
22 was certainly that we wanted to err on the side of adding
23 diversity whenever we could. And, certainly, on the
24 required factors but, you know, there are also many other
25 factors of diversity that are not mandated.

1 So we, I know, many of us took other factors into
2 consideration as well. And then we wanted to, again,
3 look at the balance on the whole Commission to make sure
4 we were meeting the mandated factors.

5 One thing that we did, which shouldn't be
6 necessary this time, since we're only replacing one
7 candidate, was to look at anchor candidates in each, you
8 know, sub-pool, Republican, Democrat, and declined to
9 state. And, of course, right now we're only going to be
10 looking at the Democratic sub-pool. So, that's probably
11 not necessary this time.

12 COMMISSIONER RAYA: We also, in addition to the
13 required factors, we did take into consideration, to the
14 extent possible, and I think this comes somewhat from
15 viewing the videotapes, and I'm not sure whether we're
16 going to have those available to everyone again,
17 especially the six, the new six, because they didn't get
18 to see them at all.

19 But I think, especially because we're bringing
20 somebody in now and asking them to jump into the pool,
21 into the deep end, we really need to consider, you know,
22 somebody who's going to be able to step in and fill any
23 gaps we may think we have in skills, or whatever. We're
24 somewhat constricted, it has to be a Democrat.

25 But in other respects I think we can look at

1 someone who will be an easy fit both for them and for the
2 rest of the Commission.

3 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, I found my notes. So, for
4 each of the required factors, philosophically we said for
5 geography, we wanted to consider that very broadly
6 because we are trying to represent the whole State. With
7 the understanding that, you know, just because you hail
8 from a particular location it doesn't mean that's the
9 only location you're representing.

10 But, you know, a lot of people have traveled for
11 their jobs, they've lived in multiple places in
12 California, they have family in certain places, so we
13 looked at geography very broadly.

14 On the racial and ethnic diversity, you know, we
15 erred on the -- again, on the side of having more
16 diversity and seeking additional voices, if we could.

17 I think all of us agreed that the gender split
18 didn't matter. As it turned out, we happened to split
19 seven/seven after we were done with the slate, but that
20 wasn't something I don't think any of us considered
21 heavily. And the to do our best on economic status to
22 the degree possible.

23 And again, I think we did a pretty reasonable job
24 of that, looking at the whole Commission.

25 And as Commissioner Raya talked about, skill sets

1 were also important to us. And that includes people
2 skills, it includes an ability to get along with the
3 current Commission.

4 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Another factor
5 that I remember from my notes, that we considered, we
6 were somewhat constrained in the pool in our ability to
7 do this, but it was around age of the applicants.

8 I know we agreed, as a Commission, that we
9 thought that having a diverse mix of ages on the
10 Commission would actually impact our outreach strategies.
11 So, given we only had six, seven folks to choose from,
12 that might be constrained.

13 CHAIRMAN YAO: As we proceed, keep in mind the
14 differences between what the first eight Commissioners
15 went through and the task that we're about to embark on
16 is the fact that we had the luxury of having a whole
17 month in doing a single task, which is to pick the
18 Commissioners.

19 As we move forward, our time is limited and we're
20 basically going to have a big demand, not only in drawing
21 the maps, but in having to make this decision on an
22 unplanned basis.

23 So, the process that we define for ourselves
24 should take that into serious consideration.

25 COMMISSIONER WARD: So, am I correct in

1 understanding, then, just in my brief notes, the process
2 we're talking about is similar to what we've been using
3 to hire staff so far. We're individually reviewing all
4 the application material available and then,
5 individually, then coming up with an individual ranking
6 of top candidates. And then as a group discussing those
7 rankings and coming to consensus. And that would be the
8 same kind of framework we'd look at?

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: Yeah, but major differences
10 between what we do in selecting staff and what we do in
11 selecting a Commissioner is that the Commissioner process
12 is all in open meeting, where staff is -- the interview,
13 the discussion, all of those were in closed sessions.

14 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: And do we have an
15 estimate as to when we'll get the material, I'm assuming
16 it's from BSA, about the applicants?

17 As I see all that's online are the videos that
18 are --

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: Mr. Claypool?

20 MR. CLAYPOOL: The Secretary of State's Office
21 right now is working on uploading that information and
22 putting together the packages for you. So, I would
23 anticipate it should be done today.

24 We do have one individual on the list who has
25 asked to speak with me, first, and I can't tell you why,

1 but has asked to speak with me.

2 And so, when the process of trying to --

3 CHAIRMAN YAO: Let's discuss the process and
4 let's stay away from the candidate --

5 MR. CLAYPOOL: Okay.

6 CHAIRMAN YAO: -- discussion at this point.

7 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Yeah, I have a question, I
8 guess, for our attorney and for all of us, which is given
9 that the initial rules required eight random selections
10 and six that were selected by the randomly selected
11 eight, and this person is one of the randomly selected
12 persons, whether we would be in error if we did a
13 selection rather than a random -- we will then have seven
14 selected and seven random. Which just technically is
15 different than what the regulations set out.

16 So, I don't know, you know, this is all we're
17 sort of figuring this out as we go along, and I don't
18 particularly have a view one way or another, but I think
19 it's something we need to discuss and perhaps even think
20 about whether it opens up any problems vis-à-vis the
21 regulations.

22 MR. RICKARDS: Yeah, I haven't -- that's a great
23 question and I haven't got a ready answer. Other than to
24 say I think you have a good deal of freedom the way you
25 choose. But the point about the regs is something that I

1 wrote down to myself about a week ago and immediately
2 forgot. And I will take a look at that and get back to
3 you, specifically.

4 As I was thinking about it this morning, I think
5 you can choose from that pool and be safe, but that's not
6 a complete answer to your question and I'll get it for
7 you.

8 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: Thank you. Yes?

10 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Yeah, given that I also
11 was not a part of the selection process; however, I think
12 that given, I think, the quality of the selectees, I
13 think it's a most excellent process, right.

14 [Laughter]

15 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: But the other -- my
16 question is that we're not sure whether the remaining six
17 are actually available and willing to serve so that I'm
18 not sure if we've outreached to them already to see, to
19 inquire about their willingness.

20 CHAIRMAN YAO: I believe staff is currently
21 inquiring about their continued interest in being a
22 Commissioner at this point.

23 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Because it's -- if not, I
24 was going to suggest that perhaps we could select one and
25 maybe an alternate, just in case that person is not

1 available, the first person. But if that's been taken
2 care of then that's great.

3 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, I think Commissioner Blanco
4 brought up an excellent point. But the only thing I was
5 able to find in your handy dandy, you know, legal
6 handbook was that we have to fill the vacancy within 30
7 days, you know, with a preference from the pooling, the
8 original pool.

9 So, I would agree with Cy that we probably have
10 some latitude to choose how we exactly do that.

11 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Excuse me, Commissioner Dai,
12 are you looking at 60863? Section 60863?

13 VICE CHAIR DAI: I'm looking at section 8252.5.

14 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Oh, okay. I'm looking in the
15 legal handbook, it's on page 46, if a vacancy occurs
16 before we complete our redistricting and we are unable to
17 fill the vacancy with an applicant from the same sub-pool
18 that Elaine was drawn from, as it existed on November
19 20th -- now, is that -- the pool on November 20th, was that
20 before the Legislature exercised their strikes?

21 VICE CHAIR DAI: No, it was after.

22 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Okay, thank you.

23 MR. RICKARDS: Yeah, that's the reg that I don't
24 have in front of me, that I wanted to take a look at.
25 So, let me do that and --

1 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: What was the number of the
2 reg?

3 COMMISSIONER RAYA: It's 60863 and it's on page
4 46 of the legal handbook we were given, if you have that
5 material.

6 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I think the six have the
7 electronic, but it sure would be nice to have a -- I
8 don't know if that's something -- the legal handbook. I
9 think we have it, the new six have it electronically, but
10 it would be nice to have a hardcopy, since we can't get
11 online.

12 MR. RICKARDS: Oh, I apologize, I thought that
13 had been taken care of. I thought everybody had the
14 hardcopy and, if you don't, we'll get it to you.

15 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Okay.

16 MR. RICKARDS: Yeah. My apologies, I just made
17 that assumption and left mine sitting on my desk this
18 morning.

19 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah, it appears that the Act
20 only talks about the creation of the pool, it doesn't
21 actually talk about the selection process. So, I would
22 imagine if it doesn't specify, that we have latitude.
23 And just from a personal stand point, I think that, you
24 know, given that there are 13 out of 14 of us and I
25 think, you know, our ability to work together as a group

1 is important, I personally would prefer that we actually
2 go through a selection process rather than selecting
3 someone randomly.

4 But I don't know how other people feel.

5 COMMISSIONER WARD: No, I agree with Commissioner
6 Dai. I think it's a great perspective to look at it from
7 the stand point of, you know, when you look at the
8 purposes for both of those selection processes, the
9 random draw obviously was the most transparent and fair
10 way to begin the Commission. But once you have the
11 luxury of having a random, diverse group, obviously, it's
12 in the interest of the Commission and the public to be
13 able to choose the most qualified candidate to represent
14 California.

15 And, again, the sprit of the Act seems to support
16 the idea of giving the Commission the latitude to review
17 candidates and help identify the best-suited candidate to
18 add to the Commission in representing all of California.

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: Mr. Aguirre? Did you want to
20 speak? No, okay.

21 Connie?

22 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Again, thinking
23 ahead to the future months, I'm wondering would it be
24 appropriate and possible to add a standing agenda item
25 that was considering any Commission vacancy? So, I know

1 that we had, you know, a two-week lag time before we
2 could really deal with the replacement of Commissioner
3 Kuo.

4 CHAIRMAN YAO: Live and learn. We will do that
5 from this point on.

6 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Okay.

7 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Does everybody have a
8 reasonably good idea of what the process is going to be?

9 COMMISSIONER WARD: Should we make a motion?

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: I don't know whether we
11 necessarily need a motion to do so. If you feel you want
12 one, by all means proceed.

13 COMMISSIONER WARD: Good without. Good with
14 consensus.

15 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay.

16 VICE CHAIR DAI: One other suggestion I have for
17 our new Executive Director, all of the first eight
18 Commissioners received some training on how to do a
19 completely public selection process, because personnel
20 matters generally are not handled in public. So, I would
21 just recommend that our final six Commissioners get
22 the -- the final five -- six, we're six. The six
23 Commissioners get the same training because I thought
24 that was valuable.

25 CHAIRMAN YAO: Commissioner Dai, the training

1 exists on the video, I believe. It does not?

2 VICE CHAIR DAI: No.

3 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right.

4 VICE CHAIR DAI: That was one-on-one with
5 counsel.

6 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right, thank you. Okay.

7 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: And I guess I would say on
8 that, in order to not slow down -- you know, in order not
9 to burden the rest of the members who have gone through
10 that training, I'd be willing to carve out a separate
11 time or whatever so that we don't have to make everybody
12 go through that. I don't know how we'd do that, given
13 notice requirements and all of that but --

14 CHAIRMAN YAO: Sorry?

15 VICE CHAIR DAI: This was done, just a
16 conversation with counsel.

17 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Okay, so yeah.

18 CHAIRMAN YAO: Cy?

19 MR. RICKARDS: Yeah, you could -- I mean, one way
20 to handle it is the way we handled the Bagley-Keene
21 training, the second six.

22 VICE CHAIR DAI: This training was done one-on-
23 one, it was just a phone call.

24 MR. RICKARDS: Oh, okay. Well, if we can handle
25 it that way, as well. Either way. I mean, we can do it

1 either way.

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Let's do it similar to
3 what was done for the first eight.

4 MR. RICKARDS: Where they each received, if I
5 understand --

6 VICE CHAIR DAI: A phone call.

7 MR. RICKARDS: Phone calls.

8 CHAIRMAN YAO: A briefing, yes, from staff.

9 MR. RICKARDS: Perfect.

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay.

11 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Yeah, I think that's a good
12 idea. Watching the tapes, as I did and most of us, I'm
13 sure did, the six of us, we didn't have an opportunity to
14 ask questions and interact with that. So, I think this
15 would be important.

16 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. So, the six new --
17 newer Commissioners will receive a phone call. Thank
18 you.

19 The next up, item under agenda item number 3.

20 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Can we talk about
21 committees and membership?

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: Sure.

23 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: I know that we
24 established, I think it was three, four committees, five
25 committees the last time. Okay. There was some in a

1 list, I believe, that was generated, of interest in each
2 of the particular committees. As I recall, most of the
3 committees had about two to four interested individuals
4 in that, except for the outreach and there was
5 overwhelming interest in participating in that one.

6 And there was a suggestion, perhaps, of dividing
7 that up into two subcommittees.

8 So, anyway, I was wondering whether we had that
9 list available to us as something we could speak from?

10 COMMISSIONER RAYA: I have the committees and the
11 people that volunteered. Do you want to start with a
12 particular one? Because I did -- I've been thinking,
13 too, especially outreach, because we have seven people,
14 which I think is unmanageable for actually doing the
15 planning and making the recommendations.

16 But the people who volunteered for outreach were
17 Filkins Webber, Forbes, Ontai, myself, Aguirre, Dai, and
18 Ward.

19 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, my suggestion, Commissioner
20 Aguirre, is that we actually defer discussion of the
21 Outreach Committee until we've had a chance to discuss
22 our framework and philosophy, because then it may be
23 clearer how the committees should be structured after
24 that.

25 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Sure.

1 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Do you want me to read the
2 other committees that were -- Finance was Ontai and Yao.
3 Technical, Barabba, Parvenu, Aguirre, Yao and Di Guilio.
4 Legal, Filkins Webber, myself and Forbes. And we assumed
5 that Maria would -- Maria Blanco would step in there and
6 I would step out.

7 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: That is fine with me.

8 VICE CHAIR DAI: And Commissioner Ward is telling
9 me that he should also be on Legal, so I'm going to add
10 his name.

11 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: And I should be on Finance,
12 also.

13 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: Right, and I'm on
14 Finance, also.

15 VICE CHAIR DAI: Okay. Let me do that. Yeah,
16 I'm actually wondering if we can just kind of redo this
17 with staff, to collect the names, so we have an official
18 record, because I think we all have a different list of
19 names.

20 But in any case, one of my suggestions, and we
21 established this, is that we not be -- not feel like
22 we're strictly beholden to speaking now or forever
23 holding your peace. I mean, if you're interested and you
24 want to participate, I think that's great.

25 I do think there's a practically matter of, you

1 know, keeping the numbers to a manageable number, so I
2 think we agreed three to probably six maximum, you know,
3 otherwise it becomes too hard to actually have good
4 conversation.

5 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I think we also talked
6 about having at least one representative from each of the
7 three sub-pools, as well.

8 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: Logistically, us meeting
9 is going to be interesting. We can tie this into our
10 schedule with our ongoing meetings. So, we have to think
11 about that. I don't know whether it's more practical for
12 the subcommittees to meet prior to our general gathering?

13 VICE CHAIR DAI: Right, my suggestion is we had
14 talked last time about meeting Wednesday through Sunday,
15 if necessary, and that our Commission -- committee --
16 subcommittee meetings happen on one day, on Wednesday,
17 maybe part of Thursday, if necessary, then the full
18 Commission will meet immediately afterwards to take
19 action.

20 Since no subcommittee is allowed to actually take
21 action, only to make recommendations.

22 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: And we're looking at doing
23 this next week, possibly?

24 VICE CHAIR DAI: We can't do it next week, we
25 can't do it sooner than --

1 CHAIRMAN YAO: February, I believe, is probably
2 the earliest practical --

3 VICE CHAIR DAI: It's not on the agenda for us.

4 CHAIRMAN YAO: -- time that we can take any
5 action on it.

6 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Did we go over the
7 list of names for the Public Information Subcommittee?

8 VICE CHAIR DAI: No. That's Barabba, Aguirre,
9 Forbes, Parvenu, myself, and Ward.

10 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: I actually
11 volunteered for that, too. But, again, I think we need
12 to -- we need to look at -- probably everyone should not
13 volunteer for probably more than one or two because there
14 will be issues of us being able to meet concurrently
15 then.

16 COMMISSIONER WARD: Refresh my memory, did we
17 determine if the subcommittee meetings needed to be on
18 transcripts or minutes. Is there anything we need to do
19 about that?

20 VICE CHAIR DAI: I think we can decide that now.

21 COMMISSIONER WARD: Okay, yeah. Since the
22 subcommittees don't have any authority to make decisions
23 or bind the Commission in any way, and are simply an
24 advisory body to the Commission, I would think that we
25 could do that in closed session.

1 CHAIRMAN YAO: No, it's not a closed session
2 matter. It has to be open, number one.

3 Number two is if the subcommittee is to recommend
4 to the full committee, it seems like you would want
5 public input during those meetings. Because by the time
6 you make the recommendation it's -- it seems like the
7 decision is strongly favoring one direction. And so,
8 some kind of public input process should be included in
9 the subcommittee meeting.

10 Early on I brought out the possibility of maybe
11 just having an audio outreach as compared to having both
12 an audio and video, and if we were -- if we consider
13 video to be important, having live video is very
14 expensive and very cumbersome. So, we may want to
15 consider some kind of delayed audio where the meeting can
16 be captured on video camera and then posted onto the
17 website at a later date, maybe within 48 hours type of a
18 time frame.

19 But the audio would be live, so if somebody's
20 listening in on it, they can come to your meeting, they
21 can maybe call in.

22 And also, the subcommittee meeting, we may want
23 to consider doing it either some kind of
24 videoconferencing as compared to be traveling to one
25 site. And again, we need to find a way so that the

1 public can participate in those conference calls.

2 These are all ideas. I'm not sure how practical
3 they are, but these are considerations that we need to
4 take into and perhaps decisions made in terms of how we
5 are to proceed forward.

6 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: May I just, because I
7 don't want to get too far off, I know we may have a
8 discussion about technical issues, but I think it's worth
9 mentioning, going back to Commissioner Galambos Malloy's
10 suggestion about maybe -- because it is tied in with what
11 we do with these subcommittees, is maybe we could get at
12 least some estimate of what it would cost to do each one
13 of these different types, whether it be a live stream --
14 both the cost and the technical requirements.

15 And that way we'll have a set idea when we go any
16 place we could say do you have this ability. But the
17 cost for a live stream, a cost for recording, a cost for
18 transcript, so that way we have some idea of what -- if
19 we have to make choices, we'll have some idea of what our
20 cost benefit is on those choices.

21 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right.

22 COMMISSIONER WARD: To stay focused on the -- my
23 concept of understanding subcommittee structure and
24 process, I'm a little unclear then as to if what we just
25 laid out is how the subcommittees will function in a

1 public forum, taking public input, being recorded, all
2 this kind of procedure, the same thing that we're doing
3 as a full body.

4 Is it really that much more efficient than just
5 having an agenda item on communications and then taking
6 that?

7 It seems to me that we're just burdening
8 ourselves logistically, and staff, and time, and
9 everything else then to form a bunch of subcommittees if
10 we're going to follow the same process as we're doing as
11 a full committee.

12 Maybe we could just take these as agenda line
13 items and address them quicker. Just a thought.

14 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Just not having been here,
15 so I apologize, is there a document that I can look at
16 that explains the reasoning behind the subcommittees?
17 For example, what would the Finance Subcommittee do that
18 can't be done on the full Commission?

19 I just -- if you can just direct me at something,
20 I don't want to take up time here. Because I do share
21 this concern about whether we're adding functions
22 unnecessarily, but we may have already thought about it.

23 COMMISSIONER WARD: My understanding of the
24 subcommittee purpose was to expedite a lot of these
25 processes. Each of the areas that we identified for

1 subcommittees are areas in which there needs to be some
2 dedicated focus, and kind of some groundwork laid, and
3 things like that.

4 So, being able to break into subcommittees, with
5 a representative group from the Commission, and just be
6 able to simply lay out ideas about how we can go about
7 possibly handling the focus of that subcommittee and
8 meeting those goals. So, for example, outreach or
9 finance. What are our finances? How much do things
10 cost? What's the most efficient way to do this?

11 And then come back together as a group and
12 actually say, this is what we talked about, this is what
13 we identified, what do you think?

14 And so, that was my trying to get a better
15 understanding as to whether or not we needed to really
16 follow -- you know, ensure the same processes that we
17 have as a full Commission.

18 Because, again, if we're able to streamline that
19 and just sit down, and put our heads together, and come
20 up with some ideas, kind of a working group, and then
21 come back together as a full Commission and actually
22 discuss it, and explore it, and maybe put some more
23 direction to it and agreement, then we can go ahead and
24 open it to the public and take the comments and do all
25 that.

1 That seems to me to be efficient.

2 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Yes.

3 COMMISSIONER WARD: But if we're going to go
4 ahead and follow the same process, yeah, I would question
5 as to whether or not we would accomplish --

6 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: My impression was what you
7 articulated quite well. Because we have to move fast.
8 And by the time we got to get everything on a 14-day
9 calendar, we would never be able to get things done. So,
10 this was an opportunity to speed things along.

11 We all went through a very detailed process of
12 revealing our interests, so we should be able to talk to
13 each other on some of these. Not to make decisions, but
14 to look at alternatives, to bring those forward in a
15 public meeting.

16 CHAIRMAN YAO: Let me ask our counsel to address
17 this, if he has a few words?

18 MR. RICKARDS: Again, I'm not advocating this at
19 all, I just want everybody to keep in mind that when you
20 have three or more you become a public body. If you have
21 two, you're not a public body and you're not subject to
22 Bagley-Keene. You don't have to have an open meeting,
23 you don't have to have notice.

24 You know, you can piggy-back on the notice of the
25 full. And I just thought I would remind you of that at

1 this point.

2 I'm not suggesting that's a better idea. First
3 of all, it's not my suggestion, it's past my brief, but
4 just to keep that in mind.

5 I'm just addressing the notion about flexibility
6 and dealing with Bagley-Keene.

7 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: I think that's a good point,
8 then, Commissioner Ward makes though, and I've been
9 thinking about that, also.

10 That's the problem right there. If we have to
11 have open meetings in all the subcommittees, if we have
12 three or more, that becomes a logistics problem. And I
13 didn't think that through until the last couple of days
14 on how we're going to handle that.

15 That actually may slow us down rather than
16 expedite the process.

17 VICE CHAIR DAI: I'm -- so, I think those are
18 good points. I still believe that a smaller group can
19 have a vaster discussion, and people with the interest in
20 particular topics will be able to do more legwork that
21 wouldn't require all 14 of us to do.

22 I mean, we've already experienced this in our
23 hiring decisions, and which was completely appropriate
24 for Executive Director. But, you know, we've already
25 talked about it, do we all really want to go through all

1 the redacted applications for the admin assistant? Is
2 that efficient? I suspect not.

3 I don't think that the burden's any greater,
4 except we'll need multiple rooms. You know, the agendas
5 for the committees can be a lot more specific and a
6 smaller number of people can think about the agendas, you
7 know, for those groups.

8 And if we can meet concurrently, we will be able
9 to get many more meetings done. And then the full
10 Commission can consider the options knowing, you know,
11 that a smaller group has really done the homework and is
12 ready to present the pros and cons, rather than all of us
13 having to do that work for everything.

14 COMMISSIONER FORBES: And I think that we can
15 deal with some of the issues regarding it being more
16 cumbersome by having a standing notice of the
17 subcommittee meetings and that would avoid, I think, a
18 lot of the delay that could otherwise occur.

19 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: May I suggest, too, that
20 at least initially we could have a committee with all
21 those individuals who had presented an interest. But
22 maybe as we get those -- some of these issues, I'm
23 thinking, some of the technical, the finance ones set up,
24 or at least a system, maybe we could suggest having two
25 people as the point, that they could address, quickly

1 address issues in the future and then bring them to the
2 full Commission once the initial groundwork has been
3 laid.

4 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: That might work.

5 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Just a suggestion.

6 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: That might work.

7 COMMISSIONER WARD: In an attempt to, again, try
8 to find a nexus between the subcommittee efficiency and,
9 yet, public meeting requirements, what about broadening
10 or further defining, specifying subcommittees? For
11 example, outreach, having a subcommittee outreach,
12 community outreach, or a legislator outreach, or
13 something like that and narrowing these subcommittees
14 down to a group of two that can function much like the
15 chair and vice chair, that can call each other and
16 actually hammer out, talk about what items should we be
17 looking at? Can you look this up? Can you run this down
18 by next week? That kind of situation.

19 And then come together and we can, on the agenda,
20 just go down the legal subcommittee, a Bagley-Keene legal
21 subcommittee, you know, whatever the case may be, and
22 those two people will have been able to communicate, come
23 up with agenda items, specific agenda items, have
24 groundwork laid, have done research and present those to
25 the full Commission. And thereby avoiding a need to have

1 a individual subcommittee meeting. But, like I said,
2 having two people able to do work all week.

3 VICE CHAIR DAI: I would be concerned that a
4 group of two is too small. Especially, that would, I
5 think, violate the spirit of the Act, which is very clear
6 about having three sub-pools.

7 And also, the idea of having full transparency,
8 and if a lot of the important discussions and
9 brainstorming are, you know, are happening in the
10 subcommittees, as Commissioner Yao pointed out, that's
11 also where the public comment needs to come in as well.

12 Bagley-Keene does not prevent, you know, one
13 Commissioner from calling another Commissioner. It just
14 prevents us from having a serial meeting in a quorum.

15 So, you know, I just want to clarify that and
16 because I think we're introverting that drastically.

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think four or five subcommittees
18 that we have created are dealing with mainly organization
19 type, you know, start-up organization type of issues at
20 this point in time. I don't think we're trying to do the
21 drawing of the map, so to speak, in a subcommittee.

22 So, think of it in that light. I think all of us
23 want to get through this stage as quickly as possible so
24 that we can get down to the business that we're asked to
25 do.

1 The Bagley-Keene requirement is absolutely. I
2 think any way that we try to short change that is really
3 not appropriate.

4 So, giving public access, I think the only
5 decision I think we're tasked to make is, you know, make
6 a decision so that we comply with the budget, and time,
7 and availability -- Commissioner time availability,
8 taking those into serious consideration and make the best
9 decision associated with it.

10 But in terms of making it open to the public, I
11 agree with Commissioner Dai, whether it's two people, or
12 three people, or six people, I think we need to honor
13 that to the best that we can.

14 So, having said that, do we have a preference for
15 doing away with the subcommittee or do we want to
16 continue to proceed addressing the subcommittee as a way
17 to divide and conquer all the issues that are before us
18 at this point in time.

19 COMMISSIONER WARD: I'd just like to make a
20 quick -- I just want to make it clear. In no way was I
21 suggesting that we short change the public with Bagley-
22 Keene or somehow try to work around it.

23 CHAIRMAN YAO: No, I didn't --

24 COMMISSIONER WARD: Just the idea is that the
25 public input is obviously very important and a primary

1 focus. The public also wants us to get things done. The
2 public wants to see results and I know has put a lot of
3 trust in us to accomplish that.

4 So, we're just trying to explore ideas on how to,
5 like you said, quickly get set up and quickly be able to
6 do the business of the people.

7 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Let me go back to
8 Commissioner Blanco's comment. Each of the five
9 subcommittees would be tasked with looking at the scope
10 of some direction, or strategy, and then come back and
11 make a recommendation to the full.

12 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah, and look at options, so
13 that the full Commission understands what options you
14 consider the pros and cons.

15 Because, you know, 14 people might have a
16 different idea than, you know, if we divide whatever the
17 number is. But the point is that the smaller group has
18 done the homework and this will not require all of us to
19 do the same homework, if we can get an executive summary
20 of it.

21 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Well, I think part
22 of the thinking behind the subcommittee structure is also
23 that we were each brought on the Commission based on
24 various skill sets, and sets of expertise. And, granted,
25 this also represents an opportunity for many of us to

1 build other areas of expertise, but provides a place for
2 those of us who bring something to the table to really be
3 able to take it and run with it in a more expedient way
4 than, you know, myself, who's not a legal expert, for
5 example.

