



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE ON
DISABILITY
JULY 05, 2023
3:00 PM
VIRTUAL MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ROLL CALL**

Members Present:

Member Aureo Bleck
Member Kendra Garcia
Member Kathlyne Gish
Member Pam Parfitt
Member Angelique Montoya-Chavez
Member Jose "Eli" Fresquez
Member Meriam Jawhar (joined late)

Members Excused:

Member Christopher Pommier

Others Attending:

Mayor Allan Webber
Mejie Renaud
Regina Wheeler

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION: Member Bleck moved, seconded by Member Garcia, to Approve the agenda as presented.

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

For: Member Bleck, Member Garcia, Member Gish, Member Parfitt, Member Montoya-Chavez, Member Fresquez

Against: None

Abstain: None



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4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. June 07, 2023 Meeting Minutes and CART Transcript

Approval of the June 07, 2023 minutes moved to next meeting (August 2, 2023 – no vote)

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (15 MINUTES TOTAL)

- a. Public Comments from website or Zoom.

Mary Renaud: Is your meeting the one to attend to discuss ADA requirements for uneven sidewalks that owners do not want to fix properly?

6. PRESENTATIONS

- a. None.

7. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Continued Discussion on Updated ADA Coordinator Job Position. Vote to Approve Letter Regarding ADA Coordinator to City Leadership (Kathlyne Gish, Kendra Garcia, Eli Fresquez, Regina Wheeler, Director of Public Works)

MOTION: Chair Gish moved, seconded by Aurore Bleck, to Approve the recommendation letter for the hiring of the ADA Coordinator addressed as a Memo to Mayor and Human Resources.

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

For: Member Bleck, Member Garcia, Member Gish, Member Parfitt, Member Montoya-Chavez, Member Fresquez

Against: None



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Abstain: None

- b. Discussion on Accessible Trails (Kendra Garcia)
 - c. Updates for Posting MCD Position (Kathlyne Gish)
 - d. Accessibility Awards: Commemorating the 33rd Anniversary of the ADA, highlights July's Disability Pride Month. Event planning underway (Eli Fresquez, Kendra Garcia, Angelique Montoya-Chavez)
 - e. Discussion and Plan to Implement Inclusive City Meetings, Accommodations Process, Zoom/Hybrid Meetings, ASL, CART, Languages, LOOP System in City Buildings, Ongoing Need to Correct and Update Community Access (Pam Parfitt, Kathlyne Gish)
 - f. Voting to Create MCD Assistance Subcommittees (Kathlyne Gish)
8. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**
- A. Updates Regarding Public Library Access process for obtaining physical materials for homebound/physically limited patrons (Kathlyne Gish)
 - B. Ice and Weed Removal in the City of Santa Fe as ADA Compliance Issue (Eli Fresquez)
 - C. ADA Compliance Process upon Receipt of a Verbal, Written, Mailed, E-Mailed, etc. Complaint/Request for an Accommodation (Kathlyne Gish)
 - D. Continued Discussion of Appropriate City Placement for ADA Coordinator and Mayor's Committee on Disability (Aurore Bleck and Kathlyne Gish, Regina Wheeler, Director of Public Works)
 - E. Continued Discussion of Updates on New City Website; The City Website Features and Accessibility (Kathlyne Gish, Eli Fresquez, Regina Wheeler, Public Works Director)



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F. MCD Sub-Committee Reports

9. **MATTERS FROM STAFF**

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

Director Wheeler: I did ask the Mayor to recognize July as Disability Awareness Month. I owe a Proclamation and will buy a flag.

10. **MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

Aurore Bleck: Some disability parking stops were taken for restaurant outdoor seating next to the Co-op. Regina and Angeline will reach out.

Angelique Montoya-Chavez: I applaud the City on taking care of staircase issue at the Fuego games immediately.

11. **NEXT MEETING: August 02, 2023**

12. **ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned by Chair Gish at 4:25 p.m.

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.

Halona Crowe

Liaison

Chair



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* * * * *

City of Santa Fe
Mayor's Committee on Disability

July 5, 2023
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (MDT)
* * * * *

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(Sart)

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: I will watch the admissions.

>> Okay. Thank you.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: She's the last one joining. Let me get the agenda up so I can be ready or not.

>> Who is chairing today?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: That is a great question.

>> Eli.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: The mayor is usually the chair of the committee but now we have a triple culture situation where Eli and Chair Gish and Kendra are co-chairing the meeting, which is making it much more manageable for everybody. And co-chairing the entire efforts of the committee. Thank you all so much.

>> ELI: Yeah, I'm going to have to lean on Kathlynetoo. Because I was not quite prepared for that. I'm willing and able. I'm here. Just tell me what you need from me.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: I'll be running the agenda for you, looking at the agenda would probably be a great thing for you to have. Or I could share the screen maybe, if you wanted.

>> AURORE BLECK: When nobody is ready Eli, you do call to order.

>> And Aurore can tell you what to do.

>> If you need me to run the meeting I can. I was hoping you would.

>> ELI: Go for it Kathlyne for now. I've got like five things going on.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: We don't need two rookies. Me the rookie, Eli the rookie.

>> Let me start recording again.

>> [Recording in progress]

>> I call this meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. may we have a roll call please?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Yes Madam chair.

>> PAM: Present.

>> KENDRA: Present.

>> AURORE BLECK: Here.

>> ELI: Present.

>> ANGELIQUE: Present. Good afternoon.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Hello, thanks for being here.

Chair Gish?

>> CHAIR GISH: Present.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: And then the person trying to dial in, but isn't here yet.

>> CHAIR GISH: That's Meriam. Yeah.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: She's a member, correct?

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Ok. Meriam I'll say not present or excused? How would you like me to record it?

>> CHAIR GISH: For now just say excused, but if she joins you can write present.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Okey dokey. You have a quorum Madam chair.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. Next is approval of the agenda. Are there any changes or amendments to the agenda that need to be made? If there are no changes to the agenda, may we have a vote to approve the agenda as it is? Aurore go ahead.

>> AURORE BLECK: Move to approve the agenda as presented.

>> KENDRA: Second.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Who was the second?

>> KENDRA: I did.

.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you. All in favor?

>> CHAIR GISH: We have to do a roll call vote.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Oh, okay. Oh boy. Roll call.

>> PAM: Yes.

>> KENDRA: Yes.

>> AURORE BLECK: yes.

>> ELI: Yes.

>> ANGELIQUE: Yes.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yes.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Madam chair, the agenda has been unanimously approved.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. Can someone please email Meriam the email that I had sent out? I am trying to do two things at once and it is not working. That will be wonderful.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: The one that you sent with the link?

