



# MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE ON  
DISABILITY  
AUGUST 02, 2023  
3:00 PM  
VIRTUAL MEETING

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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Co-Chair Gish at 3:06 pm

## 2. ROLL CALL

### **Members Present:**

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

### **Members Excused:**

Member Angelique Montoya-Chavez  
Member Meriam Jawhar  
Member Christopher Pommier

### **Others Attending:**

Catherine Rule, Guest/Attendee  
Brian Jensen, SF Conservation Trust  
Rachel Thompson, Guest/Attendee  
Captioner, Parners Interpreting Inc.  
Regina Wheeler, Public Works Director  
Halona Crowe, Clerk

## 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOTION:** Member Gish moved, seconded by Member Parfitt, 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 Fresquez



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**Against:** None

**Abstain:** None

## 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### a. July 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes and CART Transcript

**MOTION:** Member Bleck moved, seconded by Member Fresquez, to Approve the July 25, 2023 Meeting Minutes and Cart Transcript as amended:

Member Bleck: On packet page 11 – change to “Mr. Mayor the chair is usually”; paragraph 4 “when everybody”; page 19 “Lamy”; page 23 “Pojoaque”

**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

## 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (15 MINUTES TOTAL)

### a. Public Comments from Website or Zoom – No Public Comments



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## 6. PRESENTATIONS

- a. The Santa Fe Conservation Trust - A new model for a diverse users educational trail at their Conservation Homestead near Lamy, NM that will accommodate diverse users and will provide a range of access points and opportunities that are practical and enduring (Sarah Noss, Executive Director, Santa Fe Conservation Trust; Brian Jensen, Organizational Advancement officer, Santa Fe Conservation Trust; Kendra Garcia)

## 7. ACTION ITEMS

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> Disability Pride Month Proclamation and Flag Raising, Review, and starting planning for July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 (Eli Fresquez).
- b. 33<sup>rd</sup> ADA Accessibility Awards Celebration Review of Event, Issues Identified and Planning for July 2024 (Eli Fresquez, Kendra Garcia, Angelique Montoya-Chavez)
- c. Questions for City Candidates, Current City Council Candidates November 2023 Election (Kathlyne Gish)

**MOTION:** Member Bleck moved, seconded by Member Garcia, to postpone Agenda items 7d, and 8A, 8C, and 8D to next meeting.

**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



# MINUTES

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- d. Library Disability Pride Month books current displays found, and Purchasing and Planning for 2024 Events, awareness, resources, etc. (Kathlyne Gish, Angelique Montoya-Chavez)
  - e. ADA Emergency Kits Urgent Need for Trainings and Emergency Planning (Pam Parfitt, Eli Fresquez, Kathlyne Gish)
  - f. 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)
  - g. Voting to Create MCD Assistance Subcommittees (Kathlyne Gish)
8. **DISCUSSION ITEMS - No Action**
- A. Continued Discussion on Updated ADA Coordinator Job Position (Kathlyne Gish, Kendra Garcia, Eli Fresquez, Regina Wheeler, Director of Public Works)
  - B. Updates for Posting MCD Position (Kathlyne Gish)
  - C. 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)
  - D. Continued Discussion of Updates on City Website; The City Website Features and Accessibility (Kathlyne Gish, Eli Fresquez, Regina Wheeler, Public Works Director)
  - E. 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.
10. **MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE**



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11. **NEXT MEETING: September 06, 2023**

12. **ADJOURN**

Meeting Adjourned at 5:28 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.**

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Liaison

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Chair

\*EDITED BY MCD COMMITTEE/CHANGES FROM ORIGINAL TRANSCRIPT IN RED\*



Captioning Provided by:  
Partners Interpreting  
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\* \* \* \* \*

City of Santa Fe  
Mayor's Committee on Disability

August 4, 2023  
3:00 PM - 5:30 PM (MDT)  
\* \* \* \* \*

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\* \* \* \* \*

(Captions provided by a live Captioner.)

\* \* \* \* \*

>> [Recording in progress]

>> CHAIR GISH: Okay, I call this meeting to order at 3:06 p.m., may we have a roll call please?

>> HALONA: Yes. Aurore Bleck.

>> AURORE BLECK: Here.

>> HALONA: Kendra Garcia.