6 I'd be happy to defer some of that initial
7 thinking to the legal experts.

8 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Could I suggest that
9 maybe as we have this discussion that we look at it as
10 four subcommittees that are dealing with kind of the
11 initial -- as Chairman Yao was saying, the initial start-
12 up, so to speak, of these issues. But, really, it's the
13 Outreach Committee that has a lot of these other issues
14 we're kind of talking about.

15 And so, and I think that will come out as we
16 discuss the redistricting issues and our approach to
17 outreach in general.

18 So, maybe for now we can look at kind of the four
19 other subcommittees, and do we agree with continue with
20 those, at least, and then working out the details for the
21 outreach.

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: Without going to taking a vote,
23 can I get some feedback from the rest of the Commission
24 as to whether we want to address the four subcommittees
25 and without including the Outreach Subcommittee in the

1 discussion that we're holding right now?

2 Okay. I think we have a general consensus. So,
3 let's --

4 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Yeah, my only thought was
5 is that I think the idea of the subcommittees is pretty
6 well accepted, we need the process that we were talking
7 about.

8 It might be that we should -- what's hanging up,
9 I think, is how we're going to do it, and how do we meet
10 the requirements.

11 And perhaps we should just agree on having
12 subcommittees and direct our Executive Director to figure
13 out a method by which we could do it without meeting the
14 intent of the Act.

15 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think the timeline that we're
16 facing right now is that anything that we do, if we
17 intend to go -- make this subcommittee go into effect
18 let's say in the month of February, we need to make -- we
19 need to post the agenda by the 25th of January. And so,
20 that being the case, today, tomorrow is probably the only
21 opportunity that we have in making these type of
22 decisions.

23 Which would include, as I mentioned earlier, as
24 to whether we're going to have audio, or audio plus
25 video, and all those detail decisions associated with it.

1 And so, let's go ahead and continuing discussing
2 the four subcommittees and try to reach concurrence as to
3 how we proceed.

4 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: I think that the Legal
5 Committee is going to be sort of in the same position as
6 the Outreach Committee, that it's going to be one of
7 those that things are -- throughout the entire process
8 things are going to be coming up, just like with
9 outreach. That it's not just the start-up phase of, you
10 know, how we're going to do our public information, how
11 we're going to set up technical stuff, or what our budget
12 is.

13 I don't know, but I suspect it may end up being
14 more like the Outreach Committee, that it's ongoing. So,
15 I don't know if we can really separate -- just separate
16 out outreach and just discuss the other four.

17 Maybe the other folks on the Legal Committee have
18 a different opinion?

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: Cynthia?

20 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah, I was going to say that
21 when I proposed these, I proposed them kind of as
22 standing committees, with the idea that we would have ad
23 hoc committees for other special circumstances. I mean,
24 I think all of these are going to be ongoing.

25 I can't imagine that, you know, we wouldn't think

1 about the information we want to provide to the public by
2 our different meetings. I can't imagine that we wouldn't
3 have financial and contractual issues to deal with
4 throughout the life of the Commission. I cannot imagine
5 that we're not going to have legal issues that we'd want
6 some of our legal experts, you know, to think about.

7 So, I don't -- I disagree that they're just
8 start-up. I think that what we need to focus on is what
9 is the agenda for February 9th, for each of these
10 committees, so that we can get the proper public notice
11 out and then we can have those discussions in smaller
12 groups.

13 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay. Duly noted, I'll retract my
14 assessment of start-up and organizational issues. But,
15 instead, looking at it on a permanent basis.

16 COMMISSIONER RAYA: I liked Commissioner Forbes
17 suggestion that we just keep this as a standing noticed
18 item. I think we just have to jump in. Okay, we've
19 never done any of this before so we're, you know, just
20 trying to find the best thing. We could sit here all day
21 trying to figure out the perfect solution to this
22 subcommittee issue and I don't think that's going to help
23 us, either. I think we just need to jump in.

24 I think, honestly, that people need to think
25 where am I going to be of most use to the Commission?

1 Because looking at my list, there are people who want to
2 be on three or four subcommittees, and that's not going
3 to work.

4 And so, you know, we need to be honest with
5 ourselves, what can I do that's most helpful? And then
6 you need to say, okay, I will pick two and that's it.
7 That will kind of spread it out, it will make it smaller,
8 we can expand.

9 I think Commissioner Ward had some good
10 suggestions about, you know, kind of sub-subcommittees,
11 whatever we're going to call them. But, you know,
12 breaking it out a little bit, that will make the group
13 smaller. And let's just jump in and try it and see if,
14 you know, that small, efficient group can come up with
15 ideas that the rest of us can just make decisions on and
16 move forward.

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think I heard a motion of
18 limiting the membership to -- or any Commissioners to
19 serving on no more than two subcommittees. Would you
20 like to make that a motion?

21 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Okay, so moved.

22 VICE CHAIR DAI: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN YAO: It's been moved and seconded. Any
24 further discussion on that?

25 If not, let's go ahead and take a voice -- take

1 a --

2 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Can I?

3 CHAIRMAN YAO: Go ahead.

4 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: I have a comment
5 about that. So, I think, so around process, around how
6 we -- for example, if there's -- there will be a
7 Commissioner that will be joining us later on. I know
8 that may people here have already -- other than
9 Commissioner Blanco and myself, have already kind of put
10 their stake in the ground on which of the committees that
11 they're interested in.

12 And so, how we proceed with implementing that I
13 think is important to have some ranking. And then, for
14 example, if we bring in that final Commissioner what
15 level of flexibility do they, or any future
16 Commissioners, have as to where they seat themselves?

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think Commissioner Dai suggests
18 that we probably shouldn't exceed the maximum number of
19 six. Am I quoting you correctly?

20 And I kind of interpret from our last meeting
21 that we accepted that as a good guideline.

22 And Commissioner Raya suggests that perhaps
23 volunteer for more than two would be counter productive,
24 and I want to see whether we want -- we agree with that
25 as another one of these firm guidelines that we should

1 adhere to.

2 That doesn't mean that we're trying to restrict
3 or do anything else, other than making this start -- not
4 a start-up process, but making this process go as quickly
5 and as smoothly as we possibly can at this point in time.

6 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Well, I think -- I think
7 where we're maybe hung up is exactly what do the
8 subcommittees do, we've narrowed it down to two or three.

9 I would see that each committee would be
10 presenting a template of ideas to the board. They're not
11 something that's going to be adopted, it's an idea
12 setting that needs to be explored by the full board. So,
13 it's a template of ideas.

14 And that might help those who want to be on
15 multiple committees to realize that they are going to
16 participate.

17 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, maybe I can suggest a
18 process. I don't think we should, you know, be beholden
19 to whatever we volunteered last time.

20 Maybe every Commissioner can put their top three
21 choices in rank order. And thinking about, again, what
22 your skill set is, how you can really contribute, and
23 balance that with what you're interested in, and then we
24 can have staff kind of sort that out for us so we get
25 reasonable numbers.

1 COMMISSIONER WARD: I agree, great suggestion.

2 VICE CHAIR DAI: And make sure we have one of
3 each, you know, that we meet our minimum, you know,
4 construct as well.

5 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Not having seen
6 the -- the transcripts were not available at the time I
7 came here, so can you just clarify for me the Public
8 Information and the Technical Subcommittees, what the
9 scopes of each of those committees are?

10 I'm assuming technical is dealing with the data,
11 overseeing the consultants, identifying software.

12 CHAIRMAN YAO: Mr. Barabba, you wanted to -- oh,
13 Michelle.

14 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Yeah, we just -- I think
15 everyone just wrote a quick little bit. Let's see, in
16 terms of technical -- but you're -- I have them here.
17 Basically, you're on the right track, it was basically
18 looking at the subcontractors for any type of software,
19 the technical needs for the actual meetings, themselves.
20 Yeah, all the consultants, things along those lines.

21 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Okay.

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: And what was the other
23 subcommittee?

24 VICE CHAIR DAI: Commissioner Ward?

25 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Public

1 Information.

2 COMMISSIONER RAYA: The purpose of that
3 subcommittee was to make sure that we have consistent
4 messages that go out after each meeting.

5 VICE CHAIR DAI: I think it's more --

6 COMMISSIONER RAYA: And to -- oh, go ahead.

7 VICE CHAIR DAI: I was going to say it's on the
8 output from the Commission, yeah, as opposed to outreach,
9 which is kind of how we receive information. I think the
10 public information is what we say to the public to
11 educate them.

12 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: Do any of these
13 subcommittees -- will any of them -- I know finance is
14 here -- be involved with the budget and handling
15 budgetary matters, we should consider that as well.

16 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah, that's a --

17 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: Because it's information,
18 it's going to cost getting information out at some point,
19 marketing, advertising, that kind of thing. I don't
20 know, whatever that outreach entails, I think we'll need
21 to consider that.

22 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, I think the thought was that
23 the Finance and Administration Committee would, you know,
24 would look at budgets, and projections, and all that,
25 which I'm sure would be performed by staff. But it's,

1 again, to provide oversight.

2 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: Okay.

3 CHAIRMAN YAO: We currently do have a motion and
4 it's been seconded. Would you like to withdraw that
5 motion or would you like to proceed and --

6 COMMISSIONER RAYA: I have no big stake in my
7 motion. If we want to proceed by a consensus, that's
8 fine.

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: Withdraw the motion?

10 COMMISSIONER RAYA: I will withdraw my motion.

11 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right, thank you.

12 All right. So, let me summarize what we have
13 decided. Each of us is to submit our preferences to our
14 Executive Director and, hopefully, by sometime tomorrow
15 we'll have a roster.

16 And let me take the liberty of suggesting that
17 let's restate our charter on each of the -- each of the
18 subcommittees, and along with the preferred meeting time.
19 You think we can get to that point, having each of the
20 subcommittee members working with staff so that we can
21 bring it back to the overall committee for final
22 approval, if that's what needs to happen?

23 VICE CHAIR DAI: I wonder if we can do -- I
24 wonder if that's not possible to do a meeting time. I
25 wonder if we can just agree, as a guiding principle, that

1 we'll meet on Wednesdays and, you know, the first half of
2 Thursday, as necessary, that we'll try to have concurrent
3 meetings so we can --

4 CHAIRMAN YAO: Well, as I mentioned, I think we
5 need to agendize it by the 25th. So, making sure that
6 they do not overlap, making sure that the meeting time is
7 appropriate probably is something that we need to decide
8 on as soon as possible.

9 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: So, just to recap, I
10 want to make sure I know what we're kind of finalizing
11 with this. Are we saying that what we'll do is agree to
12 have the five subcommittees on the agenda for February
13 9th.

14 CHAIRMAN YAO: Four, I think, is what we're
15 talking about at this point, unless we include the
16 outreach back into the discussion.

17 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Okay. And then at that
18 point we'll allow the subcommittees to work on the
19 details of hashing out what they're going to do,
20 specifically.

21 I think it goes back to Commissioner Dai's
22 earlier question of what do we want to put on the agenda
23 related to these subcommittees?

24 I think some of the logistics staff can work out
25 for us in terms of who's interested, and maybe some times

1 and things.

2 So, again, I guess I'm going back to what have we
3 decided in terms of putting these subcommittees on the
4 February 9th agenda.

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Let me ask Mr.
6 Claypool, is this understood and reasonable to accomplish
7 in the next day or two?

8 MR. CLAYPOOL: For the subcommittees? I think
9 so, I think we can get it done.

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right.

11 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Another point of
12 clarification, as I heard what Commissioner Dai was
13 suggesting, it was also that we go ahead and mark, say,
14 every Wednesday that we are -- of the weeks that we're
15 scheduled to be in session would be a standing
16 subcommittee meeting time.

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: Correct.

18 MR. RICKARDS: Wednesday. And did you want
19 Thursday, as well, or just Wednesday? Wednesday and
20 Thursday?

21 And something to keep in mind, you can piggy-back
22 off the notice for the Commission. So, if the
23 subcommittee is going to meet on a topic that is within
24 the ambit of a Commission topic, that's appropriate,
25 that's sufficient notice.

1 VICE CHAIR DAI: yeah, I mean, I think if we just
2 add a standing item to the agenda that is committee
3 report out, so all the committees are listed. So,
4 someone from each of the subcommittees can report, so
5 that we can take action on those items.

6 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: So, I don't want to make
7 any assumptions here. So, my understanding, as we have
8 it up to this point, is that we meet as a full body at
9 9:30 on Wednesdays, but our subcommittees will meet prior
10 to 9:30? No?

11 VICE CHAIR DAI: No, that we'll meet as
12 subcommittees on Wednesdays.

13 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: On Wednesdays.

14 VICE CHAIR DAI: So that we can take action on
15 Thursdays and Fridays as a full body.

16 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: Oh, okay, so the full day
17 Wednesday will be a subcommittee meeting, one or the
18 other, whatever.

19 VICE CHAIR DAI: Probably all subcommittees, I
20 would imagine.

21 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: All subcommittees on
22 Wednesday.

23 VICE CHAIR DAI: Every subcommittee that has
24 agendized items to discuss. So, like I think we really
25 need to get down to brass tacks and, you know, whoever's

1 volunteering for which subcommittee start thinking about
2 agenda items that should be, you know, agendized.

3 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: So, specifically, if I'm
4 on the Outreach Committee and I'm also on the Technical
5 Committee, because I can't be at both places, like we're
6 all going to face this scenario, at the same time, we're
7 going to have to specifically lay out how these
8 subcommittees are scheduled for that Wednesday.

9 VICE CHAIR DAI: I'm certain that Dan can sort
10 that out for us.

11 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: Okay.

12 COMMISSIONER WARD: I'm curious as to we -- the
13 Chair mentioned that we took out outreach from this
14 discussion. I'm just wondering, since we're just talking
15 and not details of membership and things, should that not
16 be included?

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: We'll discuss that next, the
18 outreach.

19 COMMISSIONER WARD: What I'm saying is there's a
20 subcommittee, we're actually excluding it from this
21 structure discussion?

22 VICE CHAIR DAI: No, we're just suggesting that
23 we have the discussion about our philosophy, first, so
24 that it becomes clear, you know, how we want to structure
25 outreach.

1 COMMISSIONER WARD: So, all the subcommittees
2 will work the same, outreach isn't going to be -- right,
3 okay. I was just unclear.

4 VICE CHAIR DAI: It's just that we might have --
5 you know, we might have five Outreach Committees that are
6 each handling a different aspect, so I don't think we
7 know that, yet.

8 COMMISSIONER WARD: Sure.

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think we still have to make a
10 decision as to -- in talking about the outreach, audio
11 only, video. Any preferences by any of the Commissioners
12 or by staff?

13 I can tell you, in the process of trying to work
14 the video for the February meeting at an off-site
15 location, that ended up being one of the most challenging
16 issues to address.

17 COMMISSIONER FORBES: My take on it, and this
18 maybe will come up in our next discussion, is that -- as
19 you'll hear, my preference is to have a lot of outreach
20 meetings. And so, I would be inclined to have a less
21 technical demanding requirement, because that will
22 facilitate our being able to go to more places.

23 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Have we asked our
24 technical people, yet, what is necessary?

25 Having just looked physically at what they're

1 doing back there, it's kind of overwhelming. So, I'm not
2 sure what the logistical requirements are for an off-site
3 location to duplicate what they're doing. Do we even
4 know what's needed? In terms of live-streaming versus
5 just an audio, versus -- I'm assuming, because the audio
6 will still have to go through the web somewhere versus
7 just videotaping and putting it up later.

8 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Dan, let me ask you, when
9 you were with BSA and filming all these events, do you
10 have any sense of the cost?

11 MR. CLAYPOOL: I mean, I actually -- I remember
12 working on the contracts for it, but I don't know what
13 the actual final costs were.

14 They were -- for all of the filming it was -- it
15 will appear pricey, but it was actually, for the length
16 of time we did it, and for the number of people that were
17 interviewed and so forth, it really wouldn't be -- it's
18 not cost prohibitive to the budget that we have.

19 But having said that, it does become kind of a
20 logistical issue when we start looking -- particularly,
21 when we start looking at subcommittees meeting and
22 whether or not you want to have it at that level. And
23 then if we start moving out to different locations, you
24 know, it becomes a logistical issue.

25 It is on the list of the things that you've asked

1 me to take a look at is to take a look at what the cost
2 would be. So, that's about as far as I think I should go
3 at this point.

4 I can make a phone call and ask what the final
5 budget was, when we take a break, and it would give you
6 some more information. That's the best I can do.

7 CHAIRMAN YAO: Let me just take a minute and
8 share with you the concerns I discovered.

9 Number one is for every new site it's a first-
10 time experience. In other words, they do not know how to
11 link up with our particular website, the quality, in
12 terms of the procedures.

13 So, the new technician or the new manager
14 responsible for that task has to basically perfect that
15 process before starting any meeting, so that's a
16 significant effort.

17 And assuming something doesn't happen the way we
18 plan it, if it doesn't work, who's responsible? Does
19 that mean we hold up the meeting? Does that mean we've
20 got to have somebody stand by back at the home base to
21 address those kind of problems?

22 I think the cost associated with it is probably
23 one of the least important issues. It's a matter of
24 equipment and the operator. And if we want to have an
25 experienced operator, that means we've got to basically

1 pay for that individual along with hauling all of that
2 equipment to all the sites that we're going to be going
3 to, and also setting it up ahead of time.

4 So, it's probably the learning process and the
5 risk associated with it that creates the biggest concern,
6 as compared to the absolute cost, itself.

7 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: So, along that line of
8 thinking, Dan, was that going to be part of your report?

9 MR. CLAYPOOL: Part of the report of what the
10 costs were?

11 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Yes, and the logistics, and
12 the hiring of an IT?

13 MR. CLAYPOOL: No, not of the one that I had
14 discussed for tomorrow, that wasn't going to be part of
15 that. That was strictly on just the individuals I
16 thought that we needed for our administrative purposes
17 here. It would take more time to put together the cost
18 of actually going out and serving the logistics of the
19 areas you want to go to.

20 But that was also part of the discussion that
21 we'd had initially, when I did -- the first time I
22 discussed it with you or talked to you about the position
23 was that we needed to have that vision of what the
24 Commission wanted to do, how many places it wanted to go,
25 because that would then drive the cost and the plan.

1 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Well, it would seem to me we
2 would need an IT person on right away because of all of
3 these challenges that we have in front of us and they're
4 right around the corner.

5 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I'm concerned that -- I
6 know we've talked about going off-site, I'm just
7 concerned that we get -- we make a lot of arrangements,
8 and have a lot of people go someplace, and as Chairman
9 Yao is saying, if some of the technical issues are still
10 a problem for us, I'm -- I'm thinking maybe we should
11 suggest waiting to do meetings outside of what we know
12 works right now until maybe we could have -- do people --
13 how do they feel about waiting until we have some kind of
14 technical expertise that could do the link with every
15 off-site. They could make the connections and make sure
16 they're arranged before we go off-site.

17 I don't know if we want to do that. I know we've
18 made some initial commitments to Claremont but --

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think we'll talk about the off-
20 site later item, but I can report back to you at this
21 point in time. I think we solved all those off-site
22 issues for this particular meeting in February.

23 But across the board as we -- say, as we go to
24 more and more places, and some of them may not be as well
25 equipped as the colleges that I approached, and we would

1 face challenges that may be difficult to overcome.

2 But for the February meeting -- excuse me -- for
3 the February meeting I think we have overcome all the
4 issues at this point in time.

5 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I would just -- and in
6 terms, too, I think outreach is something that, and I
7 know Commissioner Forbes has mentioned as well, too, we
8 want to get out there as soon as we can to as many places
9 as possible.

10 So, if we could get someone, whether it's a
11 consultant or an in-house person that could start to
12 really work on that, I think that might be an unnecessary
13 barrier if we could have that addressed as soon as
14 possible, and that would allow us to do as much outreach
15 as possible.

16 VICE CHAIR DAI: I wonder if we can just address
17 the basic question, in response to Commissioner Forbes'
18 suggestion of trying to minimize the logistics.

19 I mean, a lot of things are solved if you do
20 audio and not video. A lot of things are solved if you
21 do -- if it doesn't have to be real time. I mean, they
22 have pens, now, for \$20 that can record a conversation
23 and we can just upload it immediately afterwards.

24 So, I mean I think we're over-complicating this.
25 I mean, the technology is not a problem and the cost is

1 really not a problem unless we are forced to do video
2 live streaming.

3 So, if we can just relax that requirement, and
4 we're happy with that, I think that it shouldn't take but
5 a few phone calls to solve this problem.

6 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: I agree, Commissioner. I
7 also would like for us to tap into the university and
8 college systems as soon as possible to get in-kind
9 services, because there's a lot of technical expertise on
10 campuses that we can tap into whether we be in San Diego,
11 or Irvine, or Berkeley, or Chico, or wherever. You know,
12 that there are students that would love to do this for
13 us. I think we need to contact the University and State
14 College systems immediately.

15 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: I understood that
16 Cynthia's comment was that if we could do it, we should
17 do it. If we can't, it's not a requirement, and let's
18 get the meeting started.

19 VICE CHAIR DAI: Thank you. Okay.

20 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: So, let's just agree on
21 what we accept as our technical means of communicating
22 with the public, and then that will solve a lot of it,
23 too.

24 So, it's just a recording?

25 VICE CHAIR DAI: That I think we should strive

1 for live. I mean, we can strive for video, but I think
2 if we can't, you know, an audio recording that is a pod
3 cast on the website I think should be sufficient.

4 You know, I do think transcripts are important,
5 by the way. So, there are actually services, now, that
6 are very inexpensive, that will do automatic
7 transcribing.

8 COMMISSIONER WARD: Just for clarity of
9 conversation, we've jumped around a little bit from
10 subcommittee to outreach meetings, to off-site Commission
11 meetings.

12 Are we talking about the gamut or are we --

13 CHAIRMAN YAO: I believe we're still on the
14 subcommittee meetings and we have not included the
15 outreach and -- or any of the other discussion. We
16 touched upon it because of the fact of the cost issue,
17 and risk issue, but we have not -- we have not expanded
18 the discussion to include the others.

19 COMMISSIONER WARD: Then I really do appreciate
20 Vice Chairman Dai's input. As again, understanding the
21 need for the subcommittee to be efficient and a work
22 meeting, again meeting the minimum requirements.

23 CHAIRMAN YAO: So, live -- live audio and video
24 whenever possible. Is that the recommendation?

25 VICE CHAIR DAI: And if not possible, you know,

1 not live audio, with a transcript.

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: Or just tape and delay posting of
3 the video.

4 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: On that note, I'm sorry for
5 the side note here, but Commissioner Forbes, do you have
6 one of those transcripts?

7 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: That's Dai.

8 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: I am so sorry.

9 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: If that was a motion, I'll
10 second it to move forward.

11 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Mr. Claypool.

12 MR. CLAYPOOL: I just have a point of
13 clarification. So, we are talking for that Wednesday,
14 this is what this motion is for, for that Wednesday --

15 VICE CHAIR DAI: For all subcommittee meetings.

16 MR. CLAYPOOL: For all subcommittee meetings we
17 would strive for live. But it could go all the way to
18 transcripts, if that was all that we have.

19 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: So, that's simply for
20 subcommittees. Is that the same feeling for the full
21 Commission meetings or --

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: No, we're only talking about the
23 subcommittee meetings at this point in time.

24 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: Oh, I thought we were
25 talking -- I'm sorry.

1 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. So, Cynthia, if I may,
2 would you restate the motion so that we know what we're
3 voting on?

4 VICE CHAIR DAI: Okay. I move that for the
5 purpose of subcommittees that -- that in the interest of
6 efficiency, that while we will strive for live recording,
7 live video recordings, that if it's cost prohibitive, or
8 if it's logistically difficult, that at minimum we have a
9 transcript, or try for audio that might be delayed.

10 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: One clarification,
11 then, when we have the live video or audio available,
12 would you suggest a transcript or could we do a more
13 condensed version of minutes, given that we'll also have
14 the live option?

15 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah, I will suggest to staff a
16 service of this automatic transcribing for all meetings.

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: Question. I assume meeting
18 minutes is a standard operating procedure. Is that
19 understood to be the case? Mr. Claypool?

20 MR. CLAYPOOL: No.

21 MR. RICKARDS: If you have a transcript, you're
22 fine. The minutes are required for closed session.

23 We can make it, if we want it to be a
24 requirement, but I think as long as we have a transcript
25 then we're covered. And I don't know of any requirement

1 for meeting minutes for open session. There is a
2 requirement for closed session.

3 CHAIRMAN YAO: I know later on this week we're
4 going to approve the meeting minutes from a December open
5 session meeting. Is that not a requirement?

6 MR. RICKARDS: We can do them afterwards, yeah,
7 we can certainly do that.

8 CHAIRMAN YAO: I'm talking about afterward, as
9 well, so --

10 MR. RICKARDS: Yeah.

11 VICE CHAIR DAI: I think he's saying it's not a
12 requirement, though.

13 CHAIRMAN YAO: Included in your motion, is that
14 a -- that, again, is strictly an optional item?

15 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah, again, in the interest of
16 efficiency I would -- you know, I would hope that we
17 would consider, you know, not increasing the burden on
18 staff. We have all this detail.

19 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: And just an added
20 clarification on that, that at our regular meeting each
21 one of the committees is going to report out on the
22 business that was just covered so that, in itself, will
23 become a part of the record, as far as the business of
24 subcommittee.

25 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. It's been moved and

1 seconded at this point. I'll open up the floor mike to
2 anybody in the public who would be interested in
3 addressing the Commission on this particular item.

4 All right, seeing no one coming forward, I'll
5 bring it back to the Commission.

6 Any further discussions?

7 If not, let's do a roll call, please.

8 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Aguirre?

9 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Yes.

10 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Barabba?

11 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Yes.

12 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Blanco?

13 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Yes.

14 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Dai?

15 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yes.

16 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Di Guilio?

17 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: Yes.

18 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Filkins Webber?

19 Commissioner Forbes?

20 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Yes.

21 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Galambos Malloy?

22 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Yes.

23 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Ontai?

24 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Aye.

25 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Parvenu?

1 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: Yes.

2 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Raya?

3 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Yes.

4 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Ward?

5 COMMISSIONER WARD: Yes.

6 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Yao?

7 CHAIRMAN YAO: Yes.

8 I do believe we have the proper vote to pass the
9 motion.

10 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Mr. Chairman, may I request a
11 short recess?

12 CHAIRMAN YAO: Yes. We will -- can we make it
13 five minutes, so that we can be back here promptly?

14 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Yes, we can.

15 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Thank you.

16 (Recess at 11:09 a.m.)

17 (Reconvene at 11:23 a.m.)

18 CHAIRMAN YAO: I'd like to propose a slight
19 change in our agenda. Just got information from
20 Executive Director Daniel Claypool that we do have some
21 opportunity to accelerate the Chief Counsel selection
22 process, so I'd like to call a closed meeting as soon as
23 possible and make some decision, accordingly.

24 What I would like to do is call a closed session
25 in fact immediately, or as soon as we possibly can. And

1 I think the decision we have to make does not involve an
2 awful lot of discussion, so we'll -- it shouldn't last
3 any more than maybe half an hour.

4 And then we'll go to lunch and then resume the
5 open meeting immediately after lunch, at one o'clock.

6 If that's in agreement with everybody, then I'll
7 make the announcement formally.

8 COMMISSIONER RAYA: May I just ask if we're going
9 to be able to leave our laptops here during the lunch?

10 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: They said they'll
11 lock the auditorium.

12 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. We're going to go into
14 closed session per Government Code section 11126(a)(1).
15 The topic will be consideration of personnel matters,
16 evaluation of candidates for Commission staff position.

17 As I mentioned, the decision we're about to make
18 shouldn't -- we don't anticipate a lengthy discussion.
19 So, we're going to go into closed session and directly go
20 into a lunch break, and we will resume the open session
21 meeting at one o'clock.

22 All right. The closed session is going to be at
23 the conference room on the second floor. Thank you.

24 (Recess at 11:24 a.m.)

25 (Reconvene at 1:05 p.m.)

1 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. It's five minutes
2 after one o'clock, I'm going to call the meeting back in
3 order.