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah.

>> ELI: Madam chair I will do that.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. Next is approval of the minutes and transcript. I know that Aurore you had looked at it extensively. Even some of those edits I could not make sense of it either. So I think, I don't know how to proceed with that. It is an issue of the transcriber, it's not going to be completely correct unless we go back and look through the entire two hour meeting and we make sure every single word is exact.

>> AURORE BLECK: The comments I sent everybody are not geared that way; they are geared to more important articles like the name of the woman who kind of started the disability movement. Let's get that right. You know, things like that. There were some things I just could not get. But there were plenty that I could. I don't know how to proceed with this either. This is something new we are trying. To have the little subcommittee and all. And then Pam sent me some corrections. But those are more, there's lots of those little things in there that I did not even bother with, going more for more important context, more important things.

So how could we incorporate this into our essentially product that goes online?

>> CHAIR GISH: Regina do you want to answer that?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Yes Madam chair, I have a suggestion that we feed that information back to Partners Interpreting to update, so it is either them and if they are not going to do it then Halona (phonetic) can do it for so it is a matter of not approving the minutes from the last meeting and us following up to incorporate the substantive feedback that Aurore provided on those minutes.

>> AURORE BLECK: Okay well that being the case, then if you had, if you look at this and had something that had a bunch of question marks at the end of it, if you can give me that information we can put it all on one page. So any place where there are question marks, and it had to do with something you said, if you can figure out what it was, can you get that to me? And then we can incorporate all in this one list.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Are you speaking to me specifically Aurore?

>> AURORE BLECK: You and Kathlyn both have places where there's five question marks. Eli you've got one. Anyway, there's about three for you Regina, or five question marks that I couldn't figure out what you're trying to say, you know? Sometimes we will never know so you can figure it out either, oh well.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: That is a great suggestion and I think that maps to how the governing body does it as well because I've seen that councilors will say I did not say that, I said this, so is a good idea to go back to the speaker and get clarity about that. So Regina, Kathlyne and Eli have a little homework on that.

>> Not a lot.

>> CHAIR GISH: I definitely agree with the need for the context to be correct for something that should be clear; that it is not the opposite statement because that has been happening a lot in our captioning, as the words are being left out so that it is making it or just an incorrect word so it makes it sound like it is the opposite intention of what is being said. So, then, in that case we should hold a vote then. I guess it would be to approve the minutes but then if you disagree with the minutes being approved, please vote no.

>> AURORE BLECK: Was the idea that we would wait and do it next month?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: I think that is the thing to do.

>> AURORE BLECK: So if you can give me your corrections then next month we will run it through.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: And I will record no action taken. Postponed to next meeting.

>> CHAIR GISH: All right so then the next item is public comments. Are there any public comments, or comments on behalf of anyone who can't be here today?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: I believe there is Madam chair. Is there anybody who would like to make a public comment? raise your virtual or real hand. Thank you Meije. The chair will recognize you.

>> MEIJE: I have a question. I live in a subdivision that has around 40-45 sidewalks that are significantly popped, 4 inches, 3 inches, they are dangerous. The HOA does not want to deal with it and I know it is a homeowner's responsibility, but really nobody wants to financially or legally pay for it. Is there someone on your committee or someone that I can talk to to figure out how to navigate the city, the HOA, my neighbors, to try to improve the safety of this neighborhood? Because I don't really know where to start. I have a ton of addresses, but I don't want to just fill out the constituent report, and report them. I would like it to be the right thing to do for everybody. Anybody?

>> AURORE BLECK: I don't know exactly what you do, but I can tell you the history. There was a very comprehensive study done of all sidewalks in Santa Fe, and there is a compensable list of what needs to be fixed, but you are right. The homeowner is responsible. But at the time we were talking about it, well, is there anything that can be done for people who are low income and can't really afford to do concrete work? You know? So I think there is something... There is all I know Regina.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you so much for bringing this issue up Meije. It is a citywide issue and Aurore is correct, we have a transition plan, call the PROW, public right-of-way transition plan. The process is this. If you fill out one of those those work orders for the addresses which you don't have to do, I can take that information from you, we will send an inspector to the sidewalk of disrepair. We do this every day of the week all over the city. We'll give the homeowner notice that their sidewalk is failing to comply with safety and ADA standards and ask them to make a repair. We give them 30 days if they call us and they want more time. We will give them six months as long as they're working with us. They can get quotes from contractors. If they either don't respond or choose not to repair, then we will go ahead and get the lowest price bid that we can for the repair. Then we execute the repair. It ranges from, in worst case scenario, \$10,000, somewhere between there. We will present the property owner at that point with the bill for the work. If they choose not to pay it, then it'll simply be placed as a lien on the property so that when a transaction of sale occurs on the property, then that bill from the city would have to be cleared. And that process has been going really well, about half of the people choose to pay because they have the cash and they feel better that way. Half the people approximately choose not to pay. There is no harassment and it ends up in a really nice sidewalk, and really a property improvement for the property owner and the neighborhood. Does that make sense?

>> MEIJE: Yes. So if I took all my notes from my phone, and all of the addresses, contact your office with a list?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: You can email it to me directly.

>> MEIJE: I have your email and your card. That is all I have. I interested in seeing what else you guys are going to talk about.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you so much for being here.

>> Thank you.

>> CHAIR GISH: I just want to be clear Regina that I have heard through the grapevine, but I would like a statement on this that a lien on a home is not like where taxes are owed or things like that where they can reclaim the house. There is no reclaiming of the home, right? On record.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: That is my understanding of the process. It just sit there until there is a transaction. I do not know the process for taxes, so I cannot say.

>> CHAIR GISH: Angelique go ahead.

>> ANGELIQUE: I'm wondering if there is some type of grant or type of funding that will make those accommodations or make those repairs for people that are low-income or disabled, or something like that. Let me look into that and let me ask the commission if there is some type of funding for that process.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you Angelique I appreciate that.

>> MEIJE: Sorry, I want to ask another question. PROW stood for what?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Public right-of-way.

>> Thank you.

>> CHAIR GISH: So next if there are no more comments, Angelique you still have your hand raised. If there are no more comments or questions, the next item is presentations which there are none. After that we have action items. Item 7 and then 7a is a continued Discussion on Updated ADA Coordinator Job Position. Vote to Approve Letter Regarding ADA Coordinator to City Leadership (Kathlyne Gish, Kendra Garcia, Eli Fresquez, Regina Wheeler, Director of Public Works). I hope you are able to review that and also to review the qualifications of the candidate. I don't know what we can or can't say Regina.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Madam chair I don't know that there is too much that you can't say.

