



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE
ON DISABILITY
JUNE 16, 2022
10:00 AM
VIRTUAL MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**

Members Present:

Member Aurore Bleck
Member Kendra Garcia
Member Kathlyne Gish
Member Pam Parfitt
Member Meriam Jawhar
Member Jose "Eli" Fresquez

Members Excused:

Member Hope Reed
Member Victor Hughes
Member Angelique Montoya-Chavez

Others Attending:

Tom Graham, ADA Coordinator
Carol Romero-Wirth, Attendee
Jamie Cassutt, Attendee

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- 7a. Discussion of Bill 2022-9 on "Creating a New Section 1-9 SFCC 1987 to Allow Members to Attend Governing Body and City Council Standing Committee Meetings Remotely"; Disability Accessibility and Inclusion Aspects of Remote Committee and Board Meeting Attendance for Members; and Concerns Regarding Current Access Barriers to In-Person Only Participation for Advisory Committees and Boards (Kathlyne Gish, Councilor Jamie Cassutt, Councilor Carol Romero Wirth, Councilor Amanda Chavez)

Chair Gish introduced Councilor Jamie Cassutt and Councilor Carol Romero-Wirth.

Councilor Romero-Wirth gave a brief summary of the Bill. She said it was a pretty simple Bill and it did Pass. Basically, the old law stated that City meetings under the Open Meetings Act (OMA) could not be held remotely (by the City's rules) without being under an Emergency



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Proclamation. The City is now approaching the end of the Emergency Proclamation. OMA allows participants to attend remotely if their attendance would be considered difficult or impossible, but the City's rules did not allow this option. So this bill will allow remote attendance when there's not a declared emergency.

Councilor Romero-Wirth gave an example from the recent Council Meeting last week, where She and Councilor Chavez were ill and attended the meeting remotely. which was the first hybrid session of the Governing Body.

Councilor Cassutt stated that she has also experienced this with committees she's involved with, where people are unwell or still at high risk and yet they have still been able to participate because of this Bill and the move to hybrid meetings. It really is about, how do we continue to provide safety to our community? Councilor Cassutt commented about the things we've learned from COVID-19 and what benefits we want to take from the experience moving forward. Remote participation from the public is one of the things that would be beneficial to these meetings and should be extended in perpetuity once the technical kinks are worked out for this to happen. Although this is not part of this Bill, it is related to increase access to the City operations.

Councilor Romero-Wirth said that, to be clear, the public is not allowed to attend these hybrid meetings virtually at this time and Councilor Cassutt agreed that the technical kinks have not been worked out yet for that to happen, but the City is working toward opening up this option to the public.

Chair Gish emphasized the importance that remote/hybrid meetings stay in place for inclusivity of many people with disabilities. She relayed her own personal experience of how remote meetings have benefited her. and particularly how Zoom has helped her to accessibly communicate with people. she sees these advisory boards and committees as an essential means for the community to be able to participate to voice their needs, also for the MCD to be able to become familiar with what they are going through so the the MCD can properly advise the City.

Member Parfitt said that because she is a lip reader, if the MCD meeting were to go hybrid and people in the chamber were wearing masks, she



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would not be able to understand everything that's going on. She also mentioned that the loop system in the council Chambers is so old that she can only sit in certain chairs in a specific position in order for it to be useful. The current loop system needs repair/replacement in order to be accessible for all users.

Councilor Romero-Wirth said that the City is working on it and she does think that something will be coming about the community committees being able to access them in different ways. The 2 issues are OMA which states that participation by member must be difficult or impossible in order to attend remotely and then there are the resources at the City which require substantial upgrades to be effective. Some of that work has been done in response to COVID-19, but there are still others requiring repair or installation.

Chair Gish thanked the Councilors for their attendance and everything they are doing. She also invited them to reach out to the committee anytime they had questions or concerns.

Member Jawhar asked what is the definition of "difficult" or "impossible"?

Councilor Romero-Wirth mentioned that those definitions are not very clear. She stated that it's pretty obvious that if someone has COVID-19, it is impossible for them to attend, but there could be other reasons as well. Less clear is the "difficult" interpretation that the State has not defined that phrase. The MCD has made the case that it is "difficult" to attend these meetings and she agreed that seems reasonable, but we don't know.