4 Right before the lunch break we called a closed
5 session per Government Code 11126(a)(1), dealing with the
6 topic of evaluation of candidates for Commission staff
7 positions.

8 We gave staff direction on how to proceed and
9 there's no decision that the Commission made in that
10 closed session.

11 All right. Going back to the open session
12 agenda, I believe we're still on item number 3, the
13 Commission governance.

14 Have we finished discussing the four
15 subcommittees? And we can either go to discuss the
16 Outreach Subcommittee at this point or come back to that
17 topic at a later point.

18 COMMISSIONER WARD: I was just going to ask if we
19 were going to go ahead and clarify or agree that we were
20 going to do all of our subcommittee meetings on
21 Wednesdays, and then go to the general meetings on
22 Thursday and Friday. Is that agreed?

23 VICE CHAIR DAI: I would say Wednesday or
24 whatever the first day is that we are meeting, because we
25 might change that at some point.

1 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think that's the intent and the
2 details is always doable, and I think we can -- we are
3 all going to have to work with our Executive Director to
4 see how we can make that happen. I think that is the
5 general guideline that we have given.

6 All right. Again, do you want to go on to other
7 topics outside of the outreach or do you want to jump
8 right on to the outreach framework, as the framework in
9 our Outreach Subcommittee as the next topic of
10 discussion?

11 VICE CHAIR DAI: I wonder, since I think that's
12 going to be a block of time, I wonder if we want to take
13 care of some of the other items. Like, I don't know if
14 we can actually address this without counsel, but the
15 amount of discretion we're going to give to our Executive
16 Director to make decisions.

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: Per my private discussion with
18 Dan, he owes me a number of data points. Some such
19 things would be how much is the Executive Director, in
20 general, authorized in terms of budget, check-writing
21 responsibility, and he has to pull together a number of
22 things for me.

23 I think we intend to discuss that in some detail
24 tomorrow.

25 VICE CHAIR DAI: Okay.

1 CHAIRMAN YAO: One topic we can go into is to
2 decide on the rotation chair issue that we started last
3 week, and I think we decided to table that. So, if the
4 Commission is interested in addressing that topic, we can
5 go to that at this point.

6 I guess along with that is whether there is
7 interest to, instead of agendize the meeting one month at
8 a time, at one location, is to maybe try to outreach
9 further by going to two sites in a given month. That
10 puts a little additional effort in agendizing the meeting
11 and also coordinating the additional sites. But that's
12 certainly up for discussion as well.

13 And any time you want to, I can give the briefing
14 in terms of the February activity in Claremont, that you
15 directed me to look into last week.

16 COMMISSIONER WARD: I see on the agenda that
17 there's a funding availability item for the Commission.
18 I think you mentioned that possibly there was some data
19 available for that. I was wondering if maybe we could
20 have that information prior to going into outreach
21 discussion because it might bear on that topic.

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: Mr. Claypool can you -- do you
23 have enough information to get us going on that item?

24 MR. CLAYPOOL: I do. Let me distribute what we
25 have here. Actually, what I'd also like to do at the

1 same time is we have -- we have --

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: Please use the mike.

3 MR. CLAYPOOL: Okay. Also, what I'd like to do
4 at the same time is we have the letter that will be
5 distributed to you, that came over from the Legislature.
6 I just wanted to make sure everybody had a copy of it.

7 So, to the question at hand, the second page will
8 give you the current year allocations, as it's
9 distributed in the Budget Act. And now everyone has a
10 copy of it.

11 You can see that we currently have 2.5 million.
12 Five hundred thousand was given to -- was actually given
13 to the Bureau of State Audits and, under a request,
14 another 80,000 was given to the Bureau of State Audits,
15 but that came out of the -- one of the budget committees
16 in the Legislature.

17 So, we have 2.5 million remaining here. And then
18 if you go to the Senate, I believe it is the -- the bill.
19 I'm not going to say that it's a Senate bill. But if you
20 go to the bill that's on copy, page 85, the next page
21 you'll see at the bottom there: "For support of the
22 Citizens Redistricting Initiative, the Director of
23 Finance, not sooner than 30 days after notification to
24 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, or any lesser
25 time determined by the chairperson of the Joint Committee

1 may augment this item by up to \$1 million, if the
2 Citizens Redistricting Commission prior to July 1st, 2011
3 demonstrates why the funding is necessary."

4 So, we have 2.5 that we can -- that we know we
5 have. I believe that it will be very easy to demonstrate
6 the need for the additional million dollars.

7 And then after that it is just whatever you wish
8 to plan for. Whatever you think that we need to have in
9 order to make this work, I would suggest that we work
10 that into a plan and then submit it, and just see what --
11 what they are willing to fund us for.

12 I believe that you can easily, as I said,
13 demonstrate the need for the million. I think we will be
14 able to demonstrate a need for more than that. But
15 there's no obligation for a consideration beyond that,
16 other than the obligation that was placed on the
17 Legislature by the voters.

18 So, this is what we have right now.

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: What would you propose that we do
20 to evaluate as to whether this sum of money is adequate
21 or inadequate to do what we've been asked to do as a
22 Commission?

23 MR. CLAYPOOL: We can do two things. We can
24 either just look at the amount that it's cost us right
25 now and we can just extrapolate from that and say at this

1 rate it would cost this amount. But it's not really
2 going to take into consideration the different things
3 that you want to do.

4 And as I said when I interviewed with you, the
5 key to all of this is coming up with the plan, the way
6 you wish to proceed. Once we know the locations you want
7 to go to, and so forth, and the different types of
8 consultants that we're going to use, then we can take
9 that and present that plan to the Legislature and it will
10 be, in my mind, you know, a substantiated report to them.
11 It will be this is what this costs at this level.

12 And so, I would suggest that that's the route
13 that we need to take.

14 Certainly, we will have to have that type -- that
15 level of planning before we go to -- before July 1st. So,
16 that's the augmentation, the support for the augmentation
17 will just come out of any planning that we do.

18 But whether or not we would then be required to
19 scale back to the 3.5 would also require that -- that we
20 see what they'll give us and if it's not there, then
21 we'll just have to make other plans, a scaled-back plan.

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: Does anyone have any budget
23 concerns if we proceed in that manner, coming up with a
24 plan and then decide as to whether we have or don't have
25 enough money to implement our plan and then proceed to

1 seek additional funding and/or to go back and to modify
2 our plan so that it says within budget?

3 Or do we wish to attack this immediately and try
4 to do something different?

5 It will probably -- I would imagine it will
6 probably take us a month or more to have a real clear
7 idea as to what our operating plan is and what the best
8 practices are of getting the best result with the dollars
9 spent.

10 So, at this point, on the discussion of the
11 budget, do we want to do anything between now and then is
12 the question?

13 COMMISSIONER RAYA: I would like to see the
14 extrapolation just for purposes of, you know, getting a
15 sense of how -- at what rate we're spending money
16 already, before we've done any of the programmatic things
17 that we hope to do.

18 At the same time as we're gathering information
19 to get the real number, you know, I just hope we keep in
20 mind how quickly July 1 is going to come around, and
21 we're going to be busy doing other things.

22 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Yes, following up on that
23 urgency comment, I think we should set a goal of getting
24 that plan, even if it's in rough form, by the end of
25 February, which means that it should be agendized for the

1 coming month.

2 And with the going out to Claremont, and with the
3 work of the committees between now and during the month
4 of February, we should have a pretty good general idea
5 of, you know, not only what we're going to be doing,
6 because I think we know what we're going to be doing.

7 But in terms of schedule, and location, and
8 resources, and administrative support, and need for
9 consultants, and all of those things I think will begin
10 to flesh themselves out in February.

11 So, in order for us to kind of set milestones, I
12 would say we should try to have a plan by the end of
13 February. And then if we need to modify it, you know, we
14 can do that. But we need to have a firm grasp of where
15 we're going as soon as we can.

16 CHAIRMAN YAO: The closest subcommittee that can
17 take on that task probably would be the Finance
18 Administration Subcommittee. Would you want to task this
19 subcommittee with doing the homework and bring it back to
20 the Commission for a thorough discussion?

21 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Well, I think -- I think
22 that they have a role to play. But, certainly, the
23 Technical Committee is going to look at some programs for
24 the technical aspect of it, and we'll have some
25 information that's available.

1 Our discussion on outreach is also going to
2 provide information.

3 So, certainly, as far as the budget is concerned
4 and the recommendation for that budgetary request to the
5 Legislature, yeah, I think that the Finance Committee at
6 the end of it all could probably, you know, put it
7 together. But that's going to be based on information
8 and input from all the other committees that we hope to
9 provide and develop during this coming month.

10 VICE CHAIR DAI: And I would suggest that each
11 subcommittee come up with relevant budget assumptions.

12 CHAIRMAN YAO: Any further discussion on the
13 topic of funding?

14 All right. So, I -- let me rephrase my own
15 words. We want the budget -- or the Finance
16 Administration Subcommittee to proceed to look at the
17 budget issue, get inputs from each of the other
18 subcommittees in terms of what they plan to do and the
19 money required in accomplishing those tasks, and bring it
20 back to the entire Commission at their earliest
21 convenience to discuss the topic further.

22 Is that the general statement of work? All
23 right.

24 Another topic under this item number 3?

25 VICE CHAIR DAI: On the question of having a set

1 of standard remote call-in sites, should we discuss that?

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: The standard call-in sites, is
3 that what you mean? Okay, let's go ahead and jump on
4 that topic.

5 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah, both for Commissioners and
6 for members of the public.

7 I thought I would just throw out that there are
8 six centers established throughout the State to allow the
9 public to use the same software we're going to use, and
10 look at maps, and I wonder if those might be equipped to
11 also be call-in sites?

12 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think one basic requirement of a
13 "common site" or a site where the public can call in, or
14 whether we can go and use the site to participate in a
15 conference meeting is to have good public access, ADA
16 access, and so on, and I don't know whether those sites
17 have those built-in features or not.

18 VICE CHAIR DAI: Do we --

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: But, generally, all the cities
20 have sites that meet those requirements and perhaps an
21 easy way to do it is to see if we can get some cities to
22 sign up to provide those kind of access to us during the
23 time when we convene the meetings.

24 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Do we know where those
25 six sites are going to be, yet, have they determined, the

1 access for the --

2 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: They are determined and,
3 actually, we can just ask Kirin MacDonald, because she's
4 running it.

5 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: She's running it.

6 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: So, she knows where all the
7 sites are. And they're located strategically in the
8 different regions of the State.

9 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Maybe we should have a
10 link to that on our webpage, too.

11 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Uh-huh.

12 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Yeah.

13 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: I might add that I think
14 they also have the hardware and software for map drawing
15 and, you know, so that would be -- that would be an
16 excellent resource for us. Not only for us, but for the
17 public to be able to look at what that process looks
18 like.

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: So, is this a direction to staff
20 to try to make that happen as soon as possible?

21 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I think that's a great
22 idea.

23 MR. CLAYPOOL: When I -- I had a recent
24 conversation with Kirin MacDonald, she noted that
25 those -- where they do have those centers, those -- and

1 they've done a great job at mapping the distances people
2 have to travel in order to get to them.

3 The issue with them, however, is that they're
4 under-funded, so that there isn't -- it's a consideration
5 that we have to make that I don't know for certain, that
6 we would have to talk to her about how often they're
7 open, what their hours are and so forth, but it's just a
8 consideration. So, I just wanted to say that.

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: Could staff look into that and
10 report back at --

11 MR. CLAYPOOL: Sure.

12 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: I know that the Statewide
13 Database folks were -- these were originally funded
14 through an Irvine Foundation grant. And I know that
15 Kirin mentioned that they may be going back to Irvine
16 because they are under-funded, given the work that Irvine
17 has tasked them to do with the grant.

18 So, when we talk to her, we might find out where
19 that next grant proposal is. Is it submitted, is it --
20 does it look like they're going to get it, you know, to
21 sort of allow them to make these fully functional.

22 And I guess the other possibility, and I don't
23 know if we've ever discussed this because we -- whether
24 there's some prohibition. But I know that the Irvine
25 Foundation, this is their thing, they really want to see

1 this work. And they're very interested in, as
2 demonstrated by setting up those six centers, that they
3 want this to be accessible to folks around the State.

4 And one question would be whether we'd have a
5 problem asking them to help us do what we need to do to
6 set up the right kind of streaming, the right, you know,
7 ADA-compliant sites, et cetera.

8 VICE CHAIR DAI: That sounds like grant proposals
9 to me.

10 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: It does to me, too. But I
11 don't know if we have something that precludes us to
12 doing that.

13 VICE CHAIR DAI: I don't see why, they're not a
14 partisan organization.

15 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay.

16 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: We could at least work with
17 the Statewide Database in terms of -- are you thinking in
18 terms of like a joint submission for a grant?

19 VICE CHAIR DAI: Either joint or on our own, but
20 having Kirin sort of tee it up for us, you know,
21 something like that.

22 VICE CHAIR DAI: I mean, there's no reason why we
23 couldn't ask other foundations, who might be interested
24 in supporting civic engagement to help as well.

25 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: At least for L.A.

1 functions.

2 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: So, we need another
3 subcommittee for grant writing.

4 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: But in that regard, Kirin
5 MacDonald and her operations, wouldn't that be a
6 consultant that we have to hire?

7 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: I don't know that we'd be
8 hiring her. They have these sites. They're getting paid
9 to walk citizens through the mapping process. But if
10 we -- we could do one of two things, we could find out
11 what their schedule is and what those sites look like,
12 and see if they can make them available to us.

13 And if they're not appropriate because of size or
14 whatever -- because some of them are in community centers
15 that I don't know work, you know. We could find out if
16 we can get some money to augment either them or, you
17 know, other sites where we might want to -- you know, I
18 think the good thing is that they've really -- as you've
19 pointed out, they've really carefully thought about the
20 locations and made them -- thought about how hard, or
21 difficult, or public -- everything, public
22 transportation.

23 So, that's like already having that figured out
24 in a way that could be very helpful to us, even if we
25 don't use their facilities.

1 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Maybe we should just task
2 the Executive Director to get in touch with the Statewide
3 Database and find out what the possible arrangements
4 might be and then bring that suggestion back to us.

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: Yeah, that would be appropriate.

6 MR. CLAYPOOL: Could I have a clarification?
7 Have the Statewide Database do what?

8 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Find out what alternative
9 ways in which we could engage them and come back with a
10 suggestion on how it might be done most efficiently.

11 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: I would just -- just to be
12 clear, not necessarily engage them, but see whether we
13 could -- that the facilities that they have set up
14 through the Irvine Foundation, if those facilities might
15 be available to us when we do meetings out in the field,
16 and find out if they're not, is it because of size, or
17 timing.

18 And then also ask if they would be interested in
19 helping us approach the Irving Foundation to help either
20 get more technology in those sites or, you know, even
21 help us with other sites that we might decide that we
22 need to --

23 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: The only problem, I would
24 not want to limit it to just the contact with the Irvine,
25 because they're going to be a provider of information as

1 it is.

2 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Yeah.

3 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: So, I would say the
4 broadest set of relationships that's feasible.

5 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: The broadest, yeah.

6 VICE CHAIR DAI: I would also not want to limit
7 us to sites. I mean, you know, people call in. So, I
8 mean we could have call-in numbers that are conferenced
9 in, you know, with voice-over IT technology that can
10 basically be free.

11 So, I don't think we should limit ourselves to
12 physical sites. And allow people, you know, anywhere
13 they are to be able to participate, as long as they have
14 an internet connection they can watch and call in when
15 the public comment period is available. Text it in.

16 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Yeah. Maybe once we
17 discuss our outreach we would have some -- some broad
18 stroke ideas about what kind of technology we need for
19 the greatest amount of participation. And we could -- I
20 mean, I know the folks over there. I mean, we could
21 approach Amy Dominguez-Armas, over at Irvine, who is over
22 all this stuff. If we had something to, you know -- it
23 doesn't have to be a proposal, yet, but even to discuss
24 with her the possibility, if we knew what our limitations
25 were that we needed help with.

1 CHAIRMAN YAO: I see a puzzled look on Dan's
2 face, so maybe we need to restate our intent so that the
3 message is clear.

4 MR. CLAYPOOL: No, that's why it's all flowing
5 right now. No, I was just -- actually, I wasn't puzzled
6 as much as I was wondering whether it might be beneficial
7 to ask whether Kirin MacDonald could come and you -- and
8 you could address your questions directly. I don't know
9 if she's available, but would that be something you want
10 to do, or do you want me to do this as an intermediary?

11 CHAIRMAN YAO: I would prefer to have your office
12 address that offline, as compared to --

13 MR. CLAYPOOL: Okay.

14 CHAIRMAN YAO: If there are other suggestions
15 that require our further discussion, then we'll be happy
16 to entertain it.

17 MR. CLAYPOOL: Okay. I'll be happy to have a
18 discussion with Kirin.

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: But I think the intent is to try
20 to set up as many of these sites as soon as possible.

21 VICE CHAIR DAI: Right.

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: So that we can receive public
23 comments efficiently.

24 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Daniel, I can
25 provide you with Amy's contact information.

1 MR. CLAYPOOL: Okay.

2 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Yeah, and going along with
3 a couple of the previous comments, some of us, depending
4 on where we're located geographically in California, know
5 about these centers, or could visit them. So, as
6 potential outreachers to the citizens, it would behoove
7 us to individually, perhaps, go and visit some of these
8 sites so that we can start to develop our own network.
9 So that we, ourselves, as Commissioners, can serve as a
10 resource to the greater body as to what some suggested
11 sites for hearings might be.

12 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay, I think staff has a pretty
13 clear direction as to what we want, so let's give them a
14 chance to explore that.

15 Another topic on the same category?

16 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: The other side of the
17 coin, on the -- what the requirements of a Commissioner
18 needs to call in as well from a remote location, are we
19 doing to discuss that?

20 CHAIRMAN YAO: I interpret that to be one in the
21 same. For example, I'm going to try to get my city to
22 provide such sites so that any of us in Southern
23 California can perhaps drive over to there and
24 participate in this meeting, as necessary, without having
25 to be physically here or wherever the future meeting is

1 going to be.

2 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: So, should that be
3 something that individual Commissioners look in their
4 area as well, too, to establish a location if they need
5 it in their particular area to have a remote, to be able
6 to call into the Commission from a remote location?

7 CHAIRMAN YAO: My vision is that we try to set
8 one up in Southern California, one in Central California,
9 one in North California. We can probably get to those
10 sites within an hour or so and be acceptable, as compared
11 to setting up 14 sites or anything else like that, so --

12 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Okay.

13 CHAIRMAN YAO: That's just my thought.
14 Certainly, the more the merrier, but at the minimum if we
15 can get to it in an hour or two, or maybe an hour, then
16 that probably would provide a reasonable solution.

17 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Yeah, I was just
18 thinking in terms of, I mean, if there's ever a conflict
19 when someone can't attend a meeting it may be because
20 they need to be more local than a couple hours.

21 CHAIRMAN YAO: Yeah, feel free to -- feel free to
22 set up any site.

23 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Okay, that's good.

24 CHAIRMAN YAO: Because all it has to be is
25 included --

1 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: On the agenda, exactly.

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: -- on the agenda, and that's all.

3 I don't believe there's any limit in terms of having too
4 many sites.

5 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Okay.

6 VICE CHAIR DAI: An idea would be, just for
7 clarity, that we would put this as a standard item on our
8 agendas moving forward that Commissioners may be calling
9 in from these various locations, and the public is
10 welcome to participate.

11 CHAIRMAN YAO: And I believe an audio link is
12 really the only thing that's necessary, we're not talking
13 about anything beyond that.

14 Okay, any other topics you want us to jump into?
15 You want to tackle the rotating chair issue? That was
16 one of the things that I identified previously.

17 VICE CHAIR DAI: Did we get a list?

18 CHAIRMAN YAO: I'm sorry?

19 VICE CHAIR DAI: The last meeting we requested a
20 list of everyone who had volunteered.

21 MR. CLAYPOOL: We do. I just have to find it.

22 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: And we have to allow
23 Commissioners Blanco and Galambos Malloy to add their
24 names, if they wish.

25 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: I think I did

1 already.

2 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Okay.

3 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: I think I did, I'm not
4 sure.

5 MR. CLAYPOOL: Okay. I don't have enough to
6 distribute, but I will just simply read it.

7 We have six -- six individuals who are interested
8 in the rotating chair. They are Commissioner Barabba,
9 Commissioner Blanco, Commissioner Dai, Commissioner
10 Galambos Malloy, Commissioner Ward, and Commissioner Yao.
11 We have Commissioner Raya, who would prefer not to. We
12 have Commissioner Ontai, who is unsure. And the rest are
13 open.

14 CHAIRMAN YAO: On the original list of six,
15 anybody else would want to be added to that list? So, we
16 have seven candidates.

17 MR. CLAYPOOL: Seven.

18 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah.

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: So, it sounds like it's about one
20 a month, right, if we -- if we rotate it on that basis.
21 Approximately.

22 VICE CHAIR DAI: We could do that or we could do
23 it more frequently. My suggestion, actually, is to give
24 kind of people maximum exposure and practice is to do it
25 for every kind of string of successive days, which would

1 provide we rotate twice in a month. And that would give,
2 you know, the new incoming chair enough time to prepare
3 for the next session.

4 I would suggest the vice chair become the chair
5 so that it's very clear what the rotation is.

6 CHAIRMAN YAO: I greatly support the rotating
7 chair because it -- not because I don't want to do the
8 job. I think it's good to show that this Commission is
9 not being run by a single individual, by a single region,
10 a single party, or anything else. It's we work together
11 and whoever controls the agenda does not mean that he or
12 she controls the meeting of this Commission.

13 So, I think that's a strong message that we want
14 to send out in terms of having multiple chairs during the
15 tenure of this Commission.

16 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: And if I heard
17 correctly when I was calling in last week, we need to
18 ensure that there's not a chair and a vice chair that are
19 from the same party at any given time.

20 CHAIRMAN YAO: Right, correct.

21 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: So, to structure
22 the rotation that way.

23 CHAIRMAN YAO: Right.

24 COMMISSIONER WARD: Just a point of
25 clarification. On the list of individuals that was read,

1 I have notes that said that Commissioner Filkins Webber
2 was also interested in that position. I didn't hear her
3 name.

4 CHAIRMAN YAO: Let's put her down and then --

5 MR. CLAYPOOL: We didn't have the notes, so we'll
6 definitely -- we'll put her down.

7 COMMISSIONER WARD: We should add her, I know
8 she's interested.

9 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Okay. So, now you have four
10 Republicans, two Democrats, and one other.

11 VICE CHAIR DAI: No, you have three, three, and
12 one.

13 COMMISSIONER RAYA: If you add -- oh, who am I --
14 what did I --

15 VICE CHAIR DAI: Oh, no, you're right.

16 COMMISSIONER RAYA: When you add Jody.

17 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, we just need to make sure we
18 go, you know, boy, girl, boy, girl. I mean, I'm sure
19 that Dan can figure that out for us.

20 MR. CLAYPOOL: We'll take care of it.

21 VICE CHAIR DAI: Thank you. And is there
22 agreement that we'll kind of in that order, whoever's
23 next is the chair, and then the next person's the vice
24 chair, and that way we can just --

25 COMMISSIONER WARD: Definitely agree.

1 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think the number of people
2 interested closely match with the number of months that
3 we have to perform our tasks. So, I think it's probably
4 best to do it for the duration of the month in the event
5 we decide to just agendize the meeting for the entire
6 month.

7 VICE CHAIR DAI: I would just argue that since we
8 are also considering potentially switching locations in
9 the middle of the month that I don't think it would be a
10 big burden to switch the chair and the vice chair,
11 either.

12 Also, it doesn't burden certain individuals in
13 the lineup who get stuck with certain maybe highly
14 contentious months, or whatever, so there's enough
15 switching around that people will see there's -- you
16 know, we're a Commission of 14 leaders.

17 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: How are we putting together
18 the agendas, now that we have some staff? We've been
19 doing it through the full Commission, how --

20 CHAIRMAN YAO: No, let me explain to you what has
21 happened up to this point in time because I was the
22 interim chair during the month of December, and the chair
23 for the -- so far, since the last meeting.

24 Two of us can meet anytime and talk about
25 anything without being in violation of the Bagley-Keene,

1 so I involved Cynthia in all of my agenda planning, at
2 least I have someone to bounce off my agenda ideas.

3 So, case in point is we spent about an hour on
4 the phone, when was it, Sunday? Monday? And went
5 through it in somewhat -- in some detail, and that's
6 basically the agenda that I announced to you at the
7 beginning of this meeting.

8 We rejected some items, we concurred on the
9 items.

10 So, keeping track of what items that we have
11 discussed, but didn't come to a conclusion is probably
12 one thing the potential chair should be aware of. And
13 then being able to make the priority decision because
14 there are always going to be more topics than we have
15 time to discuss, that's the other thing.

16 And then the third item is just working with
17 staff to make sure it's included in the agenda. I don't
18 think it's anymore than maybe a couple of hours ahead of
19 each of the big block of meetings. But that, in essence,
20 is the planning process that I have used up to this point
21 in time.

22 So, I think if we have a vice chair working with
23 the existing chair, then that kind of information will
24 flow from chair to chair without -- and then the vice
25 chair automatically becomes the next chair, then I think

1 we can allow the system to continue without an awful lot
2 of coordination.

3 VICE CHAIR DAI: Plus, at any time any
4 Commissioner can submit agenda items to Dan, to staff, or
5 to the upcoming chair.

6 CHAIRMAN YAO: Shall we go ahead and assign the
7 rotation schedule or shall we do it one month ahead?
8 What is the Commission's preference in terms of dealing
9 with the rotating chair issue?

10 I sense -- I sense that we all support the
11 rotating chair, I didn't think it was necessary to take a
12 vote. But if such a vote is desired, I'd be happy to
13 entertain a motion.

14 VICE CHAIR DAI: Can I make a motion that -- that
15 with the help of staff we will ensure that no chair or
16 vice chair are from the same party, take a list of seven
17 volunteers and create a schedule.

18 And that we rotate whenever there's a recess and
19 that the vice chair become the chair for the following
20 meeting.

21 CHAIRMAN YAO: I'll second that motion.

22 COMMISSIONER WARD: Can you define what recess --
23 what you meant by recess real quick, so I understand?

24 VICE CHAIR DAI: Whenever we have a multi-day
25 recess.

1 COMMISSIONER WARD: All right, thank you.

2 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, for example, between now and
3 the next week's.

4 CHAIRMAN YAO: It's been moved and seconded.
5 Discussion?

6 COMMISSIONER WARD: Yes, just what about the two
7 February meetings, are we going to rotate between the two
8 February meetings?

9 VICE CHAIR DAI: That's what I'm suggesting
10 because that will be a multi-day recess.

11 COMMISSIONER WARD: I see.

12 VICE CHAIR DAI: That way everybody will get to
13 do -- get to chair or be vice chair for, you know,
14 different times.

15 COMMISSIONER WARD: Basically, it's twice then.

16 VICE CHAIR DAI: And, remember, this is a ten-
17 year appointment.

18 [Laughter]

19 VICE CHAIR DAI: There will be plenty of time.

20 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: That is a question
21 in my mind as we look out past August. Is this motion
22 setting the structure into place so we -- whoever would
23 be the chair when we go out on recess, the next person
24 would be queued up even if three years passed between
25 meetings?

1 VICE CHAIR DAI: I mean I think, obviously, we
2 have the ability to change the rotation schedule at any
3 point, if people have personal emergencies, if you want
4 to shift to a different time. I don't think we need to
5 feel beholden. I'm just suggesting we have a schedule so
6 that we kind of know who's up, unless there's an
7 exception.

8 COMMISSIONER WARD: Sounds good.

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: Comments?

10 MR. CLAYPOOL: We were wondering, would you like
11 us to set this up and send it out to you? And just a
12 long order, so that you always know, and then the vice
13 chair is going to pop up.

14 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah.

15 MR. CLAYPOOL: Okay. Good.

16 VICE CHAIR DAI: Keep us on schedule, Dan.

17 MR. CLAYPOOL: And I take it that that's any
18 multi-day recess then triggers it?

19 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah.