>> CHAIR GISH: I think just do an overview of the process and what happened.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: That sounds great.

>> CHAIR GISH: Okay. So Eli, myself and Kendra, along with Julie Sanchez who was in the first vote. So there were two separate votes, first and second. Julie Sanchez from Community Services was on the first. I don't remember who else was on the first Regina.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Me.

>> CHAIR GISH: You and then Halona, was she on the first?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: The first round of interviews what Julie Sanchez, the director of youth and family services and myself and on the second round of interviews was the three members of the mayor's committee on disability, the community health and safety director Kyra Ochoa (phonetic) and Halona Crowe (phonetic), those were the two interview panels.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you and so we did an interview. There were two candidates and both were amazing honestly, they were both amazing candidates. It was a very hard vote, much harder than we thought it was going to be. But it turned out that what we need is really experience, and this candidate is experienced in ADA coordination. And also has a 30 year work history dealing with ADA compliance and other areas under title I, predominantly, so it is both title I and title II it's his experience, so he knew what the transition plan was; he knew how to implement it, he knew all of our questions. And so, anyway like I said it was a very hard vote. And, but the candidate that we chose, I truly believe is the best candidate, and will get the city back on track for ADA compliance. So I don't know if you Kendra or Eli have anything to say, go ahead Eli.

>> ELI: Yeah, I will try to keep this short. But I think it is really amazing what the city had done for outreach to find really great candidates. Both candidates were really great. The candidate that we decided to go with does have extensive experience in ADA compliance, across the country. Has been doing this work in the private sector but also in the public sector. I will say that what really helped was the city being open to really redesigning and rethinking the way that we thought about the ADA coordinator position itself. The original job posting was really from the 90s, really more centered on physical access which is still an issue. But now moving it more into a more dynamic position of equity and inclusion, and access; physical access but also program access and services. So I know Kathlyne and I, we did our homework and we looked across the country at what are some of the best practices and some of the folks in the committee also gave input and the city was really open to that, so I think having that really new improved job description along with the city doing a lot of effort with the recruitment side reaching out, I saw in LinkedIn and in a number of different places to try to find that great candidate, and I think you did. It found somebody who is a national expert to bring to Santa Fe to help us both on the physical side but also on the programmatic side. So we drafted a letter of support to help the city in order to (indiscernible) to hire this new person. I'm really excited and looking forward to the future and think that this new role could really support the city, and help it develop its accessibility, and its transition plan and all the key features of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Kendra, I will turn it over to you.

>> KENDRA: One thing that, well not one thing, but you know with possibly hiring this individual really brings stability, and the actual compliance that we need as a city. I was born and raised in Santa Fe, New Mexico and I have a disability myself, multiple different types of disabilities, and really trying to get this candidate that we are really wanting for this position is vital and crucial. And I think he would definitely bring where the ADA needs to be here in Santa Fe. Most definitely thank you for your support.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you everyone. And I want to thank Regina on record for including us in this process. I had initially just asked if we could sit in and just kind of shadow; at first she said no. I don't know if you thought about it or what, or realized how complex this process really is. But you included us fully. And I am incredibly grateful for that. That has been amazing to me to experience, and also is really how it should be. People with disabilities who are affected by the

issue should be included in the process to resolve the issue. So I really appreciate that, and I appreciate you listening.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you Madam chair.

>> CHAIR GISH: So if there are no more comments, Aurore go ahead.

>> AURORE BLECK: I have a technical comment the way the letter is set up right now it is a letter and a memo. I think it is to be one of the other. If it is a memo you leave the stuff at the top and get rid of the signatures of the bottom.

>> CHAIR GISH: We can do that.

>> AURORE BLECK: So good to see Meriam.

>> MERIAM: Hi. Thank you.

>> CHAIR GISH: If it is a memo we can just initial it instead of signing it. Okay. so if there are no more comments or questions, if there are any questions we are here. All right if there are no more comments, like I said I had sent you all his resume and letters of recommendation. I think those were very helpful, even if you weren't part of the interview it gives a good overview of what was discussed in our interview process. And the experience that this person has.

So if there are no more comments, may we have a vote to approve the letter as amended by Aurore's comments regarding the ADA coordinator to city leadership? I do have one question. It is only addressed to Mayor Webber, and I'm wondering Regina if you think it should be addressed to more people.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you Madam chair and that is a good question. Maybe the HR director and the mayor would be a good suite of folks, and Madam chair if I may about the process did you just make that motion? Approval of the letter?

>> CHAIR GISH: That is right.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Pending a second.

>> AURORE BLECK: Second.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Roll call.

>> PAM: Yes.

>> KENDRA: Yes.

>> AURORE BLECK: Yes.

>> ELI: Yes.

>> ANGELIQUE: Yes.

>> MERIAM: Yes.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yes.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Madam chair that motion passes unanimously.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. Next item is 7b, Discussion on Accessible Trails (Kendra Garcia).

>> KENDRA: Thank you Madam chair. I had invited the Santa Fe conservation trust. They are currently working on a project to make an accessible trail. It is out in Laney (phonetic), in that area. I can't remember the specific address of the area but you know they are really wanting it to be accessible as much as possible for individuals with disabilities. This is actually not public land, this is actually, from my understanding, private land and so I asked them if they could come, and kind of give us a presentation, and see what their plans are and how they are going to make this switch. They already have a good portion of the plans in place, and unfortunately they were not able to make it for today but they should be available as of August 2 to at least come and give us a small presentation, and see what the project is about and kind of give us the opportunity to give some feedback, outside of the group. And so (indiscernible) part of it as well as other committee members and leaders of certain organizations throughout the state as well as the city. That is my information that I would like to share the moment.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you Kendra. Let me know if they confirm. I know I saw the emails, but please confirm with them that they will be attending because then I can put them on the agenda. Under presentation. It will be in the first hour.

>> KENDRA: Okay sounds good.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you.

>> KENDRA: You're welcome.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Madam chair, Kendra, I can just to point out to the committee that there is actually a great website about the trail work, actually called the Conservation Homestead Trail.