>> KENDRA: Here

>> HALONA: Kathlyne Gish.

>> CHAIR GISH: Here

>> HALONA: Pam Parfitt.

>> >> PAM: Here.

>> HALONA: Angelique Montoya-Chavez.

>> ANGELIQUE: --

>> HALONA: I don't see her.

>> CHAIR GISH: No. I haven't heard from her either.

>> HALONA: Meriam Jawhar.

>> MERIAM: --

>> CHAIR GISH: Haven't heard from her yet either.

>> HALONA: Eli Fresquez.

>> ELI: Present.

>> HALONA: Christopher Pommier.

>> CHRISTOPHER: --

>> CHAIR GISH: He's excused.

>> HALONA: Chair, you have a quorum.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. Okay, Angelique may not be able to attend. So that's why she's excused if she can't.

Next is approval of the agenda. Are there any amendments or changes that are needed to the agenda? Aurore, go ahead.

>> AURORE: Yes, we need to approve the June 7th minutes meeting. So we need to add that to approval of the minutes.

>> CHAIR GISH: That one isn't done yet. So that's where that is. I have to do that all this month. So that's it.

>> AURORE: So we're not doing June 7<sup>th</sup>?

>> CHAIR GISH: Not until the next meeting.

>> AURORE: Okay, no problem, no change.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah. No. July was a little bit too busy for me. So that's where that happened.

Okay, so if there are no changes or any additional amendments, may we have approval of the agenda as is?

>> PAM: One second.

>> HALONA: Are you the first Chair Gish?

>> CHAIR GISH: I guess. Yeah, I'm not sure how that all works. I keep doing it backwards, and then I do it right sometimes, and then it feels like I'm... I'm just getting confused with whether I'm making a motion or whether someone else is.

>> HALONA: Okay. So I'm going to do a roll call. Aurore Bleck?

>> AURORE: Yes.

>> HALONA: Kendra Garcia?

>> KENDRA: Yes.

>> HALONA: Kathlyne Gish?

>> CHAIR GISH: Yes.

>> HALONA: Pam Parfitt.

>> PAM: Yes.

>> HALONA: Eli Fresquez

>> ELI: Yes

>> HALONA: All in favor of the July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes and transcript are approved.

>> CHAIR GISH: That was the agenda, not the minutes.

>> HALONA: I'm sorry. I'm sorry. The agenda is approved. No changes to the agenda.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. Next we have approval of the minutes for July 5<sup>th</sup>, and the Transcript. Are there any changes to that? Go ahead Aurore.

>> AURORE: I have a few changes. One, and these page numbers are based on the packet, not on the page numbers of the Transcript on page 11. Paragraph one. Regina Wheeler is addressing the Mayor's as Mr. Mayor. The chair is, but it got translated into Mr. Mayor is usually the chair, and he is not so just maybe knock out the mayor is and start with "usually." And then on the same page, paragraph 4. I'm speaking, and it says, when nobody but it should be when everybody in that phrase. And then on page 19 paragraph 8, Kendra is speaking line to the transcriptionist tried to transcribe Lammie, and it's L. A. M. M. It's one M, L-A-M-Y. So that's the correct spelling of that word. And then on page 23, paragraph 2. Line 4, the missing name of the pueblo is Pojoaque. P-O-J-O-A-Q-U-E. So that's it. That's all, I had

>> CHAIR GISH: Very cool. Yeah, I noticed that the transcription was better this last time, so...

>> AURORE: I mean, there were little tinkly, winky things. But contextually, it was really good.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah. That part. Are there any other changes to the minutes or transcripts? If there are no other changes or minutes to the Transcript, may we have approval of the minutes and Transcript, with the amendments identified by Aurora?

>> AURORE: Second.

>> HALONA: Somebody needs to first.

>> AURORE: Well, move to approve the Minutes Book as amended, and the transcript as amended. So I'll make the motion, Aurore Bleck.

>> ELI: I second.

>> HALONA: Thank you. One moment! Okay. Roll.

Aurore Bleck?

>> AURORE: Yes.

>> HALONA: Kendra Garcia?

>> KENDRA: Yes.

>> HALONA: Kathlyne Gish?

>> CHAIR GISH: Yes.

>> HALONA: Pam Parfitt?

>> PAM: Yes.