20 MR. CLAYPOOL: Okay.

21 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Shall we pick the next
22 chair for next week?

23 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Well, won't it go to the
24 vice chair?

25 CHAIRMAN YAO: It's assumed that Cynthia will be

1 the chair for the meeting starting next Wednesday. And
2 we need, perhaps need to select a vice chair, who is not
3 a Democrat.

4 VICE CHAIR DAI: I think Dan can do that.

5 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I think he can give a
6 list for us.

7 VICE CHAIR DAI: He can give us the schedule.

8 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: We can still discuss it
9 tomorrow.

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: We probably need to pick one ahead
11 of recess -- recessing Friday.

12 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah. Well, we're not going to
13 recess until Friday, I'm sure he'll get us a list by
14 then.

15 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay. All right, good. Thank
16 you.

17 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I think Dan can do it.

18 VICE CHAIR DAI: I think you're being sent home
19 early, Peter.

20 CHAIRMAN YAO: Any other items under agenda
21 number 3?

22 MR. CLAYPOOL: Did you want to -- did you want to
23 vote on that?

24 VICE CHAIR DAI: Oh, we have to vote, yes.

25 MR. CLAYPOOL: Well, you had a motion and a

1 second.

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: It's been -- I'm sorry, it's
3 been --

4 MR. CLAYPOOL: And ask for public comment. I
5 know there's nobody here.

6 CHAIRMAN YAO: Let's do a voice vote.

7 All those in support of the motion, both say aye
8 and raise your hand?

9 (Ayes.)

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: Those who oppose?

11 Abstain?

12 All right. It's a unanimous decision that we
13 support the rotating chair. And staff will come up with
14 the schedule and to be announced prior to our break this
15 week.

16 All right. The next item under agenda item
17 number 3?

18 VICE CHAIR DAI: I wonder if we want to go to --

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: The reason -- by the way, let me
20 explain, the reason I didn't call for the public comment
21 is we do not see people in the audience this afternoon.
22 So, I did acknowledge that we need to receive public
23 comment, but there were none to offer.

24 All right. So, are we ready to go on to the next
25 agenda item? On my list is agenda item number 8. This

1 is -- again, we have -- before I go automatically to
2 agenda item number 8, we still have the subcommittee for
3 the outreach and the outreach framework to be discussed
4 under item number 3. So, it's your option as to whether
5 we stay with agenda item number 3 and get into that
6 discussion, as compared to broadening it and talk about
7 the redistricting plan, or process, or flow under item
8 number 8.

9 So, you want to finish discussing the Outreach
10 Subcommittee at this point in time?

11 VICE CHAIR DAI: I've suggested a couple of times
12 that we discuss the framework, first, so then --

13 CHAIRMAN YAO: That's what I mean, the framework
14 for the -- for the Outreach Subcommittee.

15 VICE CHAIR DAI: Then we can have form follow the
16 substance.

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right, let's do that. Who
18 wants to throw out the first concept?

19 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: I'll make some
20 suggestions. I'll make some suggestions, just thinking
21 through this at our last meeting, that the subcommittee
22 will assist with developing a plan for providing
23 information on the redistricting process, with the goal
24 of maximizing input from all communities in California.

25 That the subcommittee provide opportunities for

1 input by facilitating and participating in hearings
2 throughout the State of California.

3 That the subcommittee will work with the
4 Executive Director on all details related to the above.

5 And that the subcommittee will be an advocate for
6 public -- the public engagement process and inform the
7 public on ways to do this.

8 So, conceptually, that's what I think the charge
9 of the subcommittee will be.

10 VICE CHAIR DAI: And just to clarify, I think
11 we're talking about the outreach framework first, and
12 then we can decide what the committee might look like.

13 So, it would be useful, for example, we've had
14 suggestions on how do we figure out how many hearings to
15 have? Do we do it, you know, one per million, which
16 would put us at 37?

17 Do we try to do it one per county, which would
18 put us at 58?

19 Do we do it, you know, looking at regions and try
20 to have a certain number per region?

21 What I'd like to see if we can get out is what
22 our philosophy is on how will we approach this so that we
23 can kind of dovetail into a specific plan, and then Dan
24 can start costing it out, and figuring out venues, and
25 all that other good stuff.

1 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Okay. Let me throw some
2 concepts out and see what you all think.

3 I think that the outreach part, where we actually
4 make -- show the flag in various parts of the State is
5 really central to what this whole Commission is about.
6 Because we're not here just to draw maps, we're also to
7 develop confidence -- race confidence levels in the
8 public.

9 Also, I think it's -- so, therefore, I think it
10 is important that we -- or I would propose that we
11 actually have some kind of an outreach meeting in every
12 Assembly district.

13 And I say that because we're going to be changing
14 everybody's line and so I think by -- it behooves us to
15 be in everybody's district, so everybody has a chance to
16 talk to us about what they think about their Assembly
17 districts. And I say the Assembly districts because we
18 can then put those together and they create Senate, and
19 so forth, districts.

20 I also think, and it may be because in some
21 fashion I represent rural California, that I think we
22 should have extra meetings in the more, if you will,
23 remote places that typically are not part of the process.

24 I looked at the letter that we got that dealt
25 with how the Legislature did it last time and they had

1 five meetings in urban environments. And I think those
2 are important, but I think we need to make an effort to
3 extend ourselves.

4 Now, that gives us some significant number of
5 meetings. And so, what I would propose is that we would
6 break ourselves up into four groups of three and, of
7 course, there's an extra Democrat, an extra Republican,
8 but four groups of three of one each to conduct these
9 meetings.

10 And I, personally, would hope that we can, you
11 know, maybe get two in one day, or do it overnight and
12 get two done, and something, so that we wouldn't be on
13 the road for 20 days, but rather we might be able to be
14 on the road for 10 or 12.

15 But I just think it's very important that we show
16 ourselves a lot because this is the public process.

17 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Just two things I wanted
18 to follow up with Commissioner Forbes' comment. One is I
19 think it's a good -- one thing I was thinking is how long
20 do we think these meetings will be? Is it just one day?
21 Do we think there will be a need for more than one day?
22 That was just a question.

23 And the other one was I just would like to throw
24 out the issue of if we -- I like the number of -- the
25 high number you're proposing. My concern with Assembly

1 districts is some people don't feel that they're -- if
2 you say an Assembly district, that's going to get
3 people -- I'm concerned that some individuals don't feel
4 like where the lines are drawn currently don't represent
5 them.

6 So, if you hold a meeting in one location
7 geographically that there's peninsulas, there's fingers,
8 they're people over. So, I want to make sure when we do
9 it, it's not just in those districts, but we're
10 encompassing geographically.

11 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Well, the reason I had said
12 Assembly districts is because then I think we'll get
13 people who will say this is not my district, I don't
14 belong in this district. I belong over there. And I
15 would look for them, that that would be an opportunity
16 for them to do that.

17 Now, as far as other outreach, actually, I have a
18 couple of other thoughts that -- you know, I have a
19 procedure. But I mean, having had done these outreach --
20 I'm only looking forward because of where the microphone
21 is. I'll turn the microphone around.

22 That I mean I think we should do that first.
23 Then I think we should, as has been suggested to us, that
24 we have these regional things where people can follow up
25 on what -- I mean, having had a chance to think about

1 what they've had to say, what they've heard their
2 colleagues say, or their neighbors say. At that point we
3 could draw a set of maps.

4 And then we could use these regional centers as
5 we massage the maps and took into account what the public
6 had to say, we could use these regional centers for
7 people to call in and make comments on what we're doing,
8 and have a couple of those. Have, maybe, as many as two
9 or three meetings regionally, after having had this one
10 set of show-the-flag meetings.

11 That would be sort of the whole structure. That,
12 to me, is a combination of the two concepts. One, lots
13 of public content, lots of opportunity for the public to
14 see us face-to-face.

15 But also, then, a more efficient way of having
16 the public respond, and react to what we're doing, and
17 make suggestions.

18 So, that's sort of the overall concept I had.

19 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Peter, I'd like to add
20 maybe a way of satisfying this issue about locking
21 into -- sounding like we locked into Assembly districts
22 is --

23 CHAIRMAN YAO: A little closer to the mike,
24 please.

25 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Rather than sounding like

1 we actually locked into existing Assembly districts, if
2 we pick a community and make sure we have a community in
3 every Assembly district that exists, and then we just
4 call the meeting of that area. And then people won't
5 feel like it is an Assembly district thing. Not an
6 Assembly district, but you covered the same areas, you
7 just identify it by the kind of --

8 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think how I interpreted the
9 proposal is the number between 80 and 100 meetings is the
10 outreach approach.

11 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, I want to remind the
12 Commission of an interesting fact, especially the new
13 Commissioners who may or may not have watched the
14 proceedings of the first day.

15 We had a public comment who compared California,
16 population-wise, to Arizona, and said based on the number
17 of meetings they did, California should do 411.

18 COMMISSIONER FORBES: I think one thing, right,
19 is the reason I said Assembly district is I want to be
20 sure that there's no area that doesn't feel like they've
21 had an opportunity to speak to us face-to-face.

22 VICE CHAIR DAI: That would be your minimum
23 requirement.

24 COMMISSIONER WARD: Is there a proposed timeline
25 for these meetings?

1 COMMISSIONER FORBES: I'll leave that up to
2 staff.

3 COMMISSIONER WARD: Would we like to have them
4 done --

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: Before we start drawing the maps.

6 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Oh, yeah. Oh, yes,
7 absolutely.

8 COMMISSIONER WARD: So, we're talking about being
9 done by March.

10 VICE CHAIR DAI: I mean, I believe we can start
11 drawing the maps while we're still doing these. I mean,
12 I think realistically, just to get all the schedule,
13 we're going to have to consider doing some of that in
14 parallel.

15 And since probably this is, again, part of the
16 framework, we should talk about probably we're going to
17 have to look at the voting rights districts -- Voting
18 Rights Act Districts, first.

19 So, there is going to be a sequence, you know,
20 that will probably determine where we visit first.

21 COMMISSIONER FORBES: I just think it would be a
22 mistake to start drawing a map for a place where we
23 hadn't been.

24 COMMISSIONER RAYA: I'd like to throw in
25 another -- excuse me -- another element. When we do set

1 up these meetings and assign ourselves, or whatever, I
2 think it's important, we're diverse for a purpose, and so
3 we have to keep in mind when we go out that the people
4 we're visiting see themselves in the Commission.

5 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Can you say more
6 about that? I can think of that in many different ways.
7 I can think of it in relation to party affiliation, race
8 and ethnicity. Are you saying the full gamut or --

9 COMMISSIONER RAYA: No, honestly, I'm looking at
10 people identifying with somebody that looks like them, or
11 sounds like them, or has, you know, a similar life
12 experience, perhaps. I think that's more significant.
13 Because in the end we're not about party, that's just --
14 that's just a factor that was written into the law.

15 So, I think it is about race, ethnicity. I don't
16 know that gender, again, is that big a deal. Anyway, I
17 guess, really, that would be the primary one. And in
18 some cases perhaps language.

19 COMMISSIONER FORBES: No, I think -- I mean, I
20 think if you had teams of three, of one each, the party
21 issue would go away.

22 The other thing is, I mean, it doesn't make sense
23 to me to send me to Central Los Angeles. I mean, that's
24 the wrong place to send me, I mean, in terms of what
25 Jeanne was saying.

1 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: In this discussion are
2 we also looking at any follow-up meetings with a
3 community as well, too, in terms of once the maps are
4 starting to be drawn and to go back -- are we physically
5 going back into the communities to bring the maps, or are
6 we asking -- are we posting maps and going back to get
7 feedback?

8 Again, that sets another certain amount of time.
9 I think if we have 80, 100, 400 meetings, and maybe we'll
10 do that once, but maybe condense the follow-up meetings.

11 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Well, that's what I was
12 suggesting is we only do this once, the actual show-the-
13 flag -- I'll call them show-the-flag meetings. And then
14 you go to the regional centers where the maps are posted
15 and people have the means of contacting us.

16 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: So, you're thinking --
17 how many regional centers, maybe off the top of your head
18 would you think? I'm just -- I'm thinking out loud for -
19 -

20 COMMISSIONER FORBES: I had heard mentioned
21 eight. But, you know, whether that's the right number, I
22 have no -- I'm open to suggestions.

23 CHAIRMAN YAO: The one comment I'd like to offer
24 is that in the experience of Arizona they sometimes had
25 as few as one Commissioner attending these type of

1 outreach meeting.

2 And if we try to insist on having at least three,
3 if you proposed, sometimes the scheduling could be
4 difficult considering the large number of meetings.

5 So, I think that should be a goal. But,
6 certainly, if you're the Commissioner that are closest to
7 the area that we're discussing it really -- I think you
8 probably -- you, not you on a personal basis, but whoever
9 the Commissioner is, probably will attend that particular
10 one. But then, hopefully, he can be joined by other
11 Commissioners from other areas, as well.

12 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Well, there's two things I
13 was thinking about, because I did think about what they
14 said. But they were only five of them, as opposed to 14
15 of us.

16 Also, I think it was inherent in Prop 11 that
17 all -- that the three political groups are represented
18 and they made a big deal out of that.

19 I don't know if the Arizona law was written that
20 way or not, but ours was. And so, that's why I would be
21 disinclined to have fewer than the three.

22 Right. The consideration is the outreach is no
23 decisions will be made during that, during the meeting.
24 All we're doing is collecting information and bringing it
25 back. And I'm absolutely certain that all this

1 information will be shared among all the other
2 Commissioners, whether they attend or do not attend that
3 meeting.

4 And on a personal basis, I, myself, don't have
5 any issue with it. But I can see that as difficult as we
6 are in terms of getting a full Commission to attend any
7 one meeting, and when you couple the fact that we now
8 have subcommittee meetings, and I suspect that we'll have
9 a lot of other meetings above and beyond just the
10 outreach activities, it could become a bottleneck.

11 So, if I could suggest we'll try, but not make
12 that a mandatory requirement.

13 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Well, what we could do is
14 we can set up the teams and if all three of the team can
15 make it, great. And if only two of them can make it,
16 that's just the way it is.

17 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: I would also suggest
18 that we not lock ourselves into teams because, you know,
19 people will have different periods of availability and
20 not, frankly, interest in, you know, some of these
21 different parts of the State.

22 I think that I also don't feel -- I like setting
23 a minimum, I think two is probably the minimum, with
24 three being ideal. But, you know, I could certainly see
25 some meetings where more people are available and

1 interested in attending and I think, you know, that
2 having more than three I think is not a bad thing.
3 Particularly, if we want to maintain the goal of taking
4 full advantage of our diversity.

5 But like the subcommittees, I think we should
6 probably have a top, a maximum, just again because there
7 are going to be cost considerations as well.

8 COMMISSIONER RAYA: May I suggest or ask if we
9 could have -- if you want to start with that idea of
10 using an Assembly district, if we could have a list, so
11 to speak, of what they are, where they are, kind of the
12 general boundaries, maybe what the closest major city is
13 or something.

14 And then we could look at that and we could each
15 get a sense of, oh, I can easily do this, this and this.
16 We might start breaking it down right away instead of
17 trying to do it piece by piece, or whatever.

18 COMMISSIONER WARD: Well, right now we're trying
19 to agree on a framework, right, with which to do this,
20 just a general process approach.

21 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Right.

22 COMMISSIONER WARD: And I think Commissioner
23 Forbes has laid out a really solid idea with which to
24 consider that.

25 Obviously, communities that are -- lie within an

1 Assembly district type arrangement seems to be certainly
2 a broad net with which to gather information. And to me,
3 the purpose of the meeting is, you know, like the
4 Chairman has mentioned, is simply fact finding and
5 gathering testimony evidence with which to make the best
6 maps possible.

7 And so, with that in mind, the only thing I think
8 I had any concern about was just the minimums/maximums
9 idea. I kind of was a proponent of Commissioner Forbes'
10 idea of assigning kind of a team approach. It just seems
11 like it minimizes the scheduling conflicts and it
12 maximizes just the ability to schedule these out during
13 the entire month of March to meet the deadlines.

14 It gives us teams with which to assign and make
15 sure that everything is blanketed and covered.

16 And then with the team of three, again, if you
17 have the unfortunate circumstance of plane delay,
18 freeway's shut down, whatever the case may be, and only
19 one shows up we still have a meeting. You know what I
20 mean, rather than locking us in to having to have a
21 certain number, other than one, or something like that.

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: Just doing the rough math, if we
23 have, let's say, 90 meetings, and we have three months to
24 do it in, that's like one meeting a day. So, are we
25 ready to jump to that kind of schedule just as above and

1 beyond all the, as I mentioned before, the subcommittee
2 meetings, all the major meetings like we're having, and
3 so on?

4 So, it's a very, very big commitment on our part,
5 and also on staff, because staff would have to be present
6 at each and every one of these meetings as well.

7 So, again, I'm not against it. I think something
8 close to that may be the bare minimum that we need to do.
9 But I just want everybody to acknowledge that it's a
10 very, very big commitment on your time and your
11 availability having these type of events concurrent with
12 everything else that we're doing.

13 Mr. Barabba?

14 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Maybe one of the things we
15 could do to get around the amount of resources required
16 here is have staff draw this up for if we went to every
17 Senate district and see what that looks, and then what it
18 would be if we went to every Assembly district, and we
19 can see what kind of a commitment it requires.

20 And then the other thing we could do relative to
21 selection, as we've done with everything else, is they
22 could just list the districts that we would be going to
23 and we could all start signing up, first, you know, to
24 the preference and --

25 CHAIRMAN YAO: Well, we're talking about the

1 framework.

2 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Yeah.

3 CHAIRMAN YAO: I mean, there's a big difference
4 between going to 80 meetings versus going to 40 meetings,
5 so I think we need to -- we need to --

6 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Well, it's hard to figure
7 that out until you know what the --

8 CHAIRMAN YAO: Yeah, I think we maybe need to
9 reach some kind of concurrence as to what order of
10 magnitude are we willing to tackle before we decide as to
11 whether Senate or Assembly.

12 To me, it's a sheer number, it's what is
13 practical that we can really manage.

14 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: I wanted to speak to
15 besides the number, and that's why I asked you the
16 question about nesting, because I was wondering if we
17 could go up to the Senate level.

18 But I guess I have a concern not just about the
19 number of meetings that would be required if we did them
20 by Assembly district, I'm also not sure that in some way
21 that starts us off with that Assembly district as the
22 standard, and we create a situation where people come to
23 defend that district, and/or oppose it, but it's all kind
24 of gets the -- the discussion gets centered around that
25 district.

1 Which may not get at some of the issues that
2 we're trying to gather information about, which is
3 really -- I mean, we're going to have data about growth
4 and that's not a -- that's really not a major part of the
5 hearing and gathering information process.

6 But what really happens in these meetings is a
7 lot of discussion of communities of interest and the
8 people are trying to define those, and give us
9 information about how they think we should define them.

10 And I would like to make sure what we do makes
11 that the centerpiece of the information we're gathering.
12 And I'm a little concerned that going in by Assembly
13 actually acts against that principle in some way.

14 And besides the fact that it's a tremendous
15 number of districts.

16 In some ways you want to think regionally, and
17 then have the information about the communities of
18 interests help us shape what we think are proper
19 Assembly, Senate, and not to mention Congressional. I
20 mean, you know, we could go by Congressional districts.
21 And then, you know, I'm not sure that helps either.

22 But, so I'm a little concerned about this idea
23 beyond the logistical nightmare that it might be.

24 CHAIRMAN YAO: Commissioner Malloy?

25 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: I share -- I share

1 similar concerns as Commissioner Blanco. And I feel I am
2 interested in the idea of exploring something around the
3 country approach, or something that would allow us
4 somewhat of a compromise in terms of both the scope of
5 meetings that we need to do and also would get us, you
6 know, thinking about public perception to be starting
7 drawing our lines from neutral political space, as
8 opposed to from, you know, the perceptions around who the
9 last set of lines favored or disfavored.

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: If I may, let's get away from the
11 discussion of the boundaries versus how many meetings
12 would -- do we think is adequate. You want to kind of
13 attack it from that perspective?

14 Is it closer to a hundred than closer to 50?
15 What is it that we want to do?

16 And then we can basically tackle it based on,
17 okay, if we decide on -- let's pick an arbitrary number,
18 40, then we know how best to map California into these 40
19 "meeting sites." Okay.

20 But it's been proposed, now, between 80 and 100,
21 that's the last number we have. And it's also been
22 suggested that we half that number, by just looking at
23 Senate districts, to 40.

24 Does somebody have a number that's different than
25 those two ball parks that we're talking about.

1 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Well, the Senate, there's
2 87, right?

3 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Forty.

4 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: I mean, 40. Forty Senate.
5 So, that's one possibility is to go to that number.

6 VICE CHAIR DAI: And that's also close to the one
7 million.

8 COMMISSIONER FORBES: I would argue against that
9 because in Northern California a million people is
10 everything north of Sacramento, one seat. I mean, you
11 know, that's one meeting.

12 CHAIRMAN YAO: Nothing is absolute. I mean, we
13 can cut the 40 in a number of different ways.

14 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: And by the way, there's
15 three Senate seats in Northern California.

16 COMMISSIONER FORBES: But there's not three
17 million. It depends on what you call Northern
18 California.

19 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Well --

20 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Oh, you got a map. Okay,
21 you're cheating. My computer won't work.

22 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I'd be curious to hear a
23 little bit more about Commissioner Blanco's. You'd
24 mentioned a little bit about a regional approach, which I
25 liked, to get away from that.

1 So, if we looked at a regional, maybe you all
2 haven't had a chance to look at the map, but taking that
3 approach you could give an estimate, maybe, of what it
4 would take to do kind of a regional approach.

5 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: I don't have my map book
6 because my computer just died.

7 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: You know, there's
8 another -- while you're looking for your maps, there
9 is -- we can create, have somebody create an algorithm
10 and create 40 centroids of population and find out the
11 city closest to that, and go there. And then that way
12 you avoid the -- we got there because the population's
13 there and it would cover, then, the entire State.

14 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I think that's a great.
15 I think we're kind of talking a little bit in an
16 abstract. If we had something that said here's an
17 example of where we could start, then we could have
18 something to comment on in terms of what we see as areas
19 that may be lacking representation and those that may be
20 over-represented in terms of an actual, physical meeting.

21 CHAIRMAN YAO: Again, I'm a number guy, so let me
22 try a different -- try my tack again.

23 Are you favoring a number close to 50 meetings or
24 favoring a number closer to a hundred meetings in terms
25 of what we're -- and we can basically define 50

1 communities of interest or 100 communities of interests.
2 We'll do that as a second step, but I'd kind of like to
3 ball park, making sure that we have a consensus on the
4 magnitude of the task.

5 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: It's throw out the
6 number 50 and say that that's a good place to start. And
7 then if we look at what we have at 50, and we think we
8 need more, we can get -- we can add a few more if we
9 think we need to get rid of it.

10 But let's start at something that's maybe a
11 little bit more manageable and reasonable for all of us
12 so we don't -- again, there's a lot to do, so better to
13 start with something realistic and build from there,
14 that's my sense.

15 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: Let me fine tune that and
16 can I say 58, since there are 58 counties? So, I'd like
17 to use 58.

18 CHAIRMAN YAO: But not all counties are the same
19 size, unfortunately, that's what the biggest issue is
20 now.

21 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: Right back -- right back
22 to that, again.

23 COMMISSIONER FORBES: I mean, I don't have any
24 inherent objection to 50, provided we make a real effort
25 to add -- and they would be added if some of the remote,

1 more remote areas -- for example, Alturas, Redding, and
2 Eureka don't represent a lot of people but, you know,
3 they're pretty far apart. So, if they're going to get
4 represented, we have to go there.

5 And so, and you have to add them. And I'm sure
6 there's one in Southern California, too. Blythe, wasn't
7 it Blythe the one that came up.

8 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I think in terms of
9 population people would be -- if we went to an urban
10 center in L.A., that could have -- three million people
11 had easy access within an hour to a spot, it would be
12 easier to justify one meeting there and have two meetings
13 in a more remote location that has lesser population, but
14 just for convenience. I would think the public would
15 understand that.

16 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah.

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. A number close to 50
18 is what I sense the concurrence -- is our concurrence.
19 Does anybody have an argument or anything for a higher,
20 or lower number than that or --

21 All right. I don't think we need to take a vote.
22 So, let's just work with that -- work with that
23 approximately 50 outreach meetings between now and the
24 drawing of the first draft map. Is that a good way to
25 describe it?

1 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Uh-huh.

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay. And shall we, on a
3 conceptual basis, let the Outreach Subcommittee, whatever
4 that happens to be, a committee or committees, define or
5 help define what these 50, plus or minus, sites are, or
6 do you want to address it here?

7 VICE CHAIR DAI: Well, I think there's a few more
8 things we should probably come to consensus on because I
9 think we're still discussing, for example, minimum
10 number, maximum number, whether it needs to be bipartisan
11 affiliation or not.

12 I think we're all agreed that we should split up,
13 divide and conquer.

14 CHAIRMAN YAO: Yes. And --

15 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, do we want to -- I -- like I
16 said, I personally would like to be more flexible, rather
17 than having set teams, because I think some of us on the
18 Commission are fortunate to have most of their career
19 behind them and some of us are not.

20 So, I think the personal availability of various
21 Commissioners is going to vary greatly and I think that
22 we should allow for that, as long as everyone
23 participates in some meetings.

24 CHAIRMAN YAO: How about two Commissioners from
25 different parties?

1 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Well, actually, I wasn't
2 saying the same three people fit one grouping.

3 VICE CHAIR DAI: Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER FORBES: But, rather, I think there
5 needs to be one of each of our three groups.

6 VICE CHAIR DAI: Like that, uh-hum.

7 COMMISSIONER FORBES: You know, in each meeting
8 as your goal.

9 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: And recognize that us
10 others, with four, it will be -- will probably be more.
11 Which is fine, I just was throwing it out.

12 But I do -- I do like Commissioner Barabbas'
13 suggestion that once we get this out there we could
14 individually sign up and see where that leaves us,
15 because we could fill in gaps and see if there's -- if we
16 need different types of representation on these meetings.

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: Dan, do you want to make a
18 comment?

19 MR. CLAYPOOL: We were just wondering, now, we're
20 referring now to pre-map outreach.

21 CHAIRMAN YAO: Correct.

22 MR. CLAYPOOL: So, when we're talking this 50.
23 And then the second half of what Commissioner Forbes
24 said --

25 CHAIRMAN YAO: To be determined.

1 MR. CLAYPOOL: Yeah. What Commissioner Forbes
2 had suggested, then, would be to some regional approach
3 if there were approaches. Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER FORBES: One other thing I was going
5 to think about is we were talking about the idea of
6 signing up for ones that were more convenient for us, is
7 that it would help me, as a Commissioner, if at least
8 once I sort of went out of my region and just so I'd have
9 a feel for what you guys in Southern California do down
10 there kind of thing. And I think it would be perhaps
11 useful if --

12 CHAIRMAN YAO: It's none of your business.

13 [Laughter]

14 COMMISSIONER FORBES: That's why you're -- that
15 the southerners come north for at least one meeting.

16 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: I really, I was just
17 thinking that. I think that not only do we see how the
18 other third lives, or fourth, but in a way when we get,
19 then, to the point of, you know, drawing the maps I think
20 we won't be as partisan to our particular areas. We'll
21 have a broader vision, instead of just thinking about
22 what we know and protecting that somehow.

23 CHAIRMAN YAO: I don't believe we're making any
24 attempt on setting restrictions on how many you can
25 attend, so we welcome all the Commissioners to attend as

1 many as they are interested in or capable of attending.

2 So, I kind of accept that as an understood set of

3 guidelines.

4 COMMISSIONER FORBES: I just want us to think

5 outside of our frame.

6 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Yes. And I think

7 we will. There are some limitations in terms of our

8 budget and what it will take to support travel, and so I

9 think that's something we just need to be monitoring very

10 closely as we move along. And as we plot out when the

11 different hearings are scheduled to take place, maybe we

12 could in advance be thinking who would like to sign up

13 and that way we can track our burn rate and make sure

14 we're on target.