>> KENDRA: Yes.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Yep. And it shows some design information and there's some goals, so you can get warmed up with them.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you Regina. Next is 7c, updates for Posting MCD Position (Kathlyne Gish). I just wanted to confirm with Regina. I know that we had discussed in the last meeting about how we don't have a liaison, and we don't have anyone to kind of coordinate the applicants, so I wanted to have a group-wide discussion of how to coordinate this in this interim time so you don't have more work put on you and Halona does not have more work put on her, and how can we make this happen.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you so much Madam chair. I did send a message. I have spoken to the city clerk and sent an email to the city clerk asking that we post that position as well as the vacancy on the transit committee for persons with disabilities, and I think there is kind of a backlog posting committee vacancies. And so as soon as I hear back I will remind the city clerk again. As soon as we post it, we asked in multiple locations, Facebook and other outreach, in a highly accessible format which means just plain text. And so I will ask her again. I think once we get resumes coming in I will be happy to send it to the whole committee if you would like that and we can take a look at them. The mayor likes to get a briefing. I will get you guys' input and brief the mayor about the candidates and the city clerk; the big hurdle we have right now is getting it posted.

>> CHAIR GISH: And the second question we had was about the city resolution. I know Eli had sent you the accessible format document. I don't think that has been posted yet. It could go in a separate link following to say "accessible format document," or something that identifies that as such, following the PDF that is not accessible unless Eli is any other suggestions that is what I was thinking would be appropriate because then it would say what it is and following it would say, "accessible format document here."

So if that could happen, because a lot of the questions that I got in the last round were questions that would've been answered if someone had been able to read that. So, and it is just an image. So that will be very helpful to have happen before we get that posting shared around.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you Madam chair we will get that done.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. And then if there are no questions or comments on the item, Item 7d, Summer Commemoration event, an event planning to celebrate and give awards to selected city staff and others who have supported the disability community. (Eli Fresquez, Kendra Garcia, Angelique Montoya-Chavez).

>> ELI: Yeah, Kendra and Angelique feel free. I'll kick this off. This is something that Kendra had talked about way back when I came back to New Mexico in 2019 we started the subcommittee and then Covid happened. So everything slowed down. But then just this last spring we remembered this idea and the concept of having a commemoration of the Americans with Disabilities Act 33 along with disability pride month, which is this month, something that is not

been done widespread in New Mexico. This is a real opportunity to lift up the disability community, and have public speakers, elected officials, other leaders come and talk to the disability community. It is about celebrating the Americans with Disabilities Act, about celebrating people with disabilities and inclusion and how everyone is unique, and how we can work in partnership and collaborate and build trust in the community. And then the awards themselves is about really acknowledging those in the community who have done outstanding jobs when it comes to accessibility, and working with the disability community. So we set up a subcommittee this past spring. We are moving right along. We just sent out an invite this morning to another group of people. And so we are really looking forward to this event. It's going to be between 50-100 people. So far people are hopping on; we are selling out. So join quickly. And the logistics piece of this, we are working on A/V, captioning, American sign language and looking at some donations and sponsorships to help support it and sustain it in the future. This is our first year and we've already gotten vendors reaching out to us about next year and what we can do next year. So we are really excited. It's a lot of work and I will turn it over to Kendra and Angelique. We are all just working hard on this event. It is exciting. It is fun.

>> KENDRA: I'll go, I don't know if Angelique you wanted to speak, so really right now it is moving along. We are getting a lot done. It is now on the 25th like Eli said. Any help that the committee can help support in making sure things run smoothly, that'd be great. Like Eli said, we sent an email so please register as an is possible. I believe a good portion of the committee has already RSVPd, it is just a matter of those who haven't please do so as soon as possible.

>> AURORE BLECK: So if we RSVPd to you earlier, do we need to fill out the form?

>> KENDRA: Yes, unfortunately so we can make sure that we are keeping track of how many tickets, things like that, and how many people are attending.

>> ELI: We know you will be there but it will help us with coordination.

>> KENDRA: Exactly. Pam, you had your hand up for a second there.

>> PAM: When I went to the site to register it crashed. I could not open it.

>> KENDRA: No!

>> Yes!

>> ELI: Yeah. It is like living with technology. It is never going to be perfect. Pam, you want to try again go for it, we have you down anyway so don't worry too much about it. We tried a couple of different platforms. This one seemed the easiest and most accessible but like anything else it will crash. Maybe give it one more shot and if not you are already in, and we will follow-up with you because I wanted to check in with you about our CART captioning and we are really excited about it and we are going to have CART captioning at the event and it will be like streamed and

projected. So there's a lot of logistics involved in that which I would love to talk with you a bit more off-line.

>> CHAIR GISH: And then Eli, I have some questions for you. One, will there be an agenda for the evening? If so could you get that to us beforehand since we will also be assisting with the evening and not just attending? And what kind of assistance is still needed for the event of anything from us?

>> ELI: We are definitely having a program guide. That is something that we are starting to work on now. So kind of a run of the show. And we will be sharing that with the city as well for their feedback and making sure everything is done in a way that coordinates the different speaking opportunities and so forth. So yes on that.

Specifically on any support from the committee, nothing at this point yet, we want to reach out if our ticket sales are down or we can't get enough people although I don't think that will be an issue. We do want to assign some duties when it comes to the actual event they, maybe somebody greeting people at the front door and I think we are thinking about having an informational booth, or some sort of place if people have questions or concerns. The location is accessible, it is wheelchair accessible, ingress and egress. The restrooms are accessible both in front and in the back. And there is a single user stall in the back as well. So there's lots of accessibility features at the event. But we want to make sure that anybody showing up, and they have questions about American sign language or CART captioning or the unique features of the restroom that we have somebody that help inform them. Angelique of Kendra, feel free if you have any thoughts.

>> ANGELIQUE: I think for the most part everything will be perfectly organized. Like really, I think we are covering all our bases. I think it is going to flow very beautifully; I think it is going to be a wonderful celebration. I think more than anything, for the most part everyone will be attending as guests, because everything is going to be covered. It's more of an accommodation for individuals like if somebody specializes in a certain area like Eli mentioned they can comment or make some type of accommodation. But for the most part, I think everything's coming together perfectly.

>> CHAIR GISH: That is awesome, thank you Angelique. Regina?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you madam chair. Angelique had told me about some of the people that she had been inviting and I thought it would be exciting for members of the committee and participants in this hearing to hear. Would you be willing Angelique to tell us who you have been inviting?

>> ANGELIQUE: So this is where my passion comes in. We have been-- sorry my little boy has music playing in the background-- as a team we were throwing together a list. So far we have the mayor, the mayor's staff, mayor's committee, governor's commission, city Council, County

officials, state representatives and Eli has been speaking with a couple of the representatives one on one and I am excited about that part.