>> HALONA: Eli Fresquez?

>> ELI: Yes.

>> HALONA: Motion is approved, to approve the July 5, 2023, meeting minutes and transcript.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you very much. Next, we have public comments. If there are any public comments, or anyone who wishes to speak on behalf of someone who can't be here. Now is the time to raise your hand. There are no public comments. Okay, if there are no public comments. I want to say that attendees and guests can speak throughout this entire meeting. If you wish. Please just raise your hand or type in the chat, and we will allow you to speak or read your comment. So you can participate in the entire meeting if needed.

And a comment from Rachel Thompson to everyone, says, Thank you.

Presentations. Next, we have presentations. We have a presentation from the Santa Fe Conservation Trust. they are currently planning and designing what they hope to be a new model for diverse users, educational trail at their conservation homestead near Lamy, New Mexico. Pam, I just noticed you raising your hand?

>> PAM: I cannot get the live captions. Can anyone else try to send a chat message? But that's not going through, or I don't know how to do it. And I want to hear what you said.

>> HALONA: Can you see?

>> PAM: I have the other captions, but they're way behind.

>> CHAIR GISH: Oh, no.

>> KENDRA: Yeah, the regular captions are kind of behind. And I don't see anything else.

>> CHAIR GISH: I don't, either.

>> CAPTIONER: Captioner Hi! This is the captioner I am, the captions are in two places, one is embedded in zoom, and the other is in stream text. And they're hitting both at the same time

within a second. So not exactly sure why you're not seeing them. Have you enabled captions in zoom?

>> HALONA: Let me.

>> CAPTIONER: Sorry to interrupt you.

>> KENDRA: No worries.

>> CAPTIONER: I know this has been an issue, and I'm trying to work with trying to figure out how to make it better.

>> KENDRA: No worries

>> CAPTIONER: I'm going to simply send the title of the committee and the name of the city. Are you not seeing them?

>> HALONA: No.

>> CAPTIONER: That is strange. I'm seeing them. They're there.

>> CHAIR GISH: I can see it so, Pam, under more. At the bottom of Zoom, I selected captions in that menu, and now they're showing. Or at least the name of the title that he said is showing. If you need me to screen share real quick, I can, and show you where I'm clicking.

>> PAM: Should I have where it says show captions? Does that affect the live captions? I've tried it both ways, and I'm only getting the Zoom captions.

>> CHAIR GISH: I can screen share real quick. And show you what I'm seeing.

That didn't help. One second. It's not gonna let me-- it's not gonna let me screen capture Zoom.

>> KENDRA: Hmm.

>> CHAIR GISH: it's in this more, I don't know if you can see... it's this one Pam, under more.

>> PAM: I don't know what this one means I'm not. I just see a beautiful sunset or sunrise.

>> ELI: Yeah, it's not letting you.

>> CHAIR GISH: Okay.

>> KENDRA: Now, --

>> CHAIR GISH: Let me let me think of something to do, really quick, because I think there's a work around.

>> ELI: Well, Pam, are you hitting the CC button at the bottom? The show captions button?

>> PAM: Yeah, I've tried that both ways, and I can get captions. They're just 2 or 3 sentences behind.

>> ELI: Oh.

>> PAM: So what in the interest of time and our presenter, I think you should just go ahead.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, go ahead. So, we have the presenter, Sarah Noss, executive director of the Santa Fe Conservation Trust. And Brian Jensen, organizational advancement officer of the Santa Fe Conservation Trust. Thank you both for being here.

>> BRIAN: Yeah, thank you. Unfortunately, my colleague Sarah is feeling under the weather today. So she wasn't able to join us. So it'll be just me. But that's quite okay.

So hello and thank you to everyone. especially to Kendra for inviting the Trust to you guys' regular meeting today. We're honored and excited to share with you guys about our new accessible trail project as I can't remember who initially introduced me said. But our new trail project is near Lamy. I just want to give a shout out to both Kendra and New Vistas, as they've been really good partners for the Santa Fe Conservation Trust on this project and that we're, we're really excited to be able to build a relationship with them. And I will get into -- I'll show a slide later on with everyone's name. But I just want to acknowledge everyone who really gave the Trust a lot of wonderful input. And let's call it camaraderie, as we have been planning and designing this successful trail.