15 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Anything else

16 associated with the -- Mr. Claypool?

17 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Someone did comment that

18 we might want to make sure in our scheduling that we do

19 go to the Voter's Rights Act districts first, so we

20 address that issue while we still have time to do it, so

21 there's four or five counties we have to deal with.

22 VICE CHAIR DAI: Also, we need the Section Five

23 counties.

24 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Yes.

25 MR. CLAYPOOL: So, the only other thing I was

1 going to say is early on in conversations with the
2 different groups that we're doing the redistricting for,
3 people, particularly the San Francisco Redistricting, and
4 the San Diego Redistricting, they talked about the need
5 for a person, or a consultant, to have a person there
6 with each -- each time you had a meeting.

7 Because the Commission's going to find themselves
8 in a position where I'm going to walk up and say my
9 district isn't right, and here's why, and you may not be
10 able to ask or will not be able to ask the questions that
11 you need to ask in order to fully get the information you
12 need from them.

13 So, the use of the consultant, staff to sit there
14 and say -- to ask the questions that you need to hear was
15 key to them moving very quickly through and indexing that
16 information.

17 So, as we have this many, we are also driving up
18 consulting costs, if you choose to have that approach.
19 But that was the approach in the past.

20 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. On the subject of
21 the -- are we finished with the framework, Cynthia, from
22 your perspective? Are we ready to dive into the
23 subcommittee discussion, the Outreach Subcommittee
24 discussion?

25 VICE CHAIR DAI: Do you want to summarize for

1 everyone what you think we concluded?

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: Do I want to?

3 VICE CHAIR DAI: Or did you want me to do it?

4 CHAIRMAN YAO: I guess I'd like to hear your
5 input, but I think the question is open to everybody.
6 It's do we think we have a clear enough understanding of
7 the framework so that we can go into the discussion of
8 the subcommittee and how shall we narrow down this
9 subcommittee, or whether the interest in the subcommittee
10 has changed? In other words, go to the next step in the
11 discussion of the outreach activity.

12 MR. CLAYPOOL: We were just wondering if this
13 might not be a good time for a break?

14 CHAIRMAN YAO: Seeing the silence, I think that's
15 a vote of confidence, a vote for a break, yes.

16 Let's see, five-minute break didn't work the last
17 time, so I'm not going to try that again.

18 Can we come back at -- in ten minutes, 35 after?

19 All right, we'll try that. We'll reconvene at 2:35.

20 (Recess at 2:25 p.m.)

21 (Reconvene at 2:37 p.m.)

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. It's 2:37, I'll call
23 the meeting to order again.

24 Stan, if I could ask you at this time to take a
25 minute and summarize what we have accomplished since --

1 since we reconvened at one o'clock, I think that will
2 probably set a good stage in terms of -- we need a roll
3 call?

4 MR. RICKARDS: No. I just -- I wanted to remind
5 everybody that when we have a break turn off your mikes.
6 Because we're all -- when the mikes are on you're all
7 live.

8 CHAIRMAN YAO: Thanks.

9 MR. RICKARDS: Thanks.

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: Stan, would you?

11 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Oh, okay. I think what we
12 by consensus agree to with regard to the outreach at this
13 point was that we would anticipate having 50 plus
14 meetings, the plus being designed to take care of the
15 lesser populated, more remote areas of California.

16 We would have -- we would send teams, not
17 identified teams specifically, but teams of at least
18 three -- or not more than three, rather, to each of these
19 locations.

20 And each of the teams would be represented on
21 Republican, one-decline-to-state, and one Democrat. And
22 then we would develop means to -- more regional meetings
23 to incorporate public comment as we -- as we develop the
24 maps. That's my understanding of what we had agreed to
25 do.

1 I invite people to tell me anything I left out or
2 over-stated.

3 CHAIRMAN YAO: We also discussed the
4 rotational --

5 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Oh, I'm sorry, I was just
6 focusing on the other. Yes, we also focused on the
7 rotation of the chair and vice chair that would alternate
8 between, we'd never have two of the same party. And the
9 vice chair would become the next meeting's chair, or the
10 next period of meetings' chair, and we would change
11 chairs at every break, multi-day break in our series of
12 meetings.

13 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Peter, it just occurred to
14 me on this issue of identifying the 50 places, I don't
15 want to get into details yet, but if there are models out
16 there where we could actually find the locations with
17 which you could reach the population fastest with 50
18 places. But you could also put a constraint on it that
19 says and no one has to travel more than X number of
20 miles. And then that way we could identify the places
21 where we need to have a special location.

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: How can we get the February
23 schedule going so that we don't lose the schedule? Is
24 somebody interested in either volunteering to do that or
25 come up with a quick way to get the show on the road, so

1 to speak, before we carefully plan out the entire 50
2 meetings?

3 In other words, February is coming up very
4 quickly and if we're going to agendize it, we're going to
5 do all these things, we probably need to just proceed and
6 do it.

7 COMMISSIONER RAYA: You're asking -- excuse me --
8 to identify the --

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: The meetings for --

10 COMMISSIONER RAYA: -- possible locations?

11 CHAIRMAN YAO: Right.

12 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Okay, I'll volunteer.

13 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, Vince, you said there's
14 software to do that? I mean, how quickly can it be done?
15 Can we ask staff to do that?

16 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: I would suggest we turn
17 that over to the staff and find out where the locations
18 are that --

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: Well, I would. But to sort of
20 stay on a linear schedule, we probably need to get about
21 15 meetings, say, going in the month of February.

22 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Yeah, and I would
23 really -- for example, I would think one of the places
24 we're going to end up is the San Fernando Valley. And if
25 we are, I would be more than happy to make the contact

1 with the university there and see if they would be -- do
2 something similar to what you did with Claremont.

3 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. So, maybe, with 14 of
4 us, and maybe each of us should try to plan a site in
5 February, would that be appropriate, so that at least we
6 can get whatever works out, we can at least get the
7 process going. And work with staff to schedule it and
8 approach it from that perspective?

9 COMMISSIONER WARD: How long will it take to get
10 the data we asked for as far as the 50 most encompassing
11 locations?

12 MR. CLAYPOOL: I can't -- I can't tell you that
13 right now, I don't even know where that information is
14 located. I know that Commissioner Barabba had indicated
15 that we could run some type of algorithm and do that but,
16 first, I have to identify that. But perhaps I could try
17 to get that information this evening, I don't know if I
18 can, and report tomorrow. But it's just an unknown to me
19 now.

20 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Is that -- I'm sorry. Is
21 that the information that Commissioner Blanco was
22 referring to from Irvine Foundation, is that similar? Do
23 they already have that information or am I confused?

24 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: No, that's different. I
25 think the thing that we would borrow from that was sort

1 of the concept of proximity. You know, once we decide on
2 the region then I think within that we'd want to locate
3 the place in the most proximate location, but it's
4 different.

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: Well, I guess what I was thinking
6 of is let's pick the low-hanging fruits, first, identify
7 the most populous area in your neck of the wood and let's
8 go ahead and get these meetings going, and we can
9 basically cover the areas as we have more data to
10 proceed.

11 Because if we wait until we're organized before
12 we get going, we're going to lose a month or more.

13 COMMISSIONER FORBES: And what would help me to
14 do that, I mean I can make several phone calls and
15 probably set a couple of them up in the area. But it
16 would help me if I could get a paragraph or a page from
17 staff of what we need, so that when I call these people I
18 can tell them much more precisely what we have in mind.

19 COMMISSIONER WARD: I think that's a fair comment
20 and something I was kind of wondering, myself, when we
21 get to planning the actual outreach meetings as far as in
22 the interests of being fiscally responsible and, like you
23 said, being able to be as low-tech as possible to avoid
24 problems off-site is again are we going to -- is our
25 approach going to be to just audio, live stream video,

1 and post the video later? What is going to be the
2 approach with those kinds of questions?

3 MR. CLAYPOOL: I just have a question. When --
4 as I'm listening to you, I understood you to say that we
5 were looking for population by a divisor of 50. So,
6 where are the 50 population areas?

7 Understanding that certain areas are going to
8 dominate that map and so --

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: I'm proposing that as a starting
10 point for the month of February, because we won't have
11 our act totally together to carefully pinpoint the 50 or
12 approximately 50 most likely areas that we should hit.
13 So, in order not to lose any schedule, we simply hit the
14 highest population first. I don't think we can go too
15 far wrong using that as a starting point.

16 Maybe there's no agreement to that approach, but
17 it's just thinking out loud.

18 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Chairman Yao, if I may make
19 a suggestion, since we're going to be in Southern
20 California for our two sets of meetings in February, that
21 we ought to see if we can't schedule meetings in Southern
22 California. We're already going to be there. And so at
23 least, perhaps, for the Saturday following our meetings
24 or something, since we're already there it might be
25 easier. That's a possibility.

1 VICE CHAIR DAI: So --

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: Right. The -- excuse me, Cynthia,
3 let me -- let me sort of answer Commissioner Forbes'
4 suggestion.

5 We can certainly take part of our time, while
6 we're in Claremont, to practice our outreach activity or
7 use that as an experimental site to do what we think we
8 want to do. That certainly would be welcome.

9 COMMISSIONER RAYA: But would we also be open
10 to -- for example, on Saturday, sending off our little
11 teams to other Southern California areas, is that
12 correct? Okay.

13 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah, I feel like we haven't --
14 and, you know, this is what we'll either discuss as a
15 full Commission or as an Outreach Committee. But we
16 haven't talked about guidelines for how we want to
17 receive public input. I mean, I seem to recall we
18 discussed this last time and agreed that we were not
19 going to allow the schedule to push us to do kind of a
20 haphazard job in Claremont.

21 CHAIRMAN YAO: I'm making the assumption that by
22 the end of next week we would be there. I think that's
23 maybe an invalid assumption, but that's basically what
24 I'm handing at this point in time.

25 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: So, am I hearing

1 correctly that what we're looking at right now is that
2 staff will try and do -- as Commissioner Barabba had
3 mentioned, maybe do some of those crunching of numbers to
4 give us an initial 50.

5 But in the meantime we, as individual
6 Commissioners, should start looking at places in Southern
7 California? And I say looking, I mean on proposing sites
8 or is that --

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: The correct -- the correction is
10 looking at the region that you're most familiar with, not
11 necessarily in Southern California, to hold such a -- to
12 hold such a outreach meeting.

13 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: So are you looking --
14 when we say we're looking -- when you mention we should
15 be looking at our region that we're familiar with, for
16 future outreach meetings, you're looking just in a
17 general sense because we're not asking individual places
18 to hold dates for us, we don't have -- I'd be hesitant to
19 say please hold this date if we don't have any idea.

20 I guess part of it, too, I was thinking during
21 the break, I was talking with Commissioner Dai about the
22 nature of this number of meetings and the limited amount
23 of time. It seems to be it would be beneficial to have a
24 regional approach to these so we don't have a meeting
25 happening in Northern California, one in Central

1 California within a week where you have Commissioners
2 physically maybe going to these different locations, if
3 you could get a regional approach where we could get two
4 birds with one stone.

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: If we're going to have 50
6 meetings, let's say over the next three months, and in
7 the next three months we're not going to be able to cover
8 all the most of the region, even a significant part of
9 the region just by being there in our group meetings,
10 okay. So, it's going to have to be throughout the whole
11 State and --

12 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I recognize it has to be
13 throughout the whole State. I'm just concerned that if
14 we're all kind of at cross-purposes, we're all out there
15 trying to set up meetings, with the best intentions, that
16 we may be unnecessarily setting up things where later we
17 have to change those schedules.

18 I guess I'm trying to understand if we should be
19 doing -- if we, as individual Commissioners, should be
20 doing that now or should we wait just a little bit until
21 we get a little more guidance about where we're thinking
22 those regional meetings are?

23 At that point we could go out and start
24 establishing some of the contacts. But I just --

25 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay. My thought is we pretty

1 much know what our total Commission meeting dates are, we
2 set aside Wednesday, Thursday, Friday a couple weeks in
3 the month. We have a -- I think we have a reasonable
4 idea when we're going to hold the Commission meeting, the
5 subcommittee meetings, we're going to try to do that on
6 the Wednesday of each of those meeting dates.

7 So, for all the other dates it's open at this
8 point in time.

9 Now, it's true that when we agendize a meeting
10 it's for the entire month and we can certainly -- we may
11 certainly continue to meet over the weekend, stretch the
12 meeting as long as is necessary to get the work done.

13 But I don't know whether we can get more precise
14 in terms of pinning down the dates, even in the month of
15 February.

16 So, all the other dates at this point in time is
17 somewhat open and coordinate those dates with staff and
18 try to schedule as many of these meetings as possible
19 is -- is really what I was thinking of, and nothing
20 beyond that.

21 COMMISSIONER FORBES: So, Commissioner Yao, is
22 this what you have in mind? I mean, we don't have
23 anything scheduled, for example, on -- I don't think we
24 do, on Saturday, the 19th of February. So, I could go
25 ahead and call up the City of Sacramento and say we'd

1 like to have a meeting that the City would help
2 facilitate, do you have a place we can do this? And
3 that's why I say I would need the technical things, so I
4 could if they have what I'm asking for. Could we have
5 one of our outreach meetings on this date, at a location
6 that would work for you?

7 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: And see, this is my --
8 this is what I'm concerned about. If Commissioner Forbes
9 is calling up Sacramento and saying how about the 19th,
10 and then Commissioner Ontai's calling up San Diego and
11 saying how about the 19th, and I'm calling up Fresno and
12 saying how about the 19th, I guess I'm just saying I don't
13 want us to commit too much.

14 I think it would be great once we get an idea,
15 but I'd hate to have four or five meetings scheduled,
16 overlapping, without having some coordination.

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: Well, let's --

18 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I think we can prevent
19 that, I'm just concerned. It's not that big of an issue,
20 staff can help us with that, I'm just concerned that we
21 don't do that.

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: Well, let's talk about that, is
23 overlapping meeting okay? Because not all of us are
24 going to be at the same -- most of us are not going to be
25 at the same location so --

1 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: But if you have four of
2 us all doing it at different places, you're going to
3 limit who you can -- where you can go. I mean, based on
4 the number -- if we weren't trying to have at least
5 people at each subcommittee meeting, if we schedule
6 those, there's only a certain amount of Democrats,
7 Republicans, and others that can physically go to these
8 meetings.

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. If there's no interest
10 in trying to get things going fast then let's go ahead
11 and take time out to plan it out well, and proceed it
12 that way.

13 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Well, I am interested in
14 seeing it start. So, there has to be a way we can do
15 this. I don't know if it's just giving ourselves a very
16 short time frame, like until we come back next week, at
17 least on Monday or Tuesday make a couple of calls and see
18 if there's interest in an area that you can identify, are
19 they even willing to talk to you?

20 At least we could come back next week of some
21 sense of what the mood is out there in these venues that
22 we want to approach.

23 The time is just going to keep -- you know, the
24 clock is going to keep ticking. So, please, could we
25 find some way to get started.

1 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, I had suggested before that
2 we are going to have to deal with the Voting Rights Act
3 areas first, counties first, so it might behoove us to
4 get the input from those areas first, just as a
5 suggestion. I mean, we know we're going to have to deal
6 with that independent of whatever outreach plan we can
7 come up with we have to deal with those counties.

8 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: I'm just trying to think
9 about where -- I'm just trying to think about the best
10 place to start, because we mentioned populous areas, but
11 then we had mentioned the Section Five, you know, just
12 for counties, and whether we should go back to that idea,
13 because that's where we're going to need pre-clearance.
14 And so, the sooner we start on the Section Five counties,
15 the better.

16 I've just been trying to think about it.

17 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Commissioner Blanco, and
18 those are three -- three counties, I believe, right?

19 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Four.

20 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Four of them. What are
21 they?

22 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Merced, King, Monterey, and
23 Yuba.

24 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Yuba. That's all in
25 Commissioner -- your areas, right?

1 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: No, Monterey. And Yuba
2 will be -- I'm in the Central Valley.

3 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: I see.

4 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Okay. What if four of us
5 take responsibility for each contacting wherever in those
6 counties, at least we'll start somewhere.

7 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: And like you were trying to
8 get straight, what we're asking for is do you have
9 facilities that can accommodate and what's the number,
10 ball park? A hundred? An audience of a hundred?

11 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Well, we can give them a
12 maximum number, maybe a hundred.

13 CHAIRMAN YAO: I would imagine a hundred would be
14 the max.

15 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: A hundred max. And that
16 can -- that's located in a central part of the county,
17 ADA accessible, enough equipment so that there can be
18 mikes. And if we're only doing audio, that we can set up
19 audio equipment. And that's kind of it, right?

20 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Right. But it would help
21 me if it was in writing so I could fax it to whomever was
22 going to be responsible.

23 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Oh, yeah, I agree.

24 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Right.

25 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: I'm just trying to nail it

1 down here for us that those are really like how many
2 people it will hold, you know, ADA accessible, microphone
3 setup, audio/visual -- I don't know if visual. Audio,
4 you know, capacity. And for -- and I was going to say
5 and the other thing we haven't discussed is translation.
6 And you bet in those four counties you're going to want
7 it, so we have to.

8 Now, that might be that's something we have to --
9 but we might have to find the translator, but we have to
10 make sure that they have the ability to have enough mikes
11 so that it's not just us, but the audience and a
12 translator.

13 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Let me ask a naïve question.
14 So, are we going to also assume that -- and we're not
15 going to pay for a thing?

16 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: I don't think you can make
17 that assumption.

18 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: No, we may have to rent a
19 facility. I mean, you know, in some place it might be --
20 we might be lucky and there's a community foundation, you
21 know, or there might be a community center, but in some
22 places we might have to -- I think we might have to agree
23 that we're willing to pay up to X amount.

24 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: So, our contact would have
25 to follow up with -- we need some sense of a budget of

1 what that would cost?

2 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Yeah. Yeah, and I don't
3 know if we have a set budget or we sort of have a case-
4 by-case budget.

5 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Yeah, and would that
6 include --

7 CHAIRMAN YAO: Mr. Barabba?

8 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: I'd be happy to volunteer
9 to see if I could do it for Monterey County. And I think
10 one of the things I would do is once I made the contacts
11 there I would then bring our Executive Director in to
12 finalize the arrangements.

13 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Yeah, we would need to make
14 that clear from the very beginning what the cost would be
15 for the Commission. And does it include mundane stuff
16 like liability insurance and things of that nature?

17 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: I'd be happy to do
18 the same for Merced County.

19 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, I think these are a lot of
20 things that staff can look into. We've talked before
21 about utilizing the UC system, CSU, and community
22 colleges, community centers. You know, I just think that
23 if we're going to -- I mean, this should not be something
24 individual Commissioners have to do, we just need to set
25 the guidelines and let staff do their job.

1 So, maybe we can just set these guidelines and be
2 clear. Do we want to have not only translation, but do
3 we want to deal with sign language? I mean, these are
4 just philosophically, again, what do we want to have
5 happen at these meetings.

6 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Right. I totally agree, so
7 if staff could give us a checklist or something we can
8 use, that will be very helpful.

9 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: I do think we're
10 in this transition time. I mean, Daniel's had all of how
11 many hours to adjust, and there are many things on his
12 plate right now. And so I, personally, would like him to
13 prioritize on getting support staff, and so I don't think
14 that in two months this will be my role, calling Merced
15 to arrange a meeting. But I'm definitely willing to
16 pitch in and just get the ball rolling.

17 COMMISSIONER RAYA: And I think it's important to
18 recognize that Commissioners may have personal
19 relationships in places, that's how Peter arranged
20 Claremont.

21 So, I don't think we should totally turn our
22 backs on making use of what Commissioners can do.

23 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: And I'll volunteer to kind
24 of blaze the trail in Ventura County. That's about a
25 million people in the county, itself, pretty compact. My

1 contacts are probably we could probably get Cal State
2 Channel Islands, and/or -- or the Ventura County
3 Superintendent of Schools Office that have all of this in
4 place. It's just a question of what costs might be
5 involved.

6 And it would also be good to have some kind of a
7 letter from the Commission that says that this is the
8 effort, this is the concept, and these are the
9 requirements that we're looking for.

10 We can start to rough it out at this point. And
11 I think the suggestion, I think by Peter, is an excellent
12 one, and buttressed by the comments by Jeanne that we
13 need to get the ball rolling because we're kind of
14 setting it up as we go.

15 I think if we do it a couple of times, in two,
16 three, four locations then we'll get it set. And then we
17 can look at longer-term scheduling because we'll know --
18 we'll have the package already. So, Ventura I could work
19 on for, if not February 19th, very soon thereafter.

20 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: The only -- as we're
21 listing the criteria, I really urge us that -- think
22 about accessibility, not just in terms of ADA, but to
23 communities. That it may be easier to hold it at a
24 college, but it may not be a place that people go to.

25 And I know when I did this, I didn't do it

1 personally, but I over -- sort of supervised some of this
2 at MALDEF ten years ago, a lot of the meetings -- and
3 that's, obviously, because it was a community
4 organization, but were held sort of in places -- what we
5 were really trying to find out was what were the
6 communities of interests that people -- so, you really
7 want those people to attend the meeting.

8 So, I think we have to be careful not to let
9 expediency override the fact that we want people
10 attending the meeting that we really need to hear from,
11 that we might not hear from otherwise every -- and every
12 ten years to do something like this.

13 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Yeah, and let me follow up
14 on that. I think each of us comes from different parts
15 of California that we're sensitive to where these
16 communities are. And I think it probably behooves each
17 of us to look at where these communities are and where
18 informal gathering should take place, rather than more
19 formal settings.

20 VICE CHAIR DAI: I just wanted to comment that
21 while I think we should certainly take advantage of the
22 networks that we all have, that's the reason we were
23 selected to be a diverse Commission, I just want to be a
24 little cautious about -- kind of to Commissioner Blanco's
25 point of getting caught up with expediency, and ending up

1 scheduling a lot of things because it's convenient,
2 because we have contact there, and then nobody shows up
3 to the meetings.

4 Because, you know, setting up the schedule is
5 great, and getting started on the meetings are great, but
6 if it's not accompanied with a good, you know, outreach
7 campaign to let people know that the meeting's happening
8 and it's going to be at this place, we really run the
9 risk of getting ahead of ourselves, and getting these
10 venues, and all the mikes set up and nobody knows about
11 it.

12 CHAIRMAN YAO: Daniel?

13 MR. CLAYPOOL: I'm wondering if we might not be
14 able to get both of the things we want, to get started
15 quickly, but at the same time not -- not exclude some of
16 the areas where people aren't -- aren't as informed.

17 And so what I'm thinking is there are certain
18 areas where you could plan your meetings, initially, that
19 are what you said, Mr. Chairman, the low-hanging fruit,
20 places where people are already informed.

21 So, you could go to places where you have
22 institutes, like the Center for Government, and start
23 having your meetings there while you hone your package,
24 and hone your message, and we get the outreach out to the
25 areas where we're less likely to get informed people

1 unless we do the outreach.

2 So, it might be an approach that you hit the
3 places you know and then go for the ones that you don't.

4 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I'm assuming this
5 discussion will come up or maybe we're moving towards it,
6 but kind of to tag team on the previous discussion, I
7 think it's also important that we don't put the cart
8 before the horse in the sense that we schedule a lot of
9 meetings that we don't have content to give, to present.

10 I think the educational aspect of these outreach
11 meetings, that Commissioner Aguirre had mentioned early
12 on, is a really -- is going to be an important part. As
13 well as, of course, the educational aspect, but also our
14 outreach to them, their outreach back to us.

15 But I'd like to hope that we could have something
16 very -- something that's pretty consistent, at least a
17 starting point that we could take -- if we're starting
18 meetings in February, it would be nice to have a similar
19 package that we could bring to each place so that we're
20 on the same page, and the public feels like each location
21 is giving -- given the same information and given an
22 opportunity to give it back in the same manner, too.

23 COMMISSIONER WARD: I think -- in thinking about
24 that, as well, and kind of listening to a lot of the
25 roads that are out here. I think it would help me to

1 define, again we talked about this a little bit earlier,
2 exactly what our vision is of this outreach meeting.

3 I've heard outreach awareness, you know, wave the
4 flag someone said, but that is a goal to educate, I've
5 heard mentioned as a goal, and to take testimony as a
6 goal.

7 Is there any other purposes that we want to make
8 sure we're encompassing at these outreach or off-site
9 visits?

10 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: The only comment I'd make
11 is on these first four that we talked about, they're
12 going to be very focused towards the Voting Rights Act,
13 and so that agenda may be set up quite different than the
14 general outreach.

15 And so, those first four might be a little bit
16 different than what you might expect elsewhere.

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: Let me just sort of get your
18 input. Do you think we'll have this, whatever we want to
19 call it, package, this outreach package put together,
20 let's say, within a couple of weeks?

21 If you don't think we would get that done then,
22 clearly, we're putting the cart before the horse.

23 I am making the assumption that we're going to be
24 there within a couple of weeks, okay, and we're basically
25 trying to line up the meeting along with all the

1 decisions that we will make, and everything will be lined
2 up and ready to go.

3 But if that assumption or that wishful thinking
4 isn't realistic, maybe I am rushing it excessively.

5 COMMISSIONER WARD: I know that -- I mean, I
6 agree with you, I talked to our Executive Director during
7 lunch just to get a time frame for the communications
8 director. Because I think, again, we have to have
9 maximum impact, you know, when we take the time to go and
10 do these visits. And I think having a communications
11 director in place is paramount, at least two of our top
12 priorities with these meetings.

13 And so, although identifying potential locations
14 seems to make sense, it just seems to me that having a
15 targeted vision, and if we're going to go ahead and wait
16 for an algorithmic break down of how to I guess target
17 the State, and have as broad a net as possible then,
18 yeah, I mean, it seems like that data and those staff
19 positions would have to be in place and set up in
20 order -- before we start making decisions on where to go
21 and what to go.

22 Otherwise, we're -- we might be wasting
23 resources.

24 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah, I think it's aggressive.
25 I mean, it takes time for people to give notice at jobs.

1 Two weeks is very typical. We were very lucky with the
2 case of our Executive Director. You know, I think you
3 have to let the staff have some start-up time, and
4 onboard people, and get people in place. So, I think two
5 weeks is aggressive.

6 Do I think we can get started in February? Yes.
7 It's probably going to be the last week, is my guess,
8 before we get everything together.

9 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Yeah, and for myself, in San
10 Diego County, I know we want to try to push this forward
11 as fast as we can, but my method would be to contact
12 various community groups to get a collaboration as to
13 where the best venue would be, rather than myself
14 independently picking a site.

15 COMMISSIONER RAYA: So, can -- what are we
16 exactly charged with doing from today's meeting? Are we
17 just waiting until we have a communications director? Is
18 there a way to make use of a two-person subcommittee to,
19 you know, kind of start pulling together some ideas that
20 could come back to the Commission on a packet, and so on,
21 that whole idea?

22 And then also, maybe, identify possible venues in
23 general, and bring that back to the --

24 VICE CHAIR DAI: I think we're --

25 COMMISSIONER RAYA: -- because then you don't

1 have to agendize it. Sorry.

2 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah, I mean I think Peter and I
3 talked about this before, we need to get to the point
4 where we actually do have agendas for the subcommittees,
5 you know, and tasks that we want them to work on with,
6 you know, deliverables, you know, and expected dates when
7 those things will happen.

8 So, I think we're -- I mean, we've started
9 discussing a lot of things. We started discussing what
10 the requirements are. For example, what is our
11 philosophy about dealing with, you know, translators,
12 sign language.

13 You know, again, back to -- I don't think we've
14 fully fleshed out what our vision is for what one of
15 these sessions would look like.

16 What is the framework for how we take input? You
17 know, do we have, as Dan said, a consultant at every
18 meeting? Do we need other staff at every meeting? I
19 mean --

20 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Okay. Well, that's kind of
21 what I'm asking. Could we charge two people, so that we
22 don't violate anything, have two people make up that list
23 that you're reciting now, something that we can actually
24 sit down and talk about and come to -- come to some
25 decisions.