We are also going to invite a couple of individuals that are running in the new elections. You know, either they do volunteer work already in the committee, or they are already publicly known. I guess that is the way to say it. We have several awardees that we have already selected; and then they will have plus ones as well, we have invited the (indiscernible) Pueblo governor and her governing staff, and I am really excited about collaborating with them. I am excited about hearing back from them. We've asked them to nominate someone within their community that really stands out and when I mentioned this to Regina, she mentioned a Pueblo that she has worked with very closely and actually worked for. And I think by reaching out to them, we can maybe highlight accessibility, and different things that we need where they are lacking, we definitely need to reach out and be a bridge to them as well.

So, this is going to be a really neat event, you know? Just to have conversations with people who are in office and bring a really positive light to what the city of Santa Fe is doing with this committee, and what this committee is doing specifically and what individuals in the committee are doing. I am on really on fire for this event and I am excited actually to see it all come together. So yeah. I think there's going to be some great conversations going on in the room that night.

>> CHAIR GISH: I know I am looking forward to it. I really appreciate all the work that you've been doing. It was like a really crunch time, like at the last moment to put it all together but it is happening. It is very exciting. Kendra go ahead.

>> KENDRA: Two last things that we need to mention about the event. One is Chairman Gish, if you could please give a speech about the committee that was one of the things we would like the committee, you in particular to do for the event. I know usually public speaking is not the greatest in anybody's vocab, but yeah if you could please give that. And in addition, we are looking for sponsorships for the event so if anybody knows of any sponsors that are looking to help with this event please have them reach out to Eli. Eli will be our main point of contact for that.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you Kendra.

>> ELI: Sorry to interrupt real quick everyone on that sponsorship piece, all donations for the event can go to the Arc of New Mexico, we have been working closely with them and they're our close partner. Heather Benavidez is Executive Director over there. They have been a really great partner in this and I just spoke with her last week. We've worked out a system where they can just identify that when they do donate to the Arc that it is for this event. So we are working with the Arc, and just people know the Arc is a national program with a very strong New Mexico presence and they actually have a facility in Albuquerque. And this serves the developmental disability community, and a lot of neuro-divergent kids and adults so it is a great organization that we've been collaborating with as well along with the city and others.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you Eli and Kendra. Angelique?

>> ANGELIQUE: Another thing I left out is the Santa Fe school board just because I am passionate and have a heart for the kids in this community. And since a lot of children in the city of Santa Fe have IEPs, I do want to mention that they will be invited as well.

Another really exciting thing is, I spoke with Regina about the mayor being part of the presentation for the awards. And I think it is going to be a real honor to have him up there and being part of this wonderful event. I am excited. So you know, I just wanted to mention that as well.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you Angelique. Regina?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you Madam chair. I guess I should say that for the mayor's time we should have that agenda sooner than later so it is clear for the mayor's calendar and I did want to say that the city has agreed to pay the catering for the event which is one of the largest single expenses. It is almost \$10,000. And the city is obviously a big supporter and sponsor and thank you for that opportunity.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you for that information. And thank you Regina for all of your help with everything as well.

>> ANGELIQUE: I mean I really know that those numbers are really big Regina and I really appreciate you, yeah, doing it and putting it through and having all of those meeting with us. I appreciate your time.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: So happy to support. Thank you.

>> CHAIR GISH: Next item. 7e. Discussion and Plan to Implement Inclusive City Meetings, Accommodations Process, Zoom/Hybrid Meetings, ASL, CART, Languages, LOOP System in City Buildings, Ongoing Need to Correct and Update Community Access (Pam Parfitt, Kathlyne Gish).

There has been-- we can talk about the CART services with Pam, a little bit and how we have corrected some of the issues. Pam, is the CART service working today for you?

>> PAM: As far as I know. I am on a Google system, not using it.

>> CHAIR GISH: Okay. So Regina do you want to give a quick brief rundown of what the process is been to try and correct CART?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you so much Madam chair. It is so funny that-- I know you guys have been working on CART for years and I have been working on it for six months. We have a long way to go to have accessible meetings be just part of how we do business. Right? We are

all learning. We did learn a lot in that great troubleshooting meeting with Partners Interpreting the other day and the reason that Pam is not using the live captioning is because the Zoom meeting was set up without the proper behind the scenes set up just like we learned last week in our troubleshooting situation. And so, let's see, sorry, do you want to say-- you're translating CART. It is live captioning, is that what you're trying to do Eli?

>> ELI: Yeah, just breaking that acronym down.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Okay, thanks. So that's live captioning rather than the built in Zoom captioning and we learned Partners Interpreting is the company that we have the purchase order that is here today, not providing live captioning but at least providing verbatim transcripts which are required for accessible meetings. They taught us about the back end configuration; they taught us about the value of early material to the captioners so they know the correct spelling of the names of the speakers. They taught us about the importance of having the same captioner, so they become familiar with like street names, and place names, and Santa Fe and often in Spanish. We learned that the streaming live captioning is really good to project on a separate screen, say in the Council chambers, on the big screen by itself, so people in the audience can see. And then we also learned that it is ideal to have a direct, below the speaker type of captioning, so for people like Pam that are reading lips and facial expressions. So we've learned a lot. I think we are scheduled to meet again with IT soon. They are focusing on other things like the city's new financial year, which is taking a lot of work for them. And the city clerk. So I'm still trying to get into the Council Chambers, at this moment we have learned that the Council meetings no longer have live captioning scheduled. They are not posting any live screen captioning on a separate screen, so work to do there. And also further on the update, I think the installation of the hearing loop was postponed a little bit. It is due-- I will have to get you a new date-- and when that happens the facility's team is planning to make the podium accessible, which is something that we have a very long list that we gave about accessible meetings. And, I think we are also thinking about trying to have Spanish translation, on a separate live stream screen and Partners Interpreting can provide that but I still need to coordinate with the city clerk and IT to get that going. I think that is all I know. If there's anything else that I can provide Madam chair?

>> CHAIR GISH: Know I think that is an excellent summary of what has been happening. It's been a lot. And Angelique, go ahead.

>> ANGELIQUE: Regina I just want to say thank you about the podium. I tried everywhere. I looked for one of those accessible podiums, all the way up to the capital. We do not have one in the state. So the city is going to be the first want to have an accessible podium. And I think we need to recognize that. It's going to be custom-made. Regina went all the way to the top to have this made and I am really excited.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you Angelique.