We had invited a group of people to help give us input. So that's what I'm referring to. All right.

So before we get onto the trail, I just, I don't want to take anything for granted for here, and I'm gonna assume that some of you guys are not quite as familiar with the Conservation Trust. So let me share my screen. Bring up-- okay, can everyone see that? Okay. okay, I'm seeing some heads nodding.

Okay. So today, I'm just gonna give you a little bit of an intro to the Trust. to kind of open that world for everyone. the location, let me give you a little info on the location of the trail which is called the conservation homestead and then we're gonna get into the project itself and I'll show you the trail alignment, talk about the feedback that the users group gave to us, and kind of look ahead at the at the timing of when this trail is going to come to be, and then, depending on the time we have I'll be more than happy to take any questions. And further, the conversation that we're having today.

Okay. So the Santa Fe Conservation Trust started in 1993. So by my math that tells us that we are having a thirtieth anniversary year this year, which we're pretty excited about as I'm sure some of you guys may work in the nonprofit world, any anniversary is exciting, but certainly as you get higher and higher, it just just...I think it shows to the community the importance of the work that that we're doing.

So whenever I tell people that I work for the Santa Fe Conservation Trust, and they kind of maybe give me a look like I'm not really sure what that is, I usually refer to the Banff Mountain Film festival that happens every march at the **Lensic** (phonetic). That is an event that usually a lot of people around town are familiar with. That's something that our organization brings to town and coordinates. And so it can give some association to our organization.

Our mission is the Santa Fe Conservation Trust partners with our community to keep New Mexico's living lands and people flourishing together. We protect environmentally significant landscapes, ignite people's passions, and enable the continuing regeneration of our healthy place. So really, what that's saying is that we are in the business of community and place and protecting and, and conserving those things that make a community viable, the air that we breathe, the water sheds, and the rivers that that flow through our towns and through our State. All of those things are dependent on, on the conservation and the protection of a lot of those places. And so that's, you know, that's really our main focus, protecting and conserving lands. in our local place, in the Santa Fe region.

So over the 30-- over the 30 years we've protected over 45,000 acres of land, and that's done through what's called a conservation easement, which is essentially a right to the property. We gain development rights or the lack there of from our perspective on all of these acres. And so the idea is that this private land is going to be conserved and protected in perpetuity without the threat of development on that land.

So the other part of what we do, so we conserve and protect land with private landowners the whole other thing that we do for community and for place is our community conservation programs. And those include Vamonos, which is a walking program in Santa Fe from the months April through October. So half of the year every week we go on a walk on it in a different place around town. It allows people an opportunity to meet their neighbors, get into, or at least get into to fresh air, see some green grass. A lot of times we have walks by the rivers. So seeing the river, maybe even seeing some wildlife things like that. And that program has been going on now for about 5 years.

The next 2 are school related passports to trails and safe routes to school. This is programming to get kids onto Santa Fe's dirt trails, also to raise the number and make it safer for children to either bike to school or walk to school, which is becoming, increasingly, increasingly rare these days for reasons that are probably pretty self explanatory to many of you.

Insider tours. this is where we take people to the land that we can serve that that often about half of the land that we have under protection is publicly accessible. These tours allow for people to access some of the land that are not quite publicly accessible. A recent example of that one was, we are just earlier this this this summer we did a tour of San Marcos Pueblo, Out in the Galisteo Basin, which is privately owned by the archaeological conservancy. But since we have a conservation easement on the property, we work with them, and we were able to do a tour of this historic site.

And then we also have a new project called the Night sky Monitoring project. I'm just kind of curious. Just shout out, yes, if you believe, if anyone has ever noticed the light dome over either Santa Fe or Albuquerque?

>> Yes.

>> BRIAN: Okay. So this Night sky Monitoring project, you've seen the light dome it. It destroys our ability to see the night sky, which is something that humans have been doing for forever. It also messes with animals', including us, reproductive habits. Their Circadian rhythms, and other things. And so light getting out in the atmosphere at night? Not the best thing in the world. Safety? Yes, light pollution? Not so great. And so this project is aiming to bring some data to the table about the type of light pollution in Santa Fe. And hopefully, can lead to some improvements into our night sky.