1 Otherwise, it's a pretty drawn out process for
2 all of us to sit here and talk about it and we're not
3 moving forward.

4 And I apologize, you know, I even said this in my
5 interview that patience is not one of my virtues. But,
6 you know, I feel a little frustrated that I think there
7 has to be a way we can move forward, it's just going to
8 take some flexibility.

9 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Are we saying that the
10 first hearing would be at the end of February? Is that
11 what we're -- this February date is that we're kicking
12 around?

13 CHAIRMAN YAO: Well, first of all you have to
14 agendize the meeting 14 days in advance. All right. So,
15 if we don't agendize anything until the end of this
16 month, the first meeting can't happen until the middle of
17 February.

18 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: No, no, no, I understand
19 that. I'm just trying to get clarification, when we say
20 the meeting in February, we're talking about our first
21 public meeting?

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: The first public meeting of this
23 Commission is scheduled for the 9th of February.

24 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: I'm talking about the
25 community meetings, the outreach meetings. Are we --

1 have we been talking about trying to do that in February?

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: Again, my thinking is in terms of
3 the "outreach meetings" we only have February, March,
4 perhaps April to get all that done. So, if we do not do
5 anything in February, then basically we only have March
6 and April to complete the -- whatever number of meetings,
7 50 meetings.

8 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Correct.

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: And we can certainly do that, but
10 then we also have the option of getting going, learn from
11 our mistakes, if any, and then tailor the process meeting
12 by meeting until we get it right.

13 There's absolutely nothing that keeps us from
14 going back to the site of the first meeting if we feel
15 that the first meeting didn't achieve everything that we
16 decided that we want to obtain from subsequent lessons.

17 So, the tradeoff is whether we want to take
18 advantage of the schedule in the month of February or
19 whether we want to take time out and plan everything out
20 in great detail, have all the answers, be consistent, and
21 all the data points that we want to collect clearly
22 understood before we try to get some of these feedbacks.

23 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Could we -- do we have
24 continuing -- do we have an ability either today, or
25 tomorrow, to actually have a pretty in-depth discussion

1 about what the meeting -- what happens at those meetings
2 and what we need to have ahead of time?

3 CHAIRMAN YAO: That's what I'm hoping that we can
4 accomplish.

5 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Okay.

6 CHAIRMAN YAO: I really want to, not only putting
7 the framework of the Outreach Subcommittee, or outreach
8 activity in place, but also define the activity of the
9 outreach effort.

10 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Right. Because I think
11 we -- I mean, everybody's right, we're under the gun.
12 But there's some -- besides getting testimony, it seems
13 to me that there are some things that we need to be
14 prepared with before we go into some of these locations.

15 Like we should have data about population, income
16 levels, number of schools, where the schools are located,
17 you know, all those things. I mean, you don't want -- it
18 seems to me we want to have -- know a lot in a sense
19 about that community, so that the testimony that we
20 receive from the people in attendance isn't about giving
21 us facts that we could find on the internet.

22 But it's hearing their vision as to how they see
23 their community has changed, what things do they think
24 are essential to keep together for purposes of both
25 communities of interest and compactness.

1 So, I think in order to receive that testimony,
2 even understand what they're talking about we -- whoever
3 goes to that meeting has to have information ahead of
4 time about that community.

5 So, that was my question about the timing is that
6 there's work that has to be done, and I don't know who
7 does it, that's very fact gathering and that we have
8 under our belt before we even get there.

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay. Let me have Mr. Claypool
10 speak, he's been --

11 MR. CLAYPOOL: The only thing I would add to this
12 is understanding everyone's frustration about not knowing
13 which way to move. This is, I think, very much what your
14 consultant in this field is going to offer you, that most
15 of the things that you are asking right now, that
16 consultant, whoever that group is, will -- these are
17 going to be things that they know. That they're going to
18 say, well, of course, you do this first and you do that.

19 I would say that if there was one thing that was
20 as important as your communications director right now,
21 it's getting in line to find out who's going to provide
22 those types of services to you. Getting that request for
23 proposal out, getting their information back.

24 That's something that you can look at, you can
25 compare their services, you can decide what you want, and

1 then we can get moving on the recommendations that
2 they're going to make, because they're going to have a
3 coherent plan.

4 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: So, is that something
5 that we need to put on an agenda, or not necessarily an
6 agenda. But do we -- have we put anything out, yet, in
7 terms of trying to get some of these consultants?

8 Because, again, if we're looking at, what,
9 another week of us meeting in January and then February,
10 we need to get the request out there for people to submit
11 their interest, interview or look at people, hire them,
12 and then get them on board, we're talking --

13 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think part of the discussion
14 tomorrow is to authorize the Executive Director to make
15 those decisions. And, again, we're a little bit ahead of
16 that discussion at this point in time.

17 But we will have a discussion and we will have a
18 proposal, and I think we -- my vision is to have the
19 organization totally in place before we break in January.

20 In other words this -- today, tomorrow, plus the
21 next three days we should be fully addressed the
22 staffing, organizational issues and make significant
23 progress in that area.

24 As far as the data and the question that we need
25 to ask in the outreach, I think as soon as the staffing

1 or the consulting contracts are in place, I think those
2 datas will be readily available.

3 Again, because we haven't discussed it, it's
4 strictly an assumption on my part at this point in time.
5 But on my -- on our current agenda is really to go
6 through all those steps.

7 I'm not sure I'm giving you a level of
8 confidence.

9 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: Oh, yeah, I'm just
10 thinking. I just didn't know if it had been put out yet,
11 if we were even moving.

12 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Let's -- does anybody
13 need a break at this point? No.

14 Okay. We can continue to discuss the outreach
15 and/or I can jump on the next item, which is the
16 scheduling of our next meeting, the February meeting in
17 the City of Claremont, if you want me to go into that.

18 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: I would suggest
19 maybe we come back to the outreach tomorrow morning and
20 that also would give the public a chance. I know there's
21 many interested parties who might have thoughts they'd
22 like to introduce.

23 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Good idea. Good idea.

24 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Can I make one
25 clarification for the record is that we not call the

1 Section 5 counties the Voting Rights Act counties,
2 because all our counties are Voting Rights Act counties,
3 and those are Section 5 counties.

4 But everything we deal with is a Voting Rights
5 Act county.

6 CHAIRMAN YAO: So, the official name is Voting
7 Rights Act and not the other one.

8 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: No, Section 5.

9 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Yes? Okay.

10 MR. RICKARDS: No, no, I just wanted to be
11 sure -- the Section 5 works fine. Those are the pre-
12 clearance counties, those are the Section 5 counties.
13 Everybody is a Voting Rights Act county.

14 But the State doesn't have to pre-clear and none
15 of the other counties have to pre-clear. But when we get
16 to discussing pre-clearance let me know and I'll --
17 because as I had mentioned before, the Attorney General
18 is willing to do the pre-clearance. They did the pre-
19 clearance for the maps and they did the pre-clearance the
20 last time it was done.

21 That's, again, absolutely your decision. And
22 there are people you could hire who are experts in pre-
23 clearance. But I just mentioned the Attorney General
24 because my guess is they'll be a little cheaper.

25 CHAIRMAN YAO: Can you give us an idea at what

1 point in our effort do we have to start worrying about
2 it, the pre-clearance?

3 MR. RICKARDS: Really, you need to -- you need to
4 worry about it right from the get go.

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: Right from the beginning, okay.

6 MR. RICKARDS: I think it would be good to have
7 the person, persons involved in pre-clearance sort of on
8 board as early as possible. It can be nothing more than
9 a boring process or -- it is that, always, unless it's
10 contentious. But the earlier the person is on board, the
11 better, and they can advise you.

12 And I don't say this out of a great personal
13 experience with pre-clearance, but when I talk to
14 everybody involved in pre-clearance, and since I knew it
15 was done before, I contacted the AG's Office, and they're
16 willing to do it, and they sort of assume they're going
17 to do it.

18 So, if you want to go a different direction, we
19 should let them know.

20 CHAIRMAN YAO: Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: So, Cy, that's not a hired
22 position, is it? Or a compensated position?

23 MR. RICKARDS: You know, if we use the AG, we'll
24 have to -- I'm not sure how we have to pay them, but we
25 don't have to hire anybody and we don't have to let a

1 contract with everybody. Essentially, the AG is the
2 State's lawyer, unless you have statutory authority to
3 hire your own lawyer, which we do for house counsel.

4 If we get involved in litigation and we wanted
5 to, for example, hire outside counsel, we'd have to get
6 the AG's permission.

7 But they bill on an hourly basis and I can assure
8 you that there's nobody in private practice who bills on
9 that basis. We always laughed because it looked to us
10 like paralegals from outside firms were billing at a
11 higher rate than we were billing as lawyers, so that
12 gives you some idea.

13 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: You know, I think we should
14 use them for the -- I mean, Section 5 pre-clearance is
15 paperwork, basically, in some ways.

16 What we have to do in terms of treating the
17 counties differently because they're Section 5 is not
18 what we need somebody to hire to do, specifically.
19 Whoever we hire to help us with all of our work can also
20 cover the area of the counties, the Section 5 counties.

21 But what the Secretary of State would do is do
22 the pre-clearance with the DOJ in DC, which is what has
23 to happen. Yeah, it has to be cleared.

24 Actually, it has to be cleared with the Voting
25 Rights Division of the Department of Justice, and it's

1 paperwork that has to happen.

2 MR. RICKARDS: Right.

3 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: But that's something that
4 really we could just have the Secretary of State do. But
5 I think we're talking about that we need somebody on
6 board quick that can, you know, deal with what we were
7 talking about, how to structure these meetings, how to,
8 you know --

9 MR. RICKARDS: Yeah, if you like, when -- and I'm
10 getting ahead of myself, but we have to do a revised
11 agenda fairly soon. So, maybe before we leave today or
12 certainly before we leave tomorrow, let me just go
13 through a little laundry list and be sure I have -- be
14 sure I know what you think we want to do in the next
15 meetings.

16 And maybe one of the things we could do, sometime
17 fairly soon, is have the Ag come and talk to us about
18 pre-clearance, and then you could ask questions. And
19 they could tell you what the difference is between just a
20 standard issue pre-clearance that we do routinely here
21 for all laws that affect, for example, the Elections
22 Code, or elections, and what they do when the
23 redistricting happens every ten years.

24 So, we could just put that on.

25 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Yeah. No. Yeah, I mean it

1 happens. They have to do it all the time, even between
2 redistricting. Like when you move a polling place in a
3 Section 5 county that has to be cleared by the DOJ
4 because it's a change in the voting practice.

5 So, they're used to doing it more than every ten
6 years.

7 MR. RICKARDS: Yeah.

8 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: They deal with it fairly
9 regularly.

10 MR. RICKARDS: Right. And we do our own pre-
11 clearance for -- is usually is just very routine. But
12 this is not a routine endeavor.

13 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Right.

14 CHAIRMAN YAO: Last Thursday/Friday, the
15 Commission tasked me to looking into the City of
16 Claremont as a potential location for the February
17 meeting site.

18 I have since talked to the CEO of the Claremont
19 Colleges and laid out to him our requirements and
20 expressed to him what we need.

21 What I expressed to him is that on the 9th, 10th
22 and 11th, those are absolute days that we would meet, but
23 there also is a chance that we would extend into Saturday
24 and Sunday following the 11th.

25 And then I further laid on him the second half of

1 the February meeting. I don't have a calendar in front
2 of me, the 25th, 26th, 27th, I think those are the right
3 dates, and again going into the -- into the following
4 weekends.

5 And I asked him to have a facility that's wide
6 enough for all of us to be sitting similar to the layout
7 that we have, microphones, live video feed that can
8 connect to the internet. Enough microphones for public
9 participation, for staff, as well as an auxiliary meeting
10 room where we can hold closed sessions.

11 And we -- I approached him saying that we'd like
12 for them to pick up all the costs that they incur in the
13 process of accommodating us.

14 And the feedback I have is that, yes, they have
15 three sites within Claremont Colleges that can
16 accommodate what we're interested in. They will make
17 those sites -- one of those sites available to us free of
18 charge.

19 They will have parking facility not only for
20 the -- for us, but for audience that may come and join
21 us. They would have facility to entertain the
22 anticipated media during the first day or half-a-day of
23 meeting that we would have in Southern California.

24 Let's see, what else? They also offered to
25 provide food, and on and on, but I suggest to him that

1 that's not what we're asking for, and that probably would
2 not be necessary.

3 They would have adequate security to deal with
4 having a high profile group in town, in a small town.

5 So, across the board they gave me a green light
6 in terms of being able to host a meeting in the City of
7 Claremont.

8 And knowing that there are concerns about some of
9 the special interests groups in town, I also laid on him
10 a set of ground rules saying that none of those can be
11 discussed, or highlighted, or bring into our discussion
12 in any point in time.

13 So, all those conditions were accepted.

14 So, the decision is really rests with us as to
15 whether we want to hold a meeting off-site or not.

16 I think the understanding from last week is that
17 the default location is back here, in Sacramento, if we
18 do not want to host -- go off-site, specifically in the
19 City of Claremont, we basically can continue holding the
20 meeting here, in Sacramento.

21 So, it's at this point in time up to us to decide
22 as to whether we want to go off-site to the City of
23 Claremont for the February meeting.

24 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Can you remind me, the
25 closest airport there would be in Ontario, right, and how

1 close is that?

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: The Ontario airport is about ten
3 minutes away from the City of Claremont. And I have made
4 arrangements both with the hotel there, which is a
5 Doubletree Hotel, that will have rooms for us at the \$84
6 stay rate. Plus, they will provide us transportation
7 back and forth from the airport at no cost.

8 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: So, Peter, is there a
9 station there?

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: There is a Metro Link stop right
11 in the City of Claremont. So, from the Metro Link
12 station you can walk to the colleges and the hotel will
13 provide shuttle service from the Metro Link station to
14 the hotel.

15 And the hotel is within walking distance to
16 the -- to the colleges, but the walk is very similar to
17 the walk from Holiday Inn to this facility. It's longer
18 than an average stroll.

19 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: So, Peter, the dates again
20 is February what, what, what?

21 CHAIRMAN YAO: Do you have the dates?

22 VICE CHAIR DAI: The 9th, 10th, 11, with the
23 possibly of the 12th and 13th.

24 CHAIRMAN YAO: We decided last week the meeting
25 shall start on the 9th, which is a Wednesday, 9:30. And

1 for sure we will go through Friday, the 11th, and as
2 necessary we'll work the 12th and the 13th.

3 And I think we plan to agendize the meeting
4 starting on the 9th and running all the way through until
5 the end of the month, so we have option of continuing the
6 meeting even following the Sunday. In other words, going
7 through the 13th, 14th, 15th and on.

8 Part of the demand on them is our flexible
9 schedule. And for sure we're going to meet again on the
10 23rd, 24th, and 25th, which is a Wednesday, Thursday and
11 Friday, and again with the option of going through the
12 weekend.

13 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: And that's possibly at
14 Claremont again, or we haven't gotten to that point, yet?

15 CHAIRMAN YAO: We need to agendize the meeting on
16 the 9th on the 25th of January in order to meet the Bagley-
17 Keene, or the Voters First Act 14-days requirement.

18 And as long as we agendize the meeting for the
19 23rd -- let's say 14 days in advance, we're at liberty to
20 change it. And the college is fine with not hosting the
21 meeting on the 23rd. There was no condition that they
22 laid on us in terms of hosting the entire month of
23 February.

24 MS. MEJIA: But conversely, they may entertain
25 it?

1 CHAIRMAN YAO: They have committed to entertain
2 us for the entire duration in February.

3 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Right.

4 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: First of all, I'd like
5 to say thank you very much for doing that, to you and
6 Claremont Colleges. I know that's not an easy task to
7 throw that in there. So, thank you very much,
8 Commissioner Yao, for doing that.

9 I very much like the idea of doing that meeting
10 on the 9th, there in Claremont.

11 I'm also interested, as you had mentioned earlier
12 as well, too, as maybe looking into even another site for
13 later in the month, just to see if anyone else has the
14 contacts or any ideas about moving it to another
15 location. Just because I think you were under such a
16 tight deadline to try and find out about Claremont, if
17 anyone else has contacts for the later in February and
18 maybe we can see if it's an option before we have to
19 agendize for later in that month.

20 And I think it's only because it would be nice to
21 continue to move our meetings around as much as we can to
22 try and reach as much of the public, but knowing that
23 Claremont has graciously offered to continue in Southern
24 California, if we'd like to.

25 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah, and I think there's no

1 reason that we can't amend our agenda at the first
2 meeting, as long as we allow 14 days.

3 There were also some discussions about security
4 and other items?

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: I asked Mr. Claypool to see if he
6 could provide us a general set of guidelines that the
7 State may have onto both the campus, and also the City,
8 so they can at the minimum meet those guidelines.

9 In the absence of that, they are very well
10 qualified to handle it the way they see fit. They have
11 had both Clintons in town, they have hosted a number of
12 dignitaries on campus as guest speakers, and so on.

13 So, they're not excessively worrying about it so
14 to speak, but I wanted to basically make sure that we
15 discussed that in light of the recent experience in
16 Tucson.

17 I do not want them to be accused of negligence or
18 less than prudent when it -- if something unfortunate
19 does happen. And so, that was brought up as a discussion
20 point.

21 Again, I received a commitment from both the
22 colleges and from the City to meet those requirements to
23 provide a secure environment for us.

24 VICE CHAIR DAI: That's great. And I may have
25 missed this, but did you ascertain that we have the

1 necessary facilities for the video live streaming?

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: In fact, there will be one
3 microphone for each individual Commissioners, and there
4 will be adequate microphone for staff and public inputs.

5 And the seating, I put down 150 is the
6 requirement I laid on them, but if we want it to be a
7 larger facility, a larger seating capacity, they can
8 honor that as well. Easily meet up to 300, if my
9 recollection is correct, from my conversation with them.

10 VICE CHAIR DAI: I didn't mean mikes, I mean
11 video streaming?

12 CHAIRMAN YAO: They have committed to meeting any
13 and all requirements that we have in terms of providing
14 live streaming onto our internet site. And between now
15 and then they'll -- they have committed to make that
16 happen.

17 VICE CHAIR DAI: I think that's fantastic, Peter.
18 I think the one last thing that we might want to address
19 as a Commission is whether we want to have, like I said,
20 translators or signers at full Commission meetings. Do
21 we have any thoughts it may or may not be necessary in
22 the City of Claremont, that we might want to have some --

23 CHAIRMAN YAO: With this being a general meeting,
24 similar to the meeting that we have now, I don't know
25 whether we should change our standard in terms of

1 providing translators, and so on, and so forth.

2 It's up to this group to decide, but I did not
3 perceive that as anything other than a continuation of
4 the meeting that we have now, except at an off-site
5 location.

6 This is not meant, at this point in time, to be
7 an outreach type of meeting. In light of the subject
8 that we just finished discussing, we may want to take
9 advantage of it and couple an outreach activity as part
10 of this meeting just to test the water, so to speak, or
11 try out things that we want to experiment with. So, we
12 can certainly add that to it.

13 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: So, could we charge Dan to
14 look into what it would cost or find out for us what a
15 consultant would be to provide hearing impaired services,
16 language services at this event? Can you put that on
17 your checklist?

18 COMMISSIONER WARD: From what the Chairman just
19 mentioned, though, I thought we just -- didn't we just
20 talk about not agreeing to --

21 VICE CHAIR DAI: Just because we haven't done it
22 in the past doesn't mean we shouldn't. That's what I
23 wanted to discuss as a Commission, whether we think
24 that's important or not.

25 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: We have a way for the --

1 when we notice meetings isn't there -- I'm trying to
2 remember exactly what's on our agendas. There is
3 something that says if you do need accommodations, and
4 maybe we could be specific about those accommodations,
5 translators, those for hearing impaired, or whatever else
6 we think, so that way we can get people -- we don't want
7 to assume and make -- and incur the cost if we don't need
8 to, but maybe there's part of our publicity and outreach,
9 as well as our agenda posting can include those who need
10 that to notice us beforehand.

11 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: And now I think that we
12 need some flexibility for when we have a meeting in a
13 Section 5 area like translation may be required.

14 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Necessary.

15 VICE CHAIR DAI: Required, yeah. I think some of
16 these -- yeah, you're right.

17 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: I'd be happy to
18 investigate in Oakland for the latter February meeting or
19 a future meeting in March.

20 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. I would welcome a
21 decision from this Commission, maybe by a vote, as to
22 whether we would either -- maybe I would propose saying
23 we definitely will have the first part of the meeting in
24 the City of Claremont, with the option of continuing all
25 the way through the end of the month, so that I can go

1 back and continue the planning process for this to
2 happen.

3 VICE CHAIR DAI: So moved.

4 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Second.

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: Dan?

6 MR. CLAYPOOL: I just want just some
7 clarification. When we were talking about looking for
8 those costs, are we talking about for Claremont, or are
9 we talking about for outreach, or are we talking about
10 for everything? I mean, what --

11 CHAIRMAN YAO: What I asked the CEO to do is to
12 track all the costs he incurred in hosting this -- this
13 meeting for us, and he will share those information with
14 us. And he basically have commit to me that he will pick
15 up any of the costs that we would ask him to pick up.

16 But my conversation with him was that it is not
17 my goal to save money in this particular meeting but,
18 rather, setting up a sustainable process so that we can
19 use it over and over again, as we reach into the other
20 communities.

21 So, if we don't want him to pick up, for example,
22 let's say the video process, then we can let him know or
23 else we can make that decision after the fact, or we can
24 do anything else that we want.

25 But at this point in time none of those are

1 conditions of the colleges holding this meeting for us,
2 hosting this meeting for us.

3 MR. CLAYPOOL: I apologize. What I was referring
4 to was for the hearing impaired and the --

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: That was not discussed with him
6 and --

7 MR. CLAYPOOL: Oh, okay. But I was thinking of
8 what Commissioner Ontai had asked me, to look for costs
9 for that. And I wanted to know am I looking for the
10 costs specific to Claremont for someone to come in and do
11 that or am I looking for costs for everything?

12 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Well, both, Dan, I think it
13 would be both.

14 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: I think it would be both
15 and then we would, hopefully, be able to go back to
16 Claremont and say can you pick up those costs.

17 In other words if we decide, which is the next --
18 which is the next discussion, that we need translation
19 services for both linguistic and also sign, and that we
20 need -- what was the other thing? Were those the two?

21 You know, then I think we have to figure out in
22 general what that costs for all our -- all our meetings,
23 both these and outreach, and then we would want to see if
24 Claremont would pick up those costs.

25 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay. I can ask about the sign

1 language. In terms of translation, what languages are we
2 thinking of?

3 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Well, so one of the things,
4 it seems to me if we want to move on to that
5 conversation, and I'm not -- I'm not sure, I think we
6 need some legal advice on this. I know that if you're a
7 State agency that provides a service, and your population
8 exceeds a certain percentage of a linguistic minority
9 that's mono-lingual, you have to provide services, public
10 services in that language.

11 And you can do it -- you know, there's a lot of
12 ways to do that, pamphlets, this, that, whatever.

13 So, I'm not sure, number one, whether that
14 applies to a Commission meeting. I mean, we are a
15 State -- right now this is a State, you know, meeting.

16 I don't know whether the -- it's the Dimely-
17 Alatorri. I don't know whether that applies to something
18 like this. It's really, usually, directed at services.
19 You know, health, 911, anybody who has public contact in
20 a county that exceeds a certain percentage of a
21 linguistic minority.

22 I don't know if we're this entity and what the
23 business we transact falls under the Dimely-Alatorri. If
24 it does, then we don't have an option of providing
25 translation in whatever language falls under those -- I

1 can't remember, it's a percentage, and I don't remember
2 right now what it is.

3 And it may not be that -- that that has to -- I
4 mean, there are people who are experts on this. I don't
5 know what it is.

6 Like if we're in Claremont, I don't know if it's
7 a county-wide population that you look at, or the City of
8 Claremont, you know. Or because we're doing statewide
9 work, you know, but I think we need to -- we need to get
10 a handle on whether it's not a -- whether it's a
11 requirement and not a choice.

12 And I don't know at all the issues around
13 disability and hearing impaired.

14 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay. I have not given any of
15 those areas any thought up to this point in time.
16 Basically, I looked at what we have done in the month of
17 December.

18 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Right.

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: In the month of January and maybe
20 all the previous meetings for the past two years, and I'm
21 basically trying to follow the same set of guidelines.

22 The only difference is instead of hosting those
23 meetings in Sacramento, we're hosting it at an outside
24 location. I guess I would need some input.

25 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Correct. And it's --

1 CHAIRMAN YAO: As I said, I'll be happy to ask,
2 if you want me to ask.

3 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Right. I think the
4 question for us is just because we didn't do it, as you
5 pointed out, doesn't mean maybe we should have been doing
6 that. I don't know.

7 So, I think we need some kind of legal opinion
8 about whether this meeting falls no matter where it's
9 held, or only if it's held in particular places, whether
10 we're covered by the Dimely-Alatorri Act on language.

11 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: And I would also add that we
12 may have to consider the full scope of ADA requirements.

13 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Yes, right.

14 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: That is a civil rights
15 issue.

16 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: That's right.

17 COMMISSIONER RAYA: I opened it up. It's five
18 percent, who comprise five percent or more of the people
19 served by any local office or facility of a State agency.
20 And the State agencies are those that are defined in
21 section 11000. Since we never existed before, I don't
22 know. We have to go to that, now, and look it up.

23 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: And I think we should.
24 Just because it's not explicitly laid out in section
25 whatever of the Code, doesn't mean that the spirit of the

1 Code doesn't cover us.

2 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Right.

3 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: The five percent could
4 be really tricky in some counties, that would cover
5 about, you know, tens, twenties, thirty different type of
6 languages, depending on which county we're in, I would
7 imagine.

8 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Well, it's also what -- do
9 you interpret local office as wherever we hold the
10 meeting, is that our local office?

11 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: That's what I mean, that's
12 what I'd like to get a legal opinion on.

13 MR. RICKARDS: Specifically, 11000 of the
14 Governance Code?

15 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Yeah. Yes.

16 MR. RICKARDS: Okay. We're obviously,
17 specifically in the 8000 area. But let me take a look at
18 what 11000 is, because I don't know it right off the top
19 of my head, and get back to you on that issue.

20 VICE CHAIR DAI: I mean, I also feel
21 philosophically, you know, we should just -- regardless
22 of what the law says, you know, are we trying to increase
23 transparency and access, and can we do it with
24 volunteers? I mean, obviously, for some meetings it may
25 not be necessary.

1 So, you know, we might want to just think about,
2 from a policy stand point, what we're looking for.

3 MR. RICKARDS: You know, we could add that,
4 another thing, we could proactively provide it or we
5 could add that to the announcement we have about disabled
6 facilities. If you need this, language assistance,
7 something like that, that's a way to do it.

8 That's obviously a -- that's a policy choice, up
9 to you, but those are two options.

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: I guess staff needs to help me to
11 properly ask that question. Once the discussion is
12 translated, how do you distribute that translation? Does
13 that mean a separate set of microphones, earphones, or
14 what? Separate rooms, separate -- I guess I really
15 don't, at this point in time sitting here, I don't know
16 how to ask that question. If we're just simply talking
17 about translating it so that the tape is available,
18 that's one thing.

19 But translating it live, that's another set of
20 issues, so I need some help.

21 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: I can say a little
22 bit about local planning efforts that I've been involved
23 with. So, some of our community meetings, for example in
24 Richmond, California, we have as many as four languages,
25 and we would be doing community workshops around

1 transportation or land use policy.

2 And so we would have translators, members of the
3 audience would be able to have headsets. And so, in each
4 of the different languages you'd have a translator, or
5 sometimes two, depending on the length of the meeting,
6 they might tag-team to be able to give each person a
7 break in between.

8 So, people in the audience are able to hear in
9 the language -- hear the simultaneous translation in the
10 language of their choice. And then there is a translator
11 available to be able to help them make comment, if they
12 choose to make comment.