>> CHAIR GISH: I did not know but the custom-made part. That is pretty awesome! Anyway that is good to be an ongoing discussion obviously, and a lot of work for all of us to include to make sure that our governing body meetings are accessible for everyone to participate and understand what is happening. And I thank you Regina. I know that it's been a lot of work.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you. Thanks to all of you, we all really pitched into that (indiscernible) meeting.

>> CHAIR GISH: Any other comments or questions? Go ahead Pam.

>> PAM: Madam chair, everyone who has participated in this process to get MCD meetings and city Council meetings, and governing meetings accessible to the deaf and hard of hearing, I cannot thank you enough. Maybe the first podium in the state. This is the first inroad that our communities, the deaf and hard of hearing, feel is substantive. It is really happening and I thank you all so much.

>> CHAIR GISH: You have been a big part of it too Pam. Thank you for the time you have put in as well; you've dedicated a lot of time into this as well. Thank you to you too.

The next item, if there is no other comments, the next item is 7f. Voting to Create MCD Assistance Subcommittees (Kathlyne Gish). I can't think of any others that we need. And so, if anyone can think of any other subcommittees that we may need, please speak now.

Regina, are you raising your hand? No. Okay, so I can't think of anything so we will move on. Next item is our discussion items. No action.

Updates Regarding Public Library Access process for obtaining physical materials for homebound/physically limited patrons (Kathlyne Gish).

I actually have a really exciting update on that. I can give a brief summary. The summary back story is that at some point during the pandemic, we don't know exactly when, the home delivery, nursing home delivery of physical library resources and materials stopped. We don't know when or why. The friends of the Santa Fe public library just stopped doing it. And the new division director, I think her name was Margaret, she called me. We were playing phone tag awhile, but she finally got a hold of me and was very kind and listened and understood the importance of the need for materials to be able to be brought to people who cannot get to the library. And so, she is now trying to figure out what happened and how to fix it, and how to return the service within the city so that everyone can access the library. And so that to me was a very positive response. And she completely understood like I didn't even have to explain. When I tried to explain she said yeah, I know I get it, I understand. She was very kind, and very understanding. So I just wanted to let you know that that process has started to try and resolve that issue.

Regina you had your hand up?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: That was my clapping hand. Thank you so much Madam chair and congratulations on your progress on that.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, thank you. Angelique go ahead.

>> ANGELIQUE: I contacted the Santa Fe public libraries I believe in June Kendra, if I'm not mistaken, and I asked them if they would do a feature in the month of July being that it is disability awareness month. And they haven't yet. It is the fifth. I am hoping that they do. I'm hoping that they feature books written by people with disabilities and books including awareness about disabilities and children's books specifically. And most importantly about ADA. So I'm hoping that they do, and they start promoting that not only on their social media page, but also throughout the libraries. So we will see.

>> CHAIR GISH: Angelique I can send you Margaret's email contact and phone number because she was very understanding of the disability issues and needs. And so I think that she would be a good person to directly contact. And so I will get you that after this meeting.

Next item is 8b. Ice and Weed Removal in the City of Santa Fe as ADA Compliance Issue (Eli Fresquez). I want to say Regina, they did remove the weeds on Paseo de Peralta and they look really good, thank you. I don't know if we need to say much more on this. Weeds are going to grow. You had stated that there was a new service happening and you are testing it out. Are there any updates on that being successful?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: I am sure that, thank you Madam chair, so glad they got that. I just opened a regular work order on the city's work order system on your behalf for those weeds by the way. So the system does work and it is not perfect every time and I encourage everybody to use it but also reach out to me if you're not getting satisfaction.

And I don't know the update on this deemed weed killer, I'll have to get it and I will find out and hopefully they'll be buying another one.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. Any more comments on ice and weed removal?

>> ANGELIQUE: Not on ice removal but Swan Park. I was notified by Special Olympics that they do several practices at Swan Park, the grass and everything is a mess. I don't know how we go about just getting it cleaned up for our athletes especially because they represent Santa Fe, they are team Santa Fe, and we need to make sure that the park is cleaned up and accessible for them. If you guys have any suggestions I would love to hear them.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: I will be happy to follow up on that. Could you explain "a mess" to me - are we talking litter, yellow grass, long grass?

>> ANGELIQUE: I think it is long grass. I think there was some litter but most importantly I think some paraphernalia, drug paraphernalia, if we could get that cleaned up that would be nice, especially if they have cognitive delays, I would hate for one of them to pick up a needle or something like that. Just get it cleaned up, I would appreciate it.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you I will get on that.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you Angelique. Thank you Regina.

Next is 8c. ADA Compliance Process upon Receipt of a Verbal, Written, Mailed, Emailed, etc. Complaint/Request for an Accommodation (Kathlyne Gish).

This is just an overview again. We've already gone over this. But that is a process that is on the website. An ideal I had sent you Regina on record; this is also for item e. I had sent Regina updates about the website not printing properly. So you can't print it to PDF. That is part of this process. We should be able to print out the complaint process and have it be accessible so that someone could just go through it, itemize it, and know what is going to happen. So that is in the works.

8d. Continued Discussion of Appropriate City Placement for ADA Coordinator and Mayor's Committee on Disability (Aurore Bleck and Kathlyne Gish, Regina Wheeler, Director of Public Works).

This is an interesting one. So I had been asked by Kyra Ochoa (phonetic) in health and safety, and since I was Julie's intern, Julie Sanchez's intern under youth and family services before she was the director, I knew them, so I told them that it was appropriate to include Julie. And so we had a good discussion. Basically they stated that the office of inclusion and equity, or whatever it is going to be called, is you know, in discussion. So far Eli and Kendra, I am going to call on you to be part of these discussions to find out if it is appropriate for us to be moving under that department or not. You know, as I've stated, they are not really a civil rights enforcement office. And so there's kind of some gray area. They definitely deal with civil rights issues. And their department is incredibly diverse for the committees. They have the most diverse committees and they definitely deal with issues we are concerned about. So it would be a more appropriate placement that under public works, definitely.

Is it everything we want and need? I don't know. Can we make it that way? Possibly. It is all in discussion right now. And so I think it would be really good to kind of take this opportunity as a committee to find out what is possible with this move. And whether we do want to be under that department, how it would benefit us, and how we can benefit the department and the community through that work. And so, that is kind of where we are at. That is kind of where it was left. I am not making any decisions. I was and intern under youth and family services, so I know a lot of the work that Kyra and Julie are doing and I know how it does align with our priorities and our needs. But I also know that it doesn't fully align with them so it is a lot of, I

think it's going to be a lot of discussing where the gaps are. And trying to find ways to address the gaps.