Chair Gish mentioned that she intends to write to the NM Attorney General regarding OMA and the inclusion of the ADA covering members of committees in addition to public participants.

Councilor Romero-Wirth also mentioned that the PrimeGov website also allows members of the community to provide their comments on the website that can be read into the record of the meeting. She agreed that whenever the Councilors hear from the public, it is helpful.

Councilor Cassutt and Councilor Romero-Wirth expressed their gratitude for being invited and hearing the concerns of the MCD.



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Mr. Graham thanked the Councilors for coming and invited them to stay in the meeting if they wished or provided them with the opportunity to leave the meeting at this time.

Both Councilors had other meetings that they needed to attend and left the meeting.

MOTION: Member Bleck moved, seconded by Member Jawhar, to approve the alteration of the order of agenda as amended; to proceed immediately with Item 7(a) following the approval of the agenda and then reverting back to the original agenda order as submitted.

VOTE: The motion was approved on the following Roll Call vote:

For: Member Bleck, Member Garcia, Member Gish, Member Parfitt, Member Jawhar

Against: None

Abstain: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. May 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Chair Gish and Member Bleck identified several corrections that were made before the May 19, 2022 Minutes were signed and uploaded to the website.

MOTION: Member Parfitt moved, seconded by Member Garcia, to approve the Minutes from May 19, 2022 as amended.

VOTE: The motion was approved on the following Roll Call vote:

For: Member Bleck, Member Garcia, Member Gish, Member Parfitt, Member Jawhar, Member Fresquez



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Against: None

Abstain: None

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (15 MINUTES TOTAL)

a. Public Comments from website

No public comments were made on the website.

Chair Gish asked if there was a camera available for a driver to show that they have an ADA parking placard for use in the City garages, since the booths are not manned at this time?

Vice Chair Garcia mentioned that the Violet Crown Theater will validate your parking ticket that the machine will read when leaving the garage and allow the driver to leave without paying. Mr. Graham stated that all City Offices will also validate parking tickets distributed from parking garages.

Member Jawhar mentioned that she had to pay for her parking while attending the Farmer's Market instead of being able to use her parking placard.

Mr. Graham offered to forward any questions submitted to him in the form of a question, to the Parking Division Director for a response.

No members of the public were in the Attendee Room.

6. PRESENTATIONS

a. None

7. ACTION ITEMS: DISCUSSION

b. Vote Regarding Continuing Inclusive Remote Meeting Attendance for Advisory Board and Committee Members (Kathlyne Gish)



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Member Bleck expressed her fondness to stay remote.

Member Fresquez and Vice Chair Garcia expressed a desire to include a hybrid meeting model into the letter.

Member Parfitt expressed her concern for people wearing masks during hybrid meetings would create a barrier for her. She suggested that if hybrid meetings are included, so should CART services be included.

Through discussion, Chair Gish modified the language to read: "We, as the Mayor's Committee on Disability, support continuing accessible hybrid and/or completely virtual meetings for all committees and advisory boards to meet accommodation needs of committee and board members and attendees."

MOTION: Member Parfitt moved, seconded by Member Garcia, to approve the MCD supporting continuing inclusive meeting attendance for Advisory Boards and Committee Meetings as amended.

VOTE: The motion was approved on the following Roll Call vote:

For: Member Bleck, Member Garcia, Member Gish, Member Parfitt, Member Jawhar, Member Fresquez

Against: None

Abstain: None

- c. Letter Regarding Noise Ordinance, Related Concerns and Issues, and MCD Support for Enforcement (Pam Parfitt)

MOTION: Member Bleck moved, seconded by Member Garcia, to approve the Enforcement of the Noise Ordinance Letter as amended.