13 So, I would anticipate that the goal is for
14 people to be able to not just hear the meeting
15 afterwards, but to be able to, if they wanted to, come
16 give public comment. So, that would be more of the
17 spirit of what we'd want to try to accomplish.

18 CHAIRMAN YAO: Let's see, that set of requirement
19 applies whether we have a meeting in this room or whether
20 we have a meeting off-site, is that correct?

21 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: That's what we need to find
22 out, yeah.

23 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay. And I don't know whether we
24 have adequate time to address all those newly raised
25 issues.

1 In terms of would the Commission be interested in
2 providing those services if, by chance, we decided that
3 we must have them, as compared to ask and then if we get
4 a less than satisfactory answer, then we essentially have
5 to bail and default the meeting back to Sacramento.

6 I guess it's one of these things that we're going
7 to have to incur the cost if we decided that we need it
8 right here, in this room.

9 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah, I don't see why the
10 location would make a difference.

11 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: We should incur the costs.

12 COMMISSIONER WARD: I think what I hear Peter
13 asking is this is a show stopper? In other words, if we
14 can't meet in Claremont, then we wouldn't be able to meet
15 here, either, without these services being in place.

16 Obviously, the meetings to date have taken place
17 and been effective, there's been no overwhelming public
18 comments that we haven't been -- accessible to anybody,
19 or at least none that we've received, or at least that
20 I've received.

21 So, so far we've been able to at least do our
22 work and without critique, you know, that we're leaving
23 anyone behind at this point.

24 I agree that in outreach and things like that,
25 that's a separate issue. But at this point are we going

1 to say that we can't go off-site or we can't continue
2 business without these things being in place, without a
3 legal read, with all these kinds of things?

4 I would argue that that's not the case, you know,
5 that we can continue to move forward.

6 And when we get consultants on staff, these
7 people are going to have protocol lists that have been
8 used for, you know, off-site meetings, and testimony,
9 off-site testimony meetings and things like that, that
10 are going to address, I think, all of these issues and
11 they're going to be able to come to us and make a
12 presentation recommendation, and we can then yay/nay or
13 adjust those recommendations as we see fit for each area
14 that we visit.

15 But it seems like in my opinion, only, we might
16 be a little bit in the weeds as far as what we need to be
17 discussing at this point, with that.

18 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Commissioner Yao,
19 would it be possible for you to just do a little bit of
20 research to determine if, you know, we have the system in
21 place regarding the five business days notice for any
22 kind of accommodation.

23 I don't know to what extent the language that's
24 in our agendas is dictated by law, or if we could finesse
25 it to be able to, you know, elaborate more about what

1 types of access, language access, et cetera, we might be
2 able to provide.

3 And as long as we know that there is a firm, or a
4 consultant, or volunteers that could be on call if five
5 days before the meeting we get word that that's a
6 priority, or we get a ruling that it is.

7 That way we have the flexibility and option. It
8 would not to prevent us from going to Claremont. I think
9 it's just another consideration.

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: Yeah. I have no qualm in terms of
11 asking, that's the easy part. And I don't think the cost
12 will really be the issue.

13 Some of the uncertainty I have at this point in
14 time is how many languages, okay. And without knowing
15 that, it's really put somebody on the spot in terms of
16 making a commitment and then later have to deal with it.

17 How many sets of microphones are we talking
18 about? How many different isolated area can we -- do we
19 have to broadcast to.

20 These are the type of time-sensitive questions,
21 as compared to cost-sensitive. I don't think cost is
22 going to be the driver.

23 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Just to -- we are in the
24 weeds, but just to give you and idea of the way it
25 usually works is that the translator -- the people that

1 need translation have a little -- they have their
2 headsets on and they have a little box, and then the
3 person that's doing the translation is somewhere where
4 they're speaking quietly, they don't interrupt.

5 And so, you don't have isolated areas anymore,
6 like you used to do in the old days in translation,
7 people can sit anywhere and they have their little
8 headset on, where they're hearing everything.

9 And when they want to speak they raise their
10 hand, and they say it, and the translator says it out
11 loud.

12 So, the cost is the translation, the person and
13 the headsets, that's the cost.

14 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: And this was an
15 example of where partnerships and outreach with different
16 local community organizations may come into play. I know
17 locally, in Oakland, a lot of the, you know, ethnic-
18 serving organizations we work with there, they have these
19 setups and they use them regularly.

20 And so, given their vested interest in the public
21 process we may be able to tap into those relationships
22 across the State.

23 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right.

24 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: I would offer a couple of
25 comments. One is that I think that philosophically and

1 keeping in the spirit of the effort for outreach, that we
2 should endeavor to provide translation services at both
3 these meetings and outreach meetings.

4 And the fact that we don't have an audience right
5 now I think is related to the fact that we're just
6 getting going.

7 And that as we publicize meetings going to
8 various areas and we publicize the outreach hearings that
9 we're going to be doing, I think that the level of
10 interest is going to kick up. And part of that kick up
11 is going to be related to organized community groups that
12 are very interested in this process.

13 And so, I think that for -- that I would like to
14 see that we have translation services.

15 The fact that we're moving fast on Claremont and
16 the fact that we may not be able to provide that there
17 should not keep us from meeting. However, as soon as
18 possible we should get these things in place.

19 So that -- and the other comment is that it's
20 good to call on volunteers to provide translation
21 services but, really, the quality of translation may not
22 be up to the task.

23 And so in that regard, you know, I come from a
24 city where we provide simultaneous translation in English
25 and Spanish of all city council meetings that we have,

1 and we had to go with somebody that was a certified
2 translator, who understood sometimes the very technical
3 language and very technical concepts that we were
4 being -- that we were discussing.

5 So, as we move forward in this and we're talking
6 about map drawing, and district lines, and incumbency,
7 and Voters Rights Act, and pre-clearance, and all of
8 these things, we need somebody that can not only
9 understand that, but has the language ability to
10 translate it technically and in a legally acceptable
11 manner, too.

12 COMMISSIONER RAYA: There are specific
13 requirements in the law, as well, that a qualified bi-
14 lingual person has been tested and certified by the State
15 Personnel Board, or some other testing authority approved
16 by the State Personnel Board, unless you're a local
17 agency and then you can determine what's qualified.

18 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: It seems like we all
19 agree that providing language services is something that
20 we value, something that we agree on.

21 I think it's something that if the costs were
22 incurred, we should assume that cost if it couldn't be
23 provided by the hosting agency.

24 It just seems like at this point it's more a
25 matter of trying to find a way to make sure we're aware

1 of those needs now, and then also having a mechanism in
2 the future to make sure that we're doing that.

3 But it seems to me that we all agree that
4 language is a big issue and something that we all think
5 should be provided.

6 CHAIRMAN ONTAI: Okay. And Commissioner Aguirre
7 can probably give us a list of qualified translators.

8 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: In fact, I would be
9 willing.

10 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: It seems that that
11 should be a question, too, that as we do our outreach in
12 our regions that we see if we can maybe start
13 accumulating a list of those translators, or agencies
14 that provide translation services, so that we can have
15 those accessible to us at a later date.

16 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Back to the first
17 meeting in February, I will ask. At what point do we
18 want -- how should we proceed is really the issue? I
19 don't know how long it will take for us to identify how
20 many languages we need to provide translation to.

21 Somebody has to take a look at the population of
22 influence in that area and make that determination. I
23 don't think the college is in the best position to
24 interpret that.

25 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: Well, we have a motion

1 on the floor to have the next meeting in Claremont.

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: Right.

3 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I think we've just
4 discussed, you know, a philosophy that would be ideal,
5 which may or may not happen in time for that meeting.

6 So, you know, in answer to the question of
7 whether it's as show stopper, I don't think that it is.

8 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right.

9 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: So, we can call the
10 question and just vote on the motion.

11 CHAIRMAN YAO: Let's do a roll call.

12 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Do you want to ask for
13 public comment?

14 CHAIRMAN YAO: Oh, I'm sorry. Thank you.
15 Anybody in the public interested in addressing the
16 Commission on the topic of moving the first meeting in
17 February to the City of Claremont, located in Los Angeles
18 County?

19 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: [Speaking Spanish]

20 CHAIRMAN YAO: Please come up to the mike,
21 please.

22 LILY: Hi, my name is Lily and I work in this
23 building.

24 I had a quick question about, because you guys
25 were talking about meeting times. Is your meeting time

1 flexible? I mean, like, will you always meet between
2 9:30 and 5:00 or will you be meeting at later times? And
3 this is for your general meeting and for your outreach
4 meetings.

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: Thank you. Anything else you want
6 to add?

7 LILY: That's it.

8 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay, thank you very much.

9 Seeing no one else, I'll close the public input
10 and move it back to the discussion.

11 Meeting time, anybody interested in considering a
12 different meeting time, other than the standard daytime
13 working hours?

14 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Well, I think we're all
15 interested in being as flexible as we need to be to
16 fulfill our obligations to be -- to be open to the
17 public. I don't -- I don't think it's anything that we
18 can set in stone, I think we have to deal with it as we
19 go on.

20 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: I would suggest
21 that for the -- as we look at the outreach meetings,
22 particularly, that I would hope we would have more of
23 those meetings also on evenings and weekends to allow for
24 a different cross-section of people to participate.

25 COMMISSIONER WARD: My thoughts are parallel with

1 that. I think with outreach meetings, you know, it would
2 be very appropriate to have those on off hours, or off
3 days, weekends, things like that.

4 But for standard business meetings, I think that
5 I'm -- I like the idea of doing them during traditional
6 business hours.

7 Certainly, there's enough ways to contact the
8 Commission, whether it be through e-mail, website, mail,
9 whatever the case may be, for agenda items that are
10 posted 14 days in advance. And it allows us maximum time
11 in that day to do business.

12 If we push those just standard Commission
13 meetings, not outreach meetings, to later hours and
14 things, I think it might short change the meeting or
15 short change the work product of that day.

16 COMMISSIONER FORBES: And we are somewhat
17 restricted by where we meet. In other words, this
18 building closes at 5:00, so we're sort of stuck. And I
19 know we've discussed meeting on the weekends but we can't
20 do that because of the building we're meeting in.

21 So, I mean I think we're -- we could be open to
22 that, but we are somewhat constrained by where we're
23 meeting.

24 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think, specifically, right now
25 we're talking about the first meeting in February, in

1 Claremont. Is there any interest in meeting at a
2 different hours than the hours that we set?

3 MR. RICKARDS: That would include the weekend
4 days as well.

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: The agenda, as we specified today,
6 and likely to continue, is that we meet every day
7 starting at 9:30 and trying to cap the meeting at around
8 5:00 p.m.

9 I think that is the way we have agendized all our
10 meetings in the month of January.

11 But if there's interest in modifying those hours,
12 we can certainly entertain that.

13 MR. RICKARDS: I just wanted to clarify for
14 purposes of the notice.

15 CHAIRMAN YAO: Right. The notice has yet gone
16 out for the meeting in February, but that's --
17 specifically, that's the consideration we're thinking
18 right now is the meeting in February.

19 But if you want to, we can open it up and discuss
20 hours in general, including the meeting right here.

21 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Well, I think for practical
22 purposes, weekdays tend to limit those people that are
23 working during the day. So, going beyond five o'clock
24 and having evening meetings would make sense.

25 On the weekend, however, I think more families

1 are available during the regular day hours.

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: Anyone interested in extending the
3 weekend hours? Specifically, again, for the February
4 meeting.

5 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Oh. Well, I'm not
6 interested. I mean, I think the hours that we have are
7 fine and I just think we should leave ourselves the
8 flexibility to adjust to wherever we go, because it's not
9 going to be the same for every meeting.

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. I think we have a
11 motion on the floor, it's been seconded.

12 Are we ready to do a roll call?

13 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Could you restate -- could
14 you restate the motion, please?

15 CHAIRMAN YAO: Cynthia, I think you were the one
16 that made the motion.

17 VICE CHAIR DAI: I think I said "so moved."

18 The motion was to have our meeting in February,
19 beginning on February 9th, in the City of Claremont,
20 through the courtesy of Claremont Colleges. And it
21 sounds like we'll stick to the 9:30 to 5:00 schedule, and
22 it will be agendized from the 9th through the 28th.

23 CHAIRMAN YAO: With the option of modifying
24 the --

25 VICE CHAIR DAI: With the option of modifying,

1 which we can do at any point in time.

2 MR. RICKARDS: And who seconded?

3 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: I'll second it.

4 VICE CHAIR DAI: It's been seconded.

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Let's do the roll
6 call, please.

7 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Aguirre?

8 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Yes.

9 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Barabba?

10 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Yes.

11 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Blanco?

12 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Yes.

13 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Dai?

14 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yes.

15 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Di Guilio?

16 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: Yes.

17 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Filkins Webber?

18 Commissioner Forbes?

19 COMMISSIONER FORBES: Yes.

20 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Galambos Malloy?

21 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Yes.

22 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Ontai?

23 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Aye.

24 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Parvenu?

25 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: Yes.

1 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Raya?

2 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Yes.

3 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Ward?

4 COMMISSIONER WARD: Yes.

5 MS. OSBORNE: Commissioner Yao?

6 CHAIRMAN YAO: Yes.

7 Toward the middle of next week I'll have a lot
8 more details for you, now that we can task both the
9 colleges and the city to plan out the event.

10 Thank you very much, the City of Claremont is
11 looking forward to having us in Southern California and I
12 trust that it will be a very successful meeting site.

13 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Can I just make a motion --
14 I mean, a statement about? Commissioner Aguirre just
15 spoke to us in fluent Spanish and I appreciate that, it's
16 a good, healthy reminder that some of us are Spanish
17 impaired.

18 [Laughter]

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. What item would you
20 like to entertain next?

21 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: Are we going to -- I
22 know Commissioner Galambos Malloy mentioned maybe looking
23 into Oakland for later in February. Are we going to go
24 with that for now, has that been assumed that we're doing
25 that?

1 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Any candidates for the
2 second half of the February meeting, meeting sites?

3 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: I'm also happy to
4 bump it to March. I mean, if we have a location that all
5 the kinks have been worked out, I'm not pushing for the
6 end of February, but I'm saying I could get Oakland in
7 the queue when we would like to change it.

8 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think this Commission is
9 interested in holding meetings at as many sites as
10 possible, so do not interpret that it's -- it would make
11 anybody uncomfortable to change sites in February.

12 So, I would -- I, for one, would probably support
13 the goal of having as many meetings at as many different
14 sites across California as possible.

15 So, if anybody is interested in initiating any
16 activity to make that happen, I guess let's discuss it
17 now so that we can task you to do so.

18 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: Well, I'm happy to
19 do the research for Oakland and I can report back when we
20 come back next week.

21 I wondered, also, do we want any principles
22 around how we think about the rotation? I think it's
23 working out nicely that we're going to Claremont, we come
24 to Oakland, do we want to aim to have a southern or
25 inland location for the next meeting?

1 COMMISSIONER FORBES: When we were picking the
2 final six, we did have a representative from Fresno come
3 and talk about how important it was that the San Joaquin
4 Valley be represented, so we might want to try to meet in
5 San Joaquin Valley.

6 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: And that was what I was
7 going to ask, was suggest that we do a Central Valley.
8 But I did want to ask the Commission, as opposed to maybe
9 a large city where you have some contacts, the Central
10 Valley, as you know, is very large.

11 So, if you had a preference, in the northern part
12 of the valley, central, or southern, I'd be happy to
13 look. I know quite a few contacts up and down the
14 valley, but wanted to see if you had any interest in any
15 particular area of the Central Valley?

16 Do you want me to do Stockton, in the northern
17 part, Fresno, Merced?

18 COMMISSIONER FORBES: I mean, I would be more
19 inclined to go to the southern part, Bakersfield or even
20 Fresno.

21 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Bakersfield.

22 COMMISSIONER FORBES: You know, something.
23 Because that's really the part that I think is perhaps
24 has a sense of being under-represented.

25 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Okay, I'll look into

1 Bakersfield and Fresno, maybe, as options.

2 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Yeah, Visalia is also a
3 pretty good-sized city.

4 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Visalia.

5 COMMISSIONER RAYA: We received a letter, as I
6 recall, from the City of San Jose. And does anybody
7 recall what they offered or invited us to do?

8 VICE CHAIR DAI: To have, to host meetings, I
9 believe.

10 COMMISSIONER RAYA: To host a meeting-meeting, or
11 an outreach type thing, or do you -- because --

12 VICE CHAIR DAI: I don't think they were
13 specific, I think just a meeting.

14 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Okay. Well, I'd be happy to
15 follow up on that, unless somebody has particular
16 connections in San Jose.

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Oakland and San Jose
18 are the two potential -- the Central Valley. Again, this
19 is for the second half of the February meeting. I don't
20 think we're going beyond February at this point, unless
21 you want to go beyond February.

22 Because the second half of February, we have to
23 make some really quick decisions, so I would rather see
24 us focus on that as compared to planning out and looking
25 to the rest of our meeting schedules.

1 COMMISSIONER FORBES: I don't think it hurts to
2 contact the cities and sort of say, you know, we don't
3 have any specifics, but we'd like to come and perhaps
4 have a Commission meeting there; what do you think? I
5 mean, we don't have to be any more specific than that, I
6 don't think, at this point.

7 But I think it behooves us to lay out six or
8 eight places we can have meetings, personally.

9 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah, so we have options.

10 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: And by the second half, I
11 just want to be specific, we mean the 23rd, the 24th, and
12 25th of February?

13 CHAIRMAN YAO: Right, the -- everything has to be
14 close to being resolved because, again, we have to notice
15 the meeting 14 days in advance of the 23rd. Would
16 somebody like to do math in real time?

17 COMMISSIONER WARD: I want to just make the
18 statement, too, the decision to move it down to Claremont
19 or the idea, I guess, to move the meeting to Claremont
20 was initially, as far as at least I understood it, was
21 based on certainly getting out of this building, and out
22 of Sacramento, but also as a -- there was a budget reason
23 for that, as well. That's why we chose that, since so
24 much of the Commission is in Southern California, it made
25 sense to simply -- if we're going to move, you know,

1 let's go down there because we save money on travel,
2 hotel rooms, things like that. So, that's what kind of
3 drove that.

4 If we're talking about moving regular Commission
5 business meetings around, I would just like to see us, I
6 think, seek several sites. But I think that before
7 decisions are made we ought to look at what our outreach
8 plan is because it just doesn't make sense without piggy-
9 backing outreach off of it.

10 So, I'd hate to see us just pick locations, not
11 even having an outreach plan, yet. It just seems like,
12 again, Claremont, we had a defined goal as to why to do
13 that.

14 And now I kind of hear just a lot of names being
15 thrown out, or places, which is great, I think they're
16 wonderful ideas. But before we actually get too far down
17 that road, I think we need to have more discussion about
18 what the mission is of the outreach and can we -- and
19 moving our business meetings off-site, and how can we
20 merge those to make maximum impact with those -- with
21 that time.

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Would someone care to
23 summarize what we have decided and what guideline we're
24 given to staff in preparing for the second half of the
25 meeting in the month of February?

1 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Well, I'm not sure what
2 staff knows what to do. However, there are several
3 Commissioners here, on the dais, that are volunteering to
4 look at prospective regional areas where they're going to
5 contact cities, counties, or whatever, to see if
6 accommodations could be made for the second half of
7 February.

8 And I believe that's it.

9 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: And I think the
10 precursor to that is it's fairly urgent to get a brief
11 written write-up around whatever specifications.

12 I have a rough idea, but just so that I have
13 something to share around particularly the technology
14 piece.

15 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. I think we have enough
16 guidance at this point in time. So, let's wait until
17 next week's meeting before we decide or make additional
18 decision associated with the second half of February
19 meeting.

20 Yes?

21 MR. RICKARDS: Do you intend for the committees
22 to meet at Claremont?

23 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yes.

24 CHAIRMAN YAO: Yes, that was the vote.
25 Specifically, for the 9th, 10th, and 11th, including the

1 weekends.

2 The decision for the second half of the February
3 meeting --

4 MR. RICKARDS: Has not been made?

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: If no other alternate viable
6 location is selected, it will continue to be in
7 Claremont. So, the notice that we're about to send out,
8 by the 25th, would notice the meeting, the entire February
9 meeting to be in the City of Claremont.

10 And then if we have an alternate site selected in
11 time to change the agenda, then we will.

12 MR. RICKARDS: Okay.

13 CHAIRMAN YAO: Is that -- is that workable?

14 MR. RICKARDS: No, we can do that, that's
15 perfect, that's what I wanted to know. I wanted to know
16 what we're going to say about that second block of time
17 in February.

18 And we can certainly do the notice that way and
19 then we can put out a revised notice if we're going
20 someplace else.

21 CHAIRMAN YAO: That's the -- that's the intent of
22 this Commission.

23 MR. RICKARDS: And that the committees will meet
24 concurrently. Do we have break-out sites for the
25 committees?

1 CHAIRMAN YAO: We will.

2 MR. RICKARDS: And all we need to do then, as
3 long as -- as long as what the committees are going to
4 talk about are encompassed within the agenda, and if you
5 announce at the beginning of the first meeting when and
6 where the committees are going to meet, then you'll be
7 okay.

8 The other thing is, I'm checking, there's
9 reporting requirements for the FPPC, for the Political
10 Reform Act, when you have a gift, to that agency.

11 There are requirements from the Department of
12 Finance when there's a gift to the State.

13 I've contacted -- I'm just assuming we're going
14 to do the FPPC reporting, which we have 30 days after the
15 event to do that, and as long as we get a budget for
16 that, we're okay.

17 I'm not sure, yet, about Finance. I called their
18 chief counsel yesterday -- actually, the day before
19 yesterday and asked, said here's what we want to do.

20 Her initial response was that's not a problem
21 with the public universities, but I'll check about the
22 private universities. Not that we can't do it, but
23 whether we've got to go through some bureaucratic hoops.
24 And I'll get back to you on that as soon as I hear from
25 her.

1 COMMISSIONER FORBES: You know, I think when
2 you're doing that it might be useful if you just ask, you
3 know, what happens if cities do it, or other governmental
4 entities do it, because that's going to come up.

5 MR. RICKARDS: Right. And I'm certain that
6 answer will be about the same as it is for UC and CSU,
7 because they're public entities. It's just when you have
8 a private entity.

9 And generally speaking, you need Finance's
10 permission, but I'm going to try to explain to them the
11 situation we're in and, you know, there's a form.

12 So, I guess what I'm just saying is we may need
13 to get an estimated budge from Claremont for the Finance
14 reporting. And it can be estimated and I doesn't have to
15 be the kind of detail where you're asking the State for
16 money.

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: I will obtain that for you, form
18 the Claremont Colleges.

19 MR. RICKARDS: And, hopefully, if I can get a
20 hold of the chief counsel, or somebody from Finance,
21 either tonight before 5:00 or -- well, with her, or 6:00
22 or 7:00.

23 And then -- or maybe in the morning I'll get back
24 to you and let you know what I find out about those two
25 requirements.

1 But, basically, I just wanted to let you know we
2 have to do that.

3 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right.

4 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: And just to be clear on this
5 point on where we're going to be in the second week in
6 February, we'll have a more definitive answer at our next
7 session.

8 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Thank you very much.
9 Now that the decision is made for the meeting in
10 Claremont, in thinking ahead, because of the fact that
11 we're in a brand-new location, this is the first time the
12 Commission is outside of Sacramento, the Commission in
13 Southern California, we probably need to do a certain
14 amount of introduction to those in attendance.

15 And I'd like to get volunteers, each to do maybe
16 a five-minute, seven-minute briefing, talking about,
17 perhaps, the Prop 11, Prop 20, Prop 27, how we get to
18 pick the Commissioners, how we picked the six finalists,
19 what work we have accomplished in the month of January.
20 And to some extent where we're going to go from here.

21 So, I think it will be good for all of us to grab
22 one of those presentations so that above seeing our faces
23 they actually do hear us talk.

24 So, maybe I can work with each of you,
25 individually, so that you can prepare for to start

1 thinking about that presentation in February.

2 Secondly, is that coupled with the outreach
3 discussion that we have had, let's really think about as
4 to whether we want to use that as an outreach
5 opportunity, even though we don't have all our acts
6 together, because it clearly is what the public is
7 expected of us. Even though we can tell them all we want
8 to that this is, indeed, a business meeting, we're trying
9 to prepare ourselves for doing the work, but the rest of
10 the world, the media and everybody else will probably
11 have a different expectation, the fact that we're outside
12 of Sacramento.

13 So, that's all I wanted to share with you as to
14 my thought process at this point in time.

15 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: Perhaps, I know that
16 Claremont carries a lot of clout up and down the valley,
17 and Los Angeles. I'm sure they have some outreach or
18 some connects with the media. So, perhaps we could have
19 a press conference.

20 It's all about getting information out. You
21 know, there is opportunities like that, that we need to
22 take advantage of.

23 Another opportunity is the Common Cause meeting
24 in Los Angeles, I think it's this Saturday, they asked
25 for a representative to come down and talk about and open

1 up the conference with some information regarding the
2 Commission.

3 And, you know, those -- those opportunities we
4 should try to utilize as much as possible.

5 COMMISSIONER RAYA: I'll let you all know I did
6 volunteer to do that, it's on Tuesday morning, at nine
7 o'clock.

8 I think Andre is also going to attend, and Peter
9 has indicated that he will attend. So, that's Tuesday.

10 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Oh, I turned it down
11 because I thought we weren't allowed.

12 CHAIRMAN YAO: We're not going to attend the
13 conference, but we're just going to be there to make the
14 opening statement.

15 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: No, just that they had
16 asked me to give the opening, yeah, statement, about a
17 couple of months ago and I said I don't think I can do
18 this. But now I know better.

19 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think it's proper to outreach to
20 them and say a few words about who we are, what we're up
21 in, what we're about to tackle. But none of us are
22 staying for their presentation.

23 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Right, I wasn't sure, so I
24 just said no.

25 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: But that's a very good

1 point, Commissioner Blanco. I think in our previous
2 discussions and including today's, we've developed three
3 tiers of reaching out to the public.

4 The first one, which is individual, we can attend
5 these group meetings on our own sites, in our own
6 regions, only to introduce ourselves, just to say general
7 statements on what redistricting is all about, things of
8 that nature, published material. That's the first tier.

9 The second tier is what Stan just announced and
10 discussed in terms of outreaching to 50 different plus
11 areas.

12 And the third tier being the regional workshops
13 or whatever we want to call them.

14 That's my understanding of how we're going to be
15 doing this.

16 COMMISSIONER WARD: My only input on that is it's
17 a fantastic road map. I just -- it seems like the last
18 three or four items are all agenda items for the
19 Communication Subcommittee, and especially in conjunction
20 with the communications director.

21 And, again, I know I've harped on this three or
22 four times, and I'm sorry for being repetitive, but I
23 just really feel strongly that until that structure and
24 that communication's taken place, even with a press
25 conference we could be making a mistake in doing that.

1 It's a marathon, even though it's a very short
2 timeline, this is going to be a bit of marathon. There's
3 going to be a lot of time for that.

4 But I think that it's really in the body's
5 interest to have the subcommittee in place, the
6 communication director in place, and have that
7 communication for that type of outreach discussed and
8 agreed upon prior to throwing ourselves in that position.

9 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Yeah, I felt the same way.
10 I thought, well, we don't have anything written, or
11 guidelines. And when I looked -- I mean, I knew
12 everybody there, you know, and it was a group of
13 advocates, of a particular set of advocates with a
14 similar point of view, and I thought, oh, is this too
15 much like, you know, speaking to one side and not
16 balancing it out with, you know, a talk to a similarly --
17 a similar group of folks but, you know, with different
18 points of view.

19 So, I'm glad we're doing that, but I kind of feel
20 the same way, that rather than keep doing things ad hoc,
21 I'd like to -- I would feel more comfortable -- I've been
22 unwilling to talk to anybody, the press, or anything
23 until I saw something in writing.

24 CHAIRMAN YAO: The guideline I believe we all
25 have received is that we are at liberty to talk about

1 what we have done and we're not at all encouraged to even
2 give our opinion as to what we're about to do.

3 Okay. So, I think living within that set of
4 guideline, we should be encouraged to get the word out as
5 to what we have done.