And then also to move forward, where we will benefit the community. So I told Julie that even if we don't, in the end even if we don't move under that department, or we do something completely different, however it will work, however we can get it to work I don't know, that we should still be aligned with them because we can really support their work and what they do.

And so I need to follow up and get Julie. Julie said that she has 12 employees now which is amazing because when I was her intern, I think she had one coworker. So it was a small and mighty team. But I think she said that she was going to send someone to join our meeting, to go over what they do and better explain it about what is going on in that department. So we can have a better understanding of how we can work together, in one way or another. So that was literally pretty much a good summary of our discussion. If there's any questions or comments?

No? Okay.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: I guess that Madam chair I would like to add a little comment. I think everybody here is aware, but I just say-- and like you said Madam chair, regardless of the place of this organization especially with this highly experienced new person leading this initiative, that person will help us with policy, it will help us with addressing all the items of the enabling legislation, they understand exactly how the city must respond to accommodation requests, regardless of where that person sits it will get much better and we will continue as we are now to the best of our ability to pursue the goals. And so organizational structure, you guys are getting very well known around the city, of how important these issues are. And I would just say that I-- you know, we do have to work with the structure that makes sense. But we also will work with whatever structure we end up with to make a difference. Thank you.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you Regina. That was another thing that Kyra told me. Was that if we were to move under health and safety/community services, we would basically be in the same position that we are in now under Regina. She is not trying to put us under a different division all the way down like ending up under Street and drainage maintenance. She's not trying to do that. She is trying to do we are in a high position in her department so we do have that sort of authority. And she said that she does have a good relationship with the city; she does have the ability to communicate as a director in the same way that Regina is. And so we won't be siphoned off again, and made the way that we've been dealing with so many barriers just to be heard for the past since 2017.

And so that won't be a problem. And I guess if it is, if it became a problem we could voice it. But she is very aware of that issue, and that concern that we have of just you know ending up in a really lower position than we need to be, where we are rendered ineffective. She is very aware of the issues that we've been having with that, and does not want to repeat that.

And so I was very grateful that she stayed at that. That was my concern to her Voicing that She is aware of that problem but we've had; she said it was very apparent with what we are dealing with now, that we haven't had the level of support that we've needed since 2017, and probably even before then. And so she wanted to make sure that was addressed, and not repeated.

And so, yeah, that's about all I have to say. It wasn't an end-up discussion just a meet and greet, and letting us know that nothing is set. That everything is being discussed. And we can be a part of the discussion.

If there's no more comments or questions... so the next item 8e. Continued Discussion of Updates on New City Website; The City Website Features and Accessibility (Kathlyne Gish, Eli Fresquez, Regina Wheeler, Public Works Director).

So I had mentioned this. And like I said I had sent Regina the printouts of all different ways to try and print the city website. The former website had a feature that was printer friendly, a printer friendly version for each page, and you could print it through a PDF or you could print a physical copy but erased all the elements of the were no images or orders or menu on the side. It was the body content, and that was it. Just the content of the body. You could make the font bigger. You could make it smaller. It stayed within the page so there was text dropping and in the new website the text goes far off the right, you have to make literally like a 2 inch margin to pull it in but then the font is too small. So there are some interesting issues without that, and I tried everything to print it and even copying and pasting the text, like that was my only option. Just copying and pasting the text and putting it in a word doc and then editing it. And even that sometimes it did not work because it did maintain some of the website elements unless I did text-only. Anyway it was a lot of fun playing with it trying to get it to work and see how every time I tried to do something to make it an accessible PDF it didn't work.

So I sent Regina like seven different printouts, a whole list of the different things that I have done. Print to PDF. Save to PDF. All different things and none of them worked properly. Either the font was too small or it went off the edge. So hopefully that will get fixed, because printer-friendly version was very helpful for someone like me who does use an e-reader. And to not have those elements on the webpage and also just to be able to print for our meeting to be able to print content from the website without having to print orders and menus, and have the print go off the edge. So I'm looking forward to that getting fixed. That's been one of my main issues personally.

I don't know if anyone else has any updates on the website or anything. I know Eli you had stated that there was one other problems that you were aware of at least? Go ahead and talk about that.

>> ELI: Yeah it is kind of an ongoing issue. It has to do with the use of AccessiBe as the overlay. We had flagged that as being a concern. Often it will make a website less accessible. There are other ways of being a website more accessible. And so our recommendation was to remove the overlay. I understand that you purchase these overlays with good intentions and in good faith,

but a lot of them unfortunately end up less accessible I'd say. Accessibility itself has been sued by a number of advocacy groups along with other kinds of overlays that are similar. They're not all built alike. Some overlays are better than others, but I wanted to flag that as something that in my mind should be removed. And then look at the website itself and see how we can make improvements on the accessibility side. There are some little things like color contrast and alt text, and heading structure that can be used to improve the website.

Overall the website has a lot of accessibility features. I would suggest again that one barrier to access is actually the thing that is supposed to make it accessible, but doesn't, and that is the accessibility overlay.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you Eli. Regina, do you have something to say?

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: I do and thank you Madam chair. It is hard for me to be the go-between, between you guys and the web. I understood there was a meeting once, my understanding from staff was that it didn't go well. They felt attacked and I think nothing happened as a result. I don't know if there's a way that we can, so what I am doing so you know what I do, I am entering these for the web master on the website there's a link at the bottom of the website that says report a website issue and she has been pretty responsive. Chair Gish, I submitted yours last week and she said that when they get their new PO, they will work on that with the vendor but I also heard from city clerk that she was upset and frustrated because apparently our comments are causing the vendors to try to sue her. It is not going that well. I don't know how maybe we can put our heads together to figure out how we can make this go better because there's all of these little things you find. I think just reporting them right there to the webmaster most of those will get addressed, but my guess is Eli is that this whole lawsuit thing was accessibility when they went and said that you're not accessible. I don't know. Do you have any ideas?

>> ELI: I don't know. I was in a meeting with Jesse Jaramillo who was from the governor's commission on disability. I wasn't in all of it. But from the part I listened to, and just the tenor of it, was that it was very conversational and it was not meant to be critical, and informative. So, with that said maybe they took it the wrong way; it wasn't meant to be like that. It was meant to be educational.

Now, AccessiBe (the name of the company is not clear) does not bring lawsuits. What they do is they are supposed to make a website more accessible, but people in the disability community, particularly this company, has seen them as overpromising and under delivering when it comes to that. That is what we are recommending they be removed. I don't know if there's some contractual agreement with the city, where we said we are going to pay them to do this or what that looks like. It shouldn't. It should be a feature that we should decide as a community, is it quite appropriate or not the right feature to use for us? And have that flexibility.