Santa Fe Conservation Trust also is a huge trails legacy, which is why I'm talking to you today, and it's a continuation of that. But if you're aware of Dale Ball trails (phonetic), la Tierra trails, Arroyo Hondo open space, the rail trail, all of these Santa Fe Conservation trust has had a large primary leading role, or at least a secondary role on creating and/or maintaining those trails throughout town.

Okay, if you want to learn anything else about Santa Fe Conservation Trust, it's kind of just a quick overview. But please visit our website for more information and check out our calendar and join us on one of those Vamonos walks or insider tours.

Okay. So the Conservation Homestead, this is where this accessible trail project is taking place. This is a piece of property that the Conservation Trust was able to acquire in 2020, with the help of the Thaw Charitable Trust for -- has anyone been out to the Galisteo Basin preserve before? Maybe not. Okay. So it's 300 acres within the larger Galisteo Basin preserve which is about 6,000 acres which creates a continuous tract of land that we have under conservation of about 6,000 acres, which for us is really our strategy, moving forward, piecing together large tracks of land to protect, because it's all about allowing animals to move and roam and navigate open space and open lands.

Right now we have about 5 miles of trails. on this property. We're hoping, not hoping, we're planning to increase that with this accessible trail project. Those trails also connect to the Galisteo Basin preserve, which also has about 50 miles of trails on it as well. So we feel like

with the acquisition of this property. It really provides rural residents, city residents as well. It's certainly accessible from the city, but rural residents of Santa Fe County in the surrounding areas have a new trail option, and equitable access to nature for those living with disabilities in rural Santa Fe County.

This place is also a demonstration site for the Conservation Trust for land restoration, erosion, control, and climate change adaptation. And I'll get into it a little bit, here in a little bit. But part of the accessible trail network or accessible trail is going to include an interpretive sign aspect of it. Which will which we talk in more depth about things that we're trying to accomplish. at the site. And also how we're managing it really with climate change in mind.

The Galisteo basin preserve the Galisteo Basin itself and this property, the conservation homestead, are all located within the Western Wild Way network. I don't know if anyone has heard of this before, but there's a Western Wild Way network. There's a Pacific Wild Way network. There's an Eastern Wild Way network. There might be another one But essentially what these are large continental scale corridors for wildlife to essentially access and travel.

And so the Western Wild Way network goes all the way up into Canada, and it extends all the way down into Northern Mexico, and The conservation homestead is smack dab right in this western Wild Way network. And so we feel like it's very important to put focus on this part of the world. since it's in our backyard, and it's worth, it's worth conserving. also on this land it just again, this will be part of that interpretive aspect of this new trail. But there's been human, there's been human activity on this on this property that's been dated back to 5,000 BC. There is a few arrowheads found on the property, and we're, we're dated all the way back to 5,000 BC, And so part of this property, okay, so we acquired it a couple of years ago. Where does this trail project come from? Did it come out of thin air? No. When we acquired this property, we put together a 10 year management plan, which included a series of goals and objectives over the 10 years, and one of those goals was ensuring equitable access to the homestead, to people of varying skills, abilities, and backgrounds. And then a particular named project in this management plan is an accessible trail project. So this is certainly something that has been on our minds for a few years to get going.

So it did get going this past spring. Really. We got funding from the State's newish Outdoor Recreation Department in their trails plus grant funding stream, for phase one of this project. So this project is really 2 phases, the planning and design phase which will include the construction of a parking lot with some accessible spaces. And then also phase 2, which will be the actual construction of the trail which we estimate to take place sometime in 2,024. And part of this project we've been working with Surroundings, which is a local landscape architecture firm. They're helping us with the planning and design, and all also helped us to coordinate and work with this larger user group. Where we where we got feedback from folks like Kendra.

So the accessible trail itself. I will get to this map and just in just a second. But it's a half mile loop, which I know doesn't sound very long, but it's pretty good. It's a pretty good loop, really,

when you, when you get out to the land and see the landscape It's not a quick loop. It's a loop to really observe, nature. Take it in. Stop and smell the roses if you will and look at the views. And so while it's not that long, it is certainly, it feels substantial when you when you get out there, and the idea is that it's not only going to just kind of be one loop, but it's a series of loop which you'll see on the map when I get to it. But it also connects with other trails that we have on the property which also connect to the Galisteo Basin preserve. And so it was really important for us to make that connection, that this trail wasn't just kind of standing out on its own, but really connected with, with the other trails as well, so that it would give people options as to as to how they want to experience it.