VOTE: The motion was approved on the following Roll Call vote:



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For: Member Bleck, Member Garcia, Member Gish, Member Parfitt, Member Fresquez

Against: None

Abstain: None

Mr. Graham apologized that Member Parfitt's Letter did not make it into the packet for this meeting. He explained that there was a problem with the Clerk's office stating that the file was corrupt and he resent it to them and they said it was okay, but apparently it only worked on the website and not in the pdf copy. For this reason, Chair Gish put the Letter on the screen and allowed everybody time to read the letter in its entirety.

Member Bleck appreciated the idea of adding different staff to take up the enforcement of the ordinance and relieving the police department of the burden.

Member Fresquez wanted to add clear direction of the responsibility falling on the City to provide this enforcement.

Member Parfitt suggested the language and where it could be added. She also suggested adding something about possibly adding to existing Parking Division staff duties to enforce this ordinance. Member Bleck and Member Parfitt worked out the language and where to place it.

Vice Chair Garcia suggested more professional language in a section referring to smoking.

Member Fresquez, Chair Gish and Member Bleck discussed and suggested the best way to relay the appropriate staff with the ability to enforce this ordinance.

Chair Gish then discussed the distribution of this letter. She suggested the Mayor, City Manager and Police Chief Joye and asked for any other recommendations.

Member Parfitt suggested sending it to all the City Council Members.

Mr. Graham suggested to add Kyra Ochoa, the Community Health and



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Safety Department Director and also asked Chair Gish to send a copy of the letter with the changes discussed to include with the meeting minutes.

Member Parfitt, Mr. Graham, Chair Gish and Member Fresquez discussed filing a complaint with the Department of Justice and how the ADA would apply to this sort of situation.

- d. Continued Discussion and Updates Regarding Notice for MCD Committee Membership (Kathlyne Gish)

MOTION: Member Bleck moved, seconded by Member Garcia, to approve forming a Subcommittee to assist Chair Gish with member selection for the open position of the MCD including Member Bleck and Vice Chair Garcia.

VOTE: The motion was approved on the following Roll Call vote:

For: Member Bleck, Member Garcia, Member Gish, Member Parfitt, Member Fresquez

Against: None

Abstain: None

Chair Gish provided an update on the process for advertising the open position on the MCD. She informed the committee that we have received a handful of applications and the position will still be posted until the 20th that she is deciding how to select the best person for the committee needs.

Mr. Graham suggested that the MCD could form a Subcommittee to assist Chair Gish with the review of applications and selection of the best candidate to refer to the Mayor for his approval.

Chair Gish also mentioned that the website link to the Ordinance establishing the MCD was down for quite some time, but has now been fixed by Mr. Graham.



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8. OLD BUSINESS

a. MCD Sub-Committee Reports

Member Bleck gave an update on the Transit Advisory Board, which is moving slowly on the start up because of member participation.

Member Fresquez advised that the Emergency Management meeting of the Core Advisory Group was canceled this month.

9. MATTERS FROM STAFF

a. A link to the video recording of this meeting will be added to the Meeting Minutes for this meeting

[https://santafenm.gov.zoom.us/rec/share/B7ZOw4FcbeNdw_THg8G829_mquWjaLhJKfrw12YbVg71Qh6s8zUdIC](https://santafenm.gov.zoom.us/rec/share/B7ZOw4FcbeNdw_THg8G829_mquWjaLhJKfrw12YbVg71Qh6s8zUdIC?pwd=6bBZpy?)
Passcode: =6bBZpy?

10. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Chair Gish stated that it is important that we remember that the Pandemic is not over and it is actually growing. We do need to maintain safety and well being of everybody in our community.

Member Parfitt asked about communications going forward and whether she should send correspondence to Mr. Graham (because this is his last meeting acting as the ADA Coordinator). Mr. Graham agreed to be copied on correspondence that he could forward to the appropriate personnel as necessary.

Chair Gish said that she would be doing that, since there has been no communication on Mr. Graham's replacement.

Mr. Graham stated that his replacement is the responsibility of the Public Works Director.

11. NEXT MEETING: July 21 2022



City of Santa Fe

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12. ADJOURN

This venue is equipped with closed captions. Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at 955-6521, five (5) working days prior to meeting date.

Adjourned at 11:48 AM

Liaison on behalf of Tom Graham

Chair