I would say that removing it would make the website more accessible. And there's lots, there's actually an open letter that was created by the disability community that has been sent out

particularly about this overlay and other overlays, and why it doesn't make your website more accessible. And frankly we just pay for something that really doesn't serve the interests of the community that it is trying to serve.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you so much Eli and Madam chair for the conversation. I will forget what I was told in the past. I just submitted another request on the city's website to remove AccessiBe as a request from the Mayor's Committee on Disability.

>> CHAIR GISH: Once thing that I want to say about AccessiBe, I'm kind of fascinated by the fact that you can't turn it off. Once it's there it's just popping up in there, and you cannot turn it off. And you should be able to turn it off even if it is present. There should be a way to say go away, and there is not. And so, with me, I can see well enough to navigate a website. I don't need it. But it should be able to go away. So, you know, it's kind of like it takes over a website, and it does and it should not be that intrusive. That is kind of my issue with it personally. And so you know if it was there, and it could be turned off I don't think any of us would have issues but you can't turn it off. That is where the issue is. So, I don't think-- sorry, next item is, if we don't have any comments on this, 8f. MCD Sub-Committee Reports.

Go ahead Aurore.

>> AURORE: Mary McGinnis used to be on the transit advisory board pre-pandemic. She resigned after the pandemic, but she recommended a very nice young man who is unfortunately moving to California to go to graduate school. He was maybe going to take the ADA slot but it sounds like Regina that you sent that over to advertise for transit advisory board. So yeah. But we do need members still; we are still trying to get it moving.

>> CHAIR GISH: We will get it little by little.

>> AURORE: Poco a poco.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: I have a little update for you on that Madam chair. This is about the transit advisory board. That board has actually been dormant for a little bit, largely because we haven't had a transit director of administration for a few years. And I have great news. That was another one that the mayor supported us, and some special recruitment on because it is such an important role. We had two spectacular candidates, something like the ADA coordinator position and our number one pick decline but number two is fantastic and I expect that person to accept and begin working very soon. She actually comes from the New Mexico Department of transportation, and she has worked with our organization, she's worked with other transits around the state. She is super systematic. She knows about all the grants, all the money, all the administration, she is committed to public outreach and accessibility. We should have a new person in that role that will then lead that advisory committee, and get right back in track.

>> AURORE: That sounds wonderful.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yes thank you for that update Regina. That is awesome too!

Are there any other subcommittee reports? No? Next, 9, Matters from staff. And I know Regina you're supposed to make a statement.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you so much Madam chair. One thing I will say is that I did ask the mayor to recognize July as disability awareness month and he's very excited to do that. I actually owe a proclamation and to buy the flag, a good flag that does not cause fits and get that pulled together here real soon.

>> CHAIR GISH: Very cool. Thank you Mayor for being here. We really appreciate it. If you have anything to say.

>> MAYOR WEBBER: I have been listening and taking notes. It is good to be able to attend and listen in without having to necessarily speak because you guys don't need me butting in. Good it's to come to the meeting and good to hear what is on your mind and Regina I have been firing off emails while sitting here. So we are both getting the library activated and doing stuff in real time. So appreciate all your hard work. I think we are doing well. I'm looking forward to the celebration that you are planning. And it is fun for me to listen in to all the good stuff that is moving forward. I'm really grateful to you, and excited about next steps. I will do my best to continue to attend meetings. I'm trying to schedule my own time a little more, so that I don't just do the same activities every day but I break out and listen in on other opportunities to learn and listen and be present. So good work y'all. Thank you for letting me Zoom in. I appreciate it.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. And you are definitely welcome in our meetings. I think it is actually very helpful for you to be here. We are the Mayor's Committee on Disability.

>> MAYOR WEBBERT: It is good for me and I get to hear firsthand unfiltered. And then we can do stuff together.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you and so then Regina, you are supposed to say, I will say it. A link to the video recording of this meeting will be added to the Meeting Minutes for this meeting.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Thank you Madam chair.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah. Next is Matters from the Committee. Go ahead Aurore.

>> AURORE: During the pandemic, some disability parking stops were taken for restaurant outdoor seating. Pandemic is over (singing). Next to the Co-op.

>> CHAIR GISH: There was also, was it near Jinja's as well?

>> AURORE: I don't know about Jinja, the new one next to the food co-op, it's by that Kambucha brewing place that went out of business anyway. So yeah. They still have their big concrete blocks there.

>> CHAIR GISH: I can go there and take pictures and send a request, because I have a placard too, and I definitely use it with the co-op. I haven't been there for a while.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: I can get it Madam chair. I live right there. And I can get, sort of start the process. Thank you.

>> AURORE: I was there Friday so it is still there.

>> CHAIR GISH: Cool. So thank you for that Aurore. Any other comments? Angelique go ahead.

>> ANGELIQUE: I'm a big fan of co-op. As you guys know a lot of children with disabilities is walk to the co-op and they allow them shopping opportunities and they teach them how to exchange money, and just different things. But they work very closely with the children in our community that have disabilities. My son had several brain surgeries, and they just reached out and they are very kind. I am a fan of them for sure.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you for sharing that Angelique. Any other comments, or matters from the committee? No? Go ahead.

>> ANGELIQUE: I am sorry. Another thing I want to recognize the city for is if any of you attended Fuego games which I'm a big fan of, they were notified about a staircase that was having problems, and I mean the next day they took it down, it was totally safe so I applaud the city on that because, you know that was taking care of immediately.

>> CHAIR GISH: Very cool. So, if there are no more matters from the committee-- I am sad to like be ending this meeting early. Wait a minute! Okay. So our next meeting is August 2, 2023...

>> ELI: Hey Kathlyne it's better you go.

>> CHAIR GISH: (Chuckling). Our next meeting is August 2, 2023, 3-5 on Zoom. We are trying to keep the same link. Hopefully it will stay the same we have had some issues with the changing but we will try to keep the same like. Regina go ahead.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: I think we might have to change it because it was set up without the live captioning.

>> CHAIR GISH: In the future we should have the same link going forward. Yeah. We should have the same link going forward. Yeah. Alright so hopefully we will have everything fixed by the next meeting. And if there's no more comments or questions, or things to mention or say, we are adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

>> DIRECTOR WHEELER: Wow, thank you so much Madam chair and everybody.

>> Thanks everybody.

>> Good work.

>> It was nice having you Mayor.

>> See you next week, next month.

>> [End]