So, as I said before, there's going to be interpretive elements as well. And so the ideas right now, it's still kind of floating around since we're still very much in this phase one of this project, but we're thinking it's going to talk about the history and culture of the Galisteo Basin, the geology of the Galisteo Basin which is pretty unique, really. The flora and fauna that you can find out at this property, which there's a pretty wide spectrum, including as Kendra can attest to... Kendra, were you out at site visit?

>> KENDRA: No I was not, unfortunately.

>> BRIAN: That's right. You weren't able to make it so you're not going to remember this part, but we as a group I'm gonna say, found a tiny little rattlesnake. Just chilling under some logs on the property, and so not, I don't say that to scare anyone, but the wildlife out there is one of the more interesting and exciting parts of it all. okay.

Okay. So we, you know, we feel like this trail will serve thousands of people, everyone in the county. But specifically, we're really interested in being able to serve those thousands of individuals with disabilities who live with disabilities in in Santa Fe County as well as people who may just have mobility limitations due to, due to their age or some other contributing factor. And we feel like this is really this project. is really meeting a gap that exists in, I have rural Santa Fe here, Santa Fe County, which I strongly believe that it is filling a gap in rural Santa Fe County, but from also the feedback that we've heard from people it. It seems to also be filling in a gap in Santa Fe County and northern New Mexico in general as well.

One of the ladies on the user group, Lisa McNiven. which I'm sure some of you guys are aware of, commented to us that It was only the second time in their group's history at the Governor's Commission on Disability that anyone approached them to get input on such a project. And so, yeah, we just we really feel like we're filling a gap. And we're excited to do that. Okay?

So now, to some visuals and less of less of me just talking about stuff. So how do we get to this trail? So this trail is as said previously, is located near Lamy. If any of you guys have driven to Eldorado, it's the Eldorado exit just south of town. If any of you guys have been to Lamy, so you drive another few miles, once you get off at Eldorado. Eldorado's exit. To get to Lamy, and if you've been there before you know it's a left hand turn off of highway 285, essentially right at that place where you turn into Lamy just maybe a hundred feet before that. There's the

entrance on the right hand side. So the, so the Western side of the highway there's an entrance to the Galisteo Basin preserve which is a very large open space that has about 50 miles of trails within it.

So once you get within the preserve you actually take what's called Thornton Ranch Road. south about another 3 or 4 miles past what currently is the trail head to access this conservation homestead property. Once we have parking in a trail head, obviously it will have its own access. But right now the access is through the Galisteo Basin Preserve's Cottonwood trail head and if any of you guys have been to that location. you know it's kind of like a little oasis. You drive down Thornton Ranch Road for a number of miles to get there, in grasslands and Piñon and Juniper Grasslands. And you come to this trail head, and there's you know, there's a number of very large and very old mature cottonwood trees. and so it's a very, very, very beautiful spot, and our property is just another half mile or so past that cottonwood trail head. And so it's about 16 or 17 miles south of Santa Fe.

All right. So this is, not gonna call this a finished product by any means. But this is where this is where this, the trail alignment currently stands based on several rounds of input that we received from the users group. And so just to talk about what we're what we're seeing here. I wanna, I wanna bring your attention to the upper right hand corner where it says sign in shade locations. And so just left of that you can see that brown line that's kind of coming into the frame. That's the access road. That's Thornton Ranch Road. So that's the same road that that you're on for a few miles, that you'd go past the Cottonwood trail head and so forth. And so you can see here in our plans the, well just let me take a step back actually. What you're seeing here is not the whole 300 acre property, it's really just kind of the centralized portion of the property where the homestead used to be, right? So this used to be for 100 years or more this was a working cattle ranch. And so where the home and the barns and the ranchers' quarters were all located. is in this spot on the property. That has all been removed. That was removed a few years ago, and really it's pretty much a blank slate at this point. There's no electricity out here. There's no there's no structures anymore. And so it's really an attempt to get back to the natural, the natural state of the land. And so this is really just a portion of the broader property. So anyway take your attention back to the map itself, as you can see there in that upper right hand corner. There is plans to put it in the car park. So the feedback that we receive from the users group was wonderful. And, Kendra, you can certainly chime in here, if you feel like I'm missing anything or misrepresented what the group gave to us. But really what we heard was, we need bathrooms. There needs to be some bathrooms out there, or at least an accessible trail bathroom. Even though it's not on this map that is still very much part of the plan to have a handicap accessible bathroom out here, now it wouldn't be a permanent structure because according to the terms of the easement, the conservation easement that is, on this piece of property. there can't be any permanent structures and so it would be portable, but the idea being that it would be there permanently.