6 VICE CHAIR DAI: We also are not allowed to take
7 input on a one-on-one basis. We are not allowed to take
8 input unless it's in a public forum.

9 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Uh-hum.

10 VICE CHAIR DAI: So, we can talk about anything
11 that's on the record, talked about anything that has been
12 done, any basics about redistricting, anything about the
13 law, et cetera.

14 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Right.

15 VICE CHAIR DAI: But nothing about what we might
16 do or what somebody thinks, unless it's in one of these
17 kind of sessions, yeah.

18 COMMISSIONER RAYA: We also, the eight of us had
19 the benefit of some guidance in the very beginning from
20 our press person at the Auditor's Bureau.

21 But you're right, we still need to be cautious.
22 I would just say if anybody has any particular points or
23 suggestions, anything that, you know, you would like me
24 to talk about on Tuesday, I'd be happy to receive any
25 comments.

1 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I would just be curious,
2 and it's up to you, I guess it's your prerogative as to
3 what you and Andre might be thinking of talking about,
4 but I guess there's an aspect of it I feel like kind of
5 what you do represents us, too.

6 So, not that I feel like we should micromanage
7 your talk, but I do feel like there are implications for
8 the rest of us based -- and not that I don't have
9 confidence in you at all. Quite to the contrary, much
10 more you than me, I suppose.

11 But I just would be curious if you wanted to
12 share with us some of that or if you felt like you had
13 any ideas?

14 Or, I don't know what the other Commission wants
15 to get any feedback from you.

16 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Well, my intention is just to
17 introduce the Commission. I mean, the purpose of this
18 conference is to encourage people to participate in our
19 process, the Commission's process.

20 So, while, yes, it is represented by people
21 with -- I don't know, I wouldn't even say they're all of
22 a particular point of view, they're just all people who
23 are interested in maximizing community participating in
24 the redistricting process.

25 So, my only intention is to introduce the

1 Commission, you know, what, in general, is going to be
2 happening, our intention to do outreach, how happy we are
3 that somebody is, you know, collaborating in that process
4 or maybe doing a lot of the legwork for us.

5 And to kind of -- I also want to put a little bit
6 of a personal face on the Commission by describing, you
7 know, who we all are, and what we represent, and what our
8 commitment is.

9 So, it's all very general. And they understand
10 that, they've been very sensitive to the fact that I
11 cannot answer questions or discuss redistricting, and so
12 on. You know, they just kind of want to kick off that
13 whole process of getting people engaged.

14 They were instrumental, from what I understand,
15 in getting, you know, the 30,000 people to apply for the
16 Commission.

17 So, you know, obviously, they want to make this a
18 success as much as we do.

19 COMMISSIONER PARVENU: I'll say ditto to that,
20 Commissioner Raya.

21 And, in addition, I would introduce the website,
22 to perhaps have them submit public comments on our
23 website, so that we can collectively digest this
24 information.

25 Also, perhaps discuss the fact that we have

1 secured an Executive Director on board.

2 And I think we went over a list the last time we
3 met about some of the accomplishments we've made up to
4 this point. Just general, general information, no
5 details about redistricting, per se, or our approach.

6 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: When we were still
7 at the BSA, Margarita gave us some very broad strokes
8 guidelines on how we might introduce ourselves. And I
9 think it was more applicable to thinking how you present
10 yourself as a Commissioner, tell your story, what are
11 some, you know, sort of broad strokes that sort of tell
12 about Proposition 11.

13 I'd be happy to forward those to the full
14 Commission in case they're useful.

15 CHAIRMAN YAO: You know, it sounds like that
16 presentation is extremely useful to the six Commissioners
17 that have since joined the initial group of eight. Maybe
18 we should try to schedule that as soon as possible
19 because -- I know Anne is trying to signal me.

20 But whether it happens this week or not is
21 depending on schedule, but it seems like --

22 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: You're asking for
23 Margarita to come and do the same type of training with
24 us?

25 CHAIRMAN YAO: Right. We got a lot out of it and

1 I think a live presentation may be extremely worthwhile,
2 too, so that we're on the same page.

3 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Peter, and then we
4 actually had -- I think Stan, and Cynthia, and I did an
5 interview following that, and then Cynthia wrote up the
6 comments that were made, and that might be helpful to
7 distribute as well.

8 CHAIRMAN YAO: You know, since we have half an
9 hour left, and it seems like we're heading in the
10 direction of wanting to discuss the communication
11 outreach type of activity, perhaps we should dive into
12 that a little deeper.

13 If there is feeling on this Commission, saying
14 that we want to formalize all the news release, perhaps
15 this is the time to talk about it.

16 If we want to limit the individual contact with
17 the media, this is the time to talk about it.

18 So, let's just open it up for to share a little
19 bit of thought as to how we want to behave as a group.

20 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Well, let me go back to a
21 comment made by Commissioner Ward. If we're going to
22 make these next succeeding meetings as efficient, more
23 efficient by having business matters discussed, as well
24 as outreach functions done, then just out of curiosity
25 what do we mean by outreaching? And what, exactly, are

1 we going to be doing as part of the business meeting?

2 Are we going to be reaching out to communities of
3 interest? In which case, we need the data that
4 Commissioner Blanco mentioned.

5 Just how much are we going to define
6 redistricting at that point?

7 COMMISSIONER WARD: Well, I think that's a great
8 question, Commissioner. One of the -- that's kind of
9 earlier, when we were talking, that's one of the things I
10 was trying to, in my own mind, parcel out is what is the
11 actual vision and purpose of, you know, our Claremont
12 business meeting, and then what's the purpose and vision
13 of a outreach meeting.

14 And like I said, we talked about three goals that
15 it sounded like we all kind of agreed with, that we seek
16 to accomplish with outreach.

17 You know, again, awareness, education and
18 receiving testimony, and concerns of those communities
19 we're visiting.

20 With the business meetings, again, it's to
21 conduct, the way I understand it, the business of the
22 Commission to further the process, make decisions on the
23 data that we've received.

24 Again, in discussing moving to Claremont, like
25 I've already said, there was a very specific purpose for

1 that. You know, the purpose was to -- from a fiscal
2 perspective, at least in my mind, the way I understood
3 it, was to help alleviate some of the strains on the
4 budget, as well as just at the time there were concerns
5 about facilities and if we would be able to, you know, be
6 here in a week, or two weeks, or three weeks, or not.
7 And so, it seemed like an appropriate thing to consider.

8 And again, I'm asking if now that we're taking
9 beyond this one, single Claremont meeting and talking
10 about moving the business meetings to other locations, if
11 we can find a way or discuss a policy for which we can
12 piggy-back outreach meetings with a specific set of
13 goals, whether it be those three we've kind of listed
14 here, or broader.

15 And like I said, again, maximize the impact of
16 that time and effort.

17 It seems to me that, again, once we get the
18 communications director and that Communications
19 Subcommittee going, we'll be able to have things like a
20 standardized address for, you know, a welcome address, a
21 history of the Commission, of Prop 11, all that stuff
22 will be standardized by then.

23 It won't be up to the individual Commissioner to
24 write up five-minutes blurb, or that kind of thing.
25 We'll have a standardized, unified mission that the whole

1 board has agreed, the whole body has agreed that this is
2 the message that we want to put out.

3 And so that's the only -- as eager as I am to
4 run, and run hard, I do think that if we can focus on
5 getting the subcommittees, the communications director,
6 and then the resulting immediate work product completed,
7 we can run a lot faster, and make a much bigger impact,
8 and awareness.

9 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Commissioner Ward, how
10 would you distinguish between awareness and education?

11 COMMISSIONER WARD: Well, I think awareness, of
12 the way I understood it earlier, as we were discussing
13 and took notes, I understood two different ideas being
14 communicated by the body here.

15 And education about how districts affect, you
16 know, the impact of drawing district lines on their
17 immediate community, so why is this important to Joe
18 Citizen, if you will.

19 And then awareness being separate from the fact
20 that this Commission is occurring, that you have the
21 ability to make feedback on the process, awareness to our
22 mission.

23 So, I see awareness as to the process and the
24 ability to participate in it, and education as far as how
25 districting matters to them being two separate issues.

1 Maybe there's more. Anybody?

2 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: No, I would just comment
3 that I think the -- I think that's right, but I think the
4 way I've been looking at it, the bulk of the meeting is
5 really to receive information.

6 COMMISSIONER WARD: Outreach meeting, yes. Okay.

7 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Yeah. To help us --

8 COMMISSIONER WARD: I agree.

9 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: -- be able to make the
10 decisions we have to make about communities of interest
11 and, you know. So, I think I would keep that, the
12 informational background, and why this happens every ten
13 years, after a census, to a sort of a very standard sort
14 of overview and answering some questions, and then devote
15 the majority of the time to receiving.

16 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I do think
17 Commissioner -- to kind of merge both what Commissioner
18 Ward and Commissioner Blanco are saying, I think that in
19 order to get the more effective feedback we do have to
20 provide a condensed, but very informative educational
21 background.

22 Because people could be coming to this with a lot
23 of different understanding of what they could tell us.
24 They just may not be happy about their representation,
25 they may want --

1 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Right.

2 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: The more we can guide
3 them as to what we need the better and more effective we
4 will be at getting information and having them be heard.

5 COMMISSIONER WARD: Well, once we get the
6 subcommittee up and running, what we can do is put
7 together, again, those ideas, the agenda, the proposed
8 agenda for how we would run that meeting, we'd have a
9 list of protocols and things like that, and we can
10 discuss all that as a body, you know, and hammer and
11 amend those items.

12 That way we'll have, like the Chairman was
13 mentioning, a standardized process for all.

14 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: I think Commissioner Yao
15 was suggesting, though, that we may want to talk about an
16 education awareness component for our business meeting.
17 Which I think is a great idea because we are in a new
18 location, and I think it's a great idea to start the
19 meeting with an introduction and overview of the process.

20 I do think, you know, it should be fairly
21 condensed. I don't think it should go on and on but --

22 CHAIRMAN YAO: I think our objective, also, would
23 be -- would be changing as time goes on. Certainly,
24 during the first third to first half of our activity the
25 outreach is collecting data. But as soon as we start

1 drawing up maps, we also have to sell our product so that
2 when it gets approved people understand as to why the
3 product is good.

4 And I do try to sell it to that point in time
5 without proper "education," you know, may be a very
6 difficult task to accomplish.

7 So, certainly, we have spent a block of time in
8 terms of saying the outreach is pulling input so that we
9 can draw the proper map. But along the way, if you don't
10 convince people that we are going to be generating a good
11 product, then by the time the product shows up it just
12 may be a little too late to convince them that it is
13 good.

14 In terms of communication is should we limit the
15 output to a set of formal press releases? Should we
16 continue to do what some of us have been doing, just
17 answer a lot of questions as they -- as they press or
18 media raise them before us individually?

19 What is this Commission's best thinking on them?

20 COMMISSIONER WARD: You know, in an earlier
21 meeting we were discussing chief counsel, and one of the
22 things we discussed, briefly, was the idea of any staff,
23 if they were going to attend lectures, or a speaking
24 engagement, making the Commission aware of that prior to,
25 in case the Commission saw a conflict between that effort

1 and the Commission or their business with us.

2 And it seems to me like that might be an
3 appropriate way for us to do it as Commissioners, as
4 well. If someone gets an invitation or an offer to
5 participate in a meeting, or speak at one, or conduct any
6 kind of large-scale interview, that something like that
7 ought to be brought to the board, and we can just put our
8 two cents in, or bless it, or if maybe there's a
9 reasonable objection not to do that.

10 It seems like for a media strategy that makes
11 sense, rather than a shotgun approach. Because any
12 organization that I've ever been a part of, that has a
13 number of individuals going at will, then problems arise.
14 And being that the problems in our case could lead to
15 legal issues later, it seems to me that it would be smart
16 to at least have the minimal control on media contact, or
17 public address statements, things like that, to have the
18 board at least aware of it prior to it occurring.

19 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Go ahead.

20 COMMISSIONER BARABBA: Tomorrow, I think we're
21 going to hear from our Executive Director about his
22 staffing plans. And I can only imagine one of them is
23 going to be the director of communications.

24 And I spend a lot of time in different parts of
25 the State, but we really need somebody who's used to

1 doing a statewide communications plan, and we should
2 learn from that person what our strategy should be,
3 rather than taking it a piece at a time, I would suggest.

4 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: I agree. I was just
5 going to say that the nature of a media request is that
6 they're very time sensitive. And so, it's unlikely we
7 could, you know, wait for two weeks until the next
8 Commission meeting to get approval.

9 You know, I think what we want to do and what
10 eventually will be the responsibility of the staff
11 person, what we tried to do for the first day was to, you
12 know, provide a set of standard talking points so that
13 we're at least consistent in representing our work.

14 And then after that I think, you know, we were
15 all picked because we represent different communities,
16 and I think that we should feel free to do media
17 interviews to the degree that each of us are individually
18 comfortable doing that, understanding the legal, you
19 know, ramifications and limitations on what we are not
20 allowed to talk about.

21 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Yeah, I -- excuse me just a
22 second. You know, we had a whole flurry of invitations
23 when we first got selected. And I assume that maybe the
24 six also had some calls when you were selected.

25 You know, I think we -- we know what the

1 parameters are, we know what the restrictions are. I
2 think we're all capable of making a decision. You know,
3 you just have to think about who's asking you, why
4 they're asking you, and do you want to do it.

5 You're not under an obligation to do any
6 interview if you're not comfortable doing it, or you're
7 concerned about where it might go.

8 But I think we have to have a little bit of trust
9 in each other that we understand what some of those very
10 real pitfalls might be.

11 And you just -- you know, I think it helps. I
12 mean, I can tell you this, you know, I go to bed kind of
13 running a little script through my mind and I wake up
14 doing the same thing, and I try to make little notes to
15 myself so that I feel well enough prepared.

16 And Peter and I did this, too, I think, when we
17 did the NBC interview, you know, just trying to kind of
18 anticipate and setting the ground rules so that whoever
19 is interviewing you knows right from the start I cannot
20 talk about this.

21 You know, there are going to get different
22 questions. Maybe people are going to start to get calls
23 about who we select for, you know, the empty spot. I
24 don't know.

25 But I think we just -- you know, we know what the

1 rules are and if we can get a little more training, maybe
2 that will make everybody comfortable with it.

3 But I think in the end we are a Citizen
4 Commission and people want to hear from citizens. Yes,
5 we will have a press person, we will have formality.

6 But we're supposed to be, you know, like
7 everybody else, we're just the people, doing the people's
8 work, and so I think it's important that our voices are
9 heard.

10 COMMISSIONER WARD: I would just counter that
11 with the idea that, again, it's not a trust issue,
12 everybody here is amazingly capable, intelligent, and
13 eloquent.

14 And I also don't think it's an issue of censoring
15 or putting a leash on anyone at all.

16 But, again, having a communications director in
17 place is going to help a lot with this. But simply,
18 although we are individual citizens and we represent, we
19 also are part of a legally obligated body.

20 And it just seems to make sense that not -- not
21 so much quick press questions and things like that,
22 certainly, that's where those situations are going to
23 come up. If a reporter comes up and asks you a question
24 on a days event, or something, certainly, you would have
25 the liberty.

1 But if formal requests for lecturing, or
2 speaking, or being present at, some kind of function,
3 things like that, it just seems like since it impacts the
4 entire body in whole, you know, the group ought to at
5 least just be made aware of it.

6 And once we have a communication director, we can
7 delegate that responsibility to him and say make him
8 aware of it. You know, maybe he can help you, or
9 whatever the case may be.

10 But it just seems to me that before we accept
11 something beyond just a simple press inquiry, we ought to
12 at least have somebody that we make aware of that and
13 bless it, whether it be the Commission body as a whole,
14 or whether it be the communications director, whatever
15 the case may be.

16 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: I think what came -- became
17 very clear to me in watching the tapes in the training
18 sessions, is that there is one thing individual and as a
19 Commission we have to totally stay away from is anything
20 that applies with forming maps.

21 I think we have to make clear, whatever our
22 pronouncements are at any venue, that we -- as soon as
23 the discussion moves towards or implies that it's moving
24 towards forming maps, we have to step back.

25 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: Could I just request, I

1 know we all have different levels of comfort when it
2 comes to dealing with the media, and I totally recognize
3 that, and I think people will speak to their strengths
4 when they're addressed.

5 But would it be too much of a request to just --
6 for those that do speak to the media in any way to,
7 again, relay it to the rest of us?

8 I wasn't aware of, like, maybe the interview that
9 Commissioner Raya and Chairman Yao have done, or other
10 requests.

11 I know a few things have been scattered around
12 just for our information, so we can kind of look at it.
13 But it would be just for our own information to see what
14 we're saying.

15 So, it would be nice to know that if someone asks
16 you, well, what did you think of Commissioner Raya's
17 interview? Well, I didn't know she did it.

18 So, you know, so just for the sake of us looking
19 like we're a united front, that we could all let each
20 other know when something like that happens.

21 COMMISSIONER RAYA: Great idea.

22 COMMISSIONER GALAMBOS MALLOY: I also wonder,
23 from the interview that was done at the time that we
24 chose the final six, I think that, you know, we had three
25 representatives from the Commission go speak to the

1 press. And there were some fairly standard questions
2 that were asked.

3 And maybe those of you, who were in that
4 interview, could share some talking points from that as
5 well?

6 VICE CHAIR DAI: I'll send them around to
7 everyone.

8 COMMISSIONER DI GIULIO: Okay.

9 VICE CHAIR DAI: I will send it around.

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. So, the point about
11 letting everybody else know what's about to happen, so
12 it's just simply letting staff know, and staff will turn
13 around and disseminate the information.

14 Another practice I'd like to suggest before this
15 Commission is try to solicit another Commissioner from a
16 different party, so that when you speak before the group
17 you're no longer just representing yourself, but at least
18 representing or at least have a second person
19 representing the other -- I don't want to call it
20 individuals, or party, or anything else, to show that we
21 are working as a team.

22 Now, sometimes, it's not at all practical to do
23 it, but whenever it's practical, I would like us to adopt
24 that as a mode of operation is if you have time, bring a
25 second person along so it's not just a voice, but it's a

1 representative voice of the group. At least it will come
2 across that way when multiple people appear at a
3 function.

4 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: The other thing is it might
5 be good to share different kinds of requests and maybe
6 decide how we want to respond.

7 I don't know, I've had two L.A. Times requests
8 that I've refused to respond to, where they were asking
9 me for my letter of -- my letter that I sent for my last
10 day of employment at my last job, and my offer letter and
11 date for my current job. And I think it was this whole
12 issue of, you know, me moving from Northern California to
13 Southern California, and when had it happened and why.

14 And I didn't feel it was an appropriate request.
15 You know, if somebody had just wanted me to answer a
16 question about, you know, why did you change jobs, I
17 think that would be -- but, you know, wanting me to send
18 documentation, like proof, like they were tracking
19 something down, just for some reason it didn't feel -- it
20 felt like a privacy issue to me.

21 So, I don't -- first of all, I don't know if
22 other people have had requests like that. But on
23 something like that I think we should let folks know when
24 we get a request and maybe -- maybe somebody's providing
25 it, they don't have the privacy concern and I do.

1 And I don't know what we -- we can't dictate what
2 people do but, you know, and we can't insist on
3 consistency, because different ones of us have different
4 standards of what we consider intrusive and not
5 intrusive.

6 But there are things like that, that are not just
7 going to be a question. There might be all kinds of
8 things that come up, media-related requests, that it
9 might be good at least for us to always have a sense of
10 what's -- what's going on in relationship to us in the
11 media, so that we're not -- I don't know, it's not a
12 question of having a planned response, it's just I think
13 we want to operate as a body as much as possible.

14 COMMISSIONER WARD: I think you did a great job
15 of saying what I was trying to and, obviously, couldn't
16 clearly.

17 Again, it's not for a trust or ability, or any of
18 those kinds of issues, it's just simply having a point --
19 since we don't have a point person now, you know what I
20 mean, and we're acting -- we're having to act in this
21 capacity on these things, just bringing it up so that the
22 whole Commission's aware of what's going on and how.

23 And, for example, we've already discussed, today,
24 the Common Cause and I think there might have been some
25 members on the Commission that didn't know that it

1 wouldn't be appropriate to sit and attend that meeting.

2 They might not have known, but in bringing it up
3 we knew, oh, it might not be a good idea. It's still an
4 individual decision but --

5 COMMISSIONER RAYA: I apologize for that because
6 I thought everyone got a copy of that at the meeting.

7 COMMISSIONER DI GUILIO: Yeah, I didn't realize
8 someone had made a -- see, I looked at it and said, oh,
9 that will definitely be something nobody does.

10 And Commissioner Blanco looked at it and said,
11 well, I would like to, but I won't, and you said that's
12 great.

13 So, again, it's just an individual preference,
14 but I didn't -- it just shows you the way we approach
15 public speaking. But it was great it was accepted.

16 COMMISSIONER RAYA: And by the way, I'm not
17 attending the meeting, I'm only speaking and leaving.

18 COMMISSIONER WARD: And I think that's great.
19 And right now it's not such a big deal. But as the
20 process continues, it's often not what you say, it's what
21 you don't say that, you know, will be the story.

22 And so I just think, like I said, not putting
23 restrictions, not hand-tying, not anything, just simply
24 trying to consolidate that type of information and
25 putting it through some kind of screening process from

1 the stand point of just having a sounding wall. Whether
2 it be the Commission, or a communication director, but
3 somebody who can just say, oh, that seems like a great
4 idea.

5 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. We'll cap that
6 particular discussion at this point.

7 But what I want to take the last few minutes to
8 do is to give you a heads up as to what we want to
9 discuss tomorrow.

10 Clearly, we have to discuss the outreach -- let's
11 see, I think we went beyond framework. So, what's the
12 next level of details that we want to get -- that we want
13 to get to in the outreach activities?

14 Anybody want to try to characterize that?

15 COMMISSIONER AGUIRRE: A format for the actual
16 hearings, themselves, the protocol for that.

17 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay. Another topic would be to
18 discuss the -- the specific directions that we want to
19 give to our Executive Director as a Commission, so I
20 suspect that will take a block of time.

21 That would include staffing and all the details
22 associated with it. And I'm sure Mr. -- I'm sure there
23 will be a long list of items.

24 Yes, Mr. Ward?

25 COMMISSIONER WARD: I was just going to ask, were

1 we -- did we find out if we were going to be able to have
2 any interviews for tomorrow?

3 CHAIRMAN YAO: I believe -- comments, yes.

4 MR. CLAYPOOL: No. No, we haven't had time to
5 even contact anyone. And so, it's going to be necessary
6 for us to send out notice to all these individuals. I
7 don't have the list at this point of the -- that I know
8 of, of the communications officers.

9 And, certainly, you know, there was just no time
10 during the day to call any of the other candidates, so
11 that has to be done this evening, and tomorrow, and so
12 that's where we're at with that.

13 And I do have a couple of housekeeping issues
14 before we're finished.

15 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. I'll make sure you
16 have time to raise those issues.

17 Any other items that we look forward to
18 completing tomorrow, above and beyond those two lengthy
19 items that I brought up?

20 I know in previous, or in last week's agenda, the
21 Secretary of State's support efforts, update and
22 decision, I don't know whether that's still a necessary
23 item on the agenda or not, because we were going to
24 discuss a couple of the contracts that we wanted to let
25 out.

1 If that happens to be still necessary topics,
2 then we'll address those.

3 If not, we'll just continue getting into defining
4 the organization and defining the philosophy. And I'm
5 still hopeful that by the end of January we can put this
6 organization issue behind us and start the work of
7 addressing the mapping issue.

8 Yes, go ahead, Dan.

9 MR. CLAYPOOL: Thank you. Anne, would you
10 distribute this?

11 We have the list of the seven candidates for
12 Commissioner Kuo's replacement. It's being handed out to
13 you, now.

14 As soon as you get it, if I can have the
15 approval, then we will go ahead and post that up so that
16 it goes onto the website and it can be accessed.

17 The remaining seven are Victoria Aguayo
18 Schupbach, from Los Angeles.

19 Angelo Ancheta, from San Francisco.

20 Tangerine Brigham, from Alameda.

21 Maria Harris, from Los Angeles.

22 Lillian Judd, from San Luis Obispo.

23 Ann Marie Machamer, from Santa Clara.

24 And Brightstar Ohlson, from Alameda.

25 So, with your consent, I will go ahead and post

1 that up or have it posted up.

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: No, for the audience that are
3 listening in on -- to our conversation, and for those
4 that are joining us in midstream, this is the complete
5 list of the Democratic candidates from the original pool
6 of 36 candidates. Is that correct?

7 MR. CLAYPOOL: That is correct. It is the
8 remaining Democratic candidates from the pool that was
9 sent back from the Legislature to the State Auditor.

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. So, we have made a
11 recent query to all these candidates and they are still
12 interested in the Commission position.

13 MR. CLAYPOOL: Yes.

14 CHAIRMAN YAO: Okay. Any thoughts on posting the
15 names? I think, by definition, we posted it already by
16 reading the list.

17 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Dan, just out of curiosity,
18 anyone turn it down?

19 MR. CLAYPOOL: No, those are -- those are the
20 remaining individuals.

21 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: No.

22 MR. CLAYPOOL: And this will also, when we say
23 posting this, it will be their full materials.

24 The other -- can I move on to the next issue?

25 CHAIRMAN YAO: Let's see, a question, the -- the

1 selection process that we went through in December, are
2 those relevant informations for this exercise?

3 In other words, are they still available on the
4 website, are they -- if people are interested in it, can
5 they still access that information?

6 MR. CLAYPOOL: The transcripts and the video are
7 still on the website.

8 CHAIRMAN YAO: Thank you.

9 VICE CHAIR DAI: And the affiliated materials,
10 right, because there were things that were project out
11 with maps, and all that stuff?

12 MR. CLAYPOOL: Yes, and Anne's telling me that
13 that would be the "Commissioner" tab and it is still
14 available, as well.

15 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: And their supplemental
16 applications and all that are still there?

17 MS. OSBORNE: Yeah, with their posting.

18 MR. CLAYPOOL: Because they were taken down as
19 soon as they were gone, so they will be back up.

20 COMMISSIONER BLANCO: Yeah.

21 MR. CLAYPOOL: The second issue. IT needs about
22 30 minutes of your time to walk you through a few more
23 items.

24 Would you like to do it tomorrow at 9:00 --
25 before 9:30, or would you like to do it at lunch? It's

1 your choice.

2 CHAIRMAN YAO: Let's see, I gave them a time slot
3 right after lunch and we were not able to keep that
4 appointment.

5 So, we need to probably set time aside to do it
6 as compared to do it when we have a break.

7 So, I would suggest that we schedule that in
8 right now.

9 MR. CLAYPOOL: So, can I say that we will meet at
10 8:50?

11 Is that okay? Okay, then I will --

12 CHAIRMAN YAO: Again, the formal meeting will
13 start at 9:30, as agendized. But we're going to be here
14 at 8:50 to take care of the computer issues.

15 MR. CLAYPOOL: Exactly.

16 CHAIRMAN YAO: To make sure that we're not
17 changing the meeting agenda for tomorrow.

18 MR. CLAYPOOL: Yes.

19 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Is this John Hanofe or
20 someone else?

21 MR. CLAYPOOL: Pardon me?

22 COMMISSIONER ONTAI: Is this John Hanofe or
23 someone else?

24 MR. CLAYPOOL: It will be someone else.

25 That's all I have.

1 CHAIRMAN YAO: All right. Anything else anybody
2 want to say or discuss before we recess until tomorrow
3 morning at 9:30?

4 VICE CHAIR DAI: I think just a reminder that
5 everyone should get their committee choices, the top
6 three ranked, to Dan, so that we can sort that out.

7 CHAIRMAN YAO: E-mail it to Dan between now and
8 9:30 tomorrow morning, is that the suggestion?

9 VICE CHAIR DAI: Yeah.

10 CHAIRMAN YAO: Thank you. All right, see you
11 tomorrow at 9:30.

12 (Adjourned at 5:04 p.m.)

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