Electronic Voting Implementation Subcommittee

Minutes of meeting of June 19, 2014

Committee members present: Dave Bernstein, Beth Klein, Larry Krakauer, Alan Reiss, Don Schuler, Jon Sieber, and Dave Watson.

Public attendees: Moderator Dennis Berry arrived at 8:30 pm.

1. The meeting was called to order by Dave Bernstein at 7:34 PM.

2. Dave Bernstein was appointed secretary pro-tem.

3. Public comments were invited, but none were offered.

4. Kim Cook, who has left ELVIS, was thanked for her service. Dave Watkins was welcomed as a new member of ELVIS

5. Minutes of the meeting of May 7, 2014 were unanimously approved.

6. *Agenda item: Discuss the possibility of further automating the check-in process*

Dave Bernstein reported that attempts to engage with Michelle Tassinari, Director and Legal counsel for Massachusetts Elections, have so far been unsuccessful.

7. *Agenda item: Finalize Requirements to be included in an RFP for Wayland's Electronic Voting Service*

The requirements document employed during the previous RFP was reviewed section-by-section, resulting in the following changes:

- 3.b was changed to "conduct a full-dress rehearsal the no later than six hours before the first session"

- 5.b was changed to "provide each voter with a voting handset having buttons for voting Yes, No, and Clear"

- 5.c was changed to "While the voting window is open, display acknowledgement of the receipt of each voter's most recent choice on the voting handset; specify and explain the worst-case response times for populations of 400, 800, and 1200 voters"

- 5.e was changed to "If during the voting window a voter presses buttons on the voting handset other than Yes, No, and Clear, display "invalid entry" in the voting handset display"

- 5.i was changed to "Generate video output that shows the final vote, including manually-counted votes (Yes, No, Clear) and percentages (Yes/(Yes+No), No/(Yes+No)"

Incorporation of the above changes was unanimously approved.

8. *Agenda item: Discuss the possibility of enabling citizens to participate in Town Meeting – including voting – from home (if it were legal).*

Jon Sieber reported that carrier-based text messaging services are vulnerable to denial-of-service attacks. Dave Bernstein suggested that a denial-of-service attack could be handled as a contingency: if one occurs, the Moderator could suspend voting from home and announce a 30 minute recess to allow citizens to join Town Meeting in person. Don Schuler suggested absentee ballots as a model for dealing with proxy voting. Dennis Berry suggested that ELVIS consider additional techniques to improve Town Meeting participation beyond "voting from home". A motion to continue this discussion at future ELVIS meetings passed unanimously.

9. Public comments were again invited, but none were offered.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 pm