Another thing that we heard from the group was the ability to have emergency responses, so this one will probably be a work in progress because, as I said before, all of the infrastructure on the land was really ripped out, including any electrical. So at this point, that's still a problem

to be solved, but one that we are very much trying to solve of how can, if, if folks are out there and run into a situation, How can they contact emergency responders? So while it's a little bit more of a challenge, we're certainly up to it, and I'm going try our best to figure out a way to make that happen.

Other feedback was shade benches, places to sit. it's hot. It can be hot out here you know. It's a bit lower than Santa Fe. It's about 6,200 feet, and I'm sure if anyone has, you know, been out to El Dorado, or the Galisteo Basin Preserve or Lamy in the summertime, you know it can get hot out there, and so while it is beautiful it is, it can get hot. And so we heard that one loud and clear that people need shade not just natural shade, but some artificial shade as well, so that we can mitigate any overheating issues. Like I said, places to sit. That was a big one as well and so that was that was very much received input.

And then I think the last one was really in the trail design itself. So like I said, this went through several rounds of iterations, and without getting into much detail of it. The first iteration of this didn't really include that northern yellow part from circles 4 to let's say, to like 2, a little beyond 2, that came solely as a result of the input from the Users group, it really started as a bigger loop where the yellow from 1 to 4 joined with that black dotted line all the way back. And what we heard from the group was, we really needed to have-- that black line is, let's call it a service road, so it's wide enough to accommodate a bunch of people, but would it be able to effectively accommodate people with mobility challenges? It was determined that was probably not likely, or it would take a lot of upkeep to do that.

And so from the users group that input really, really solidified for us that no, what we what we what we what we what we what we what we need to do is make a dedicated trail loop for this accessible trail. And then, even beyond that, we heard from the group. Well, why can't we create a few more loops to give people more options? And so that they can make their own decisions about the route that they want to take, or if they need to, if they need to turn back and get back to their get their vehicle.

And so, as you can see here, there are kind of several sub loops within the main accessible trail loop, and that accessible trail loop is in that yellow, the yellow dotted line. The brown lines that kind of go off in any direction on the outside of it. Right? That's kind of that next loop phase are those trail connections to the rest of the trails on the property, and then also connecting to the trails on the Galisteo Basin Preserve. At this point in time those are for the most part single track trails. Some of them are double track, like old, old roads. But Are they accessible? Hmm. Probably not really. Did this group raise that to us of how that could be advanced in the future? Yes, very much. And it has caused us to have conversations internally about, you know, over the long term this is not something that's gonna be done in the next year or two. But over the long term, how can we essentially make all of the trails on the property more of a universal design that allows for more access by more people? This accessible yellow trail loop, that's probably always going to be the most accessible loop on the property. But we really want to, we really would like to make an effort on, on how to make the

rest of the trails more accessible than what they already are to really make this conservation homestead property unique in that regard.

So all right. So the map itself. The yellow is the accessible trail. What do you see when you go on this trail? You're going to see plants and wildlife. You're going to see something, you're gonna see living dirt. We have cryptobiotic soil out at this property. So you're gonna see some cool things. You're gonna see pinions. You're going to see junipers, you're gonna see, you're gonna see blue jays. You might even see birds of prey out there, some hawks, maybe even an eagle if you're lucky.

There's also lots of creatures that that roll around this property, probably mostly at night but nonetheless the opportunities to see wildlife are out there. The trail also walks along, you seen an arroyo there, and that is your Arroyo de los Angeles, and that arroyo connects directly with the Rio Galisteo, which then direct connects with the Rio Grande. And so it's a pretty substantial arroyo. It's a beautiful arroyo. There's tons of cottonwoods and other trees in this arroyo. And so that's another aspect of this trail, is just some beautiful old growth cottonwoods, some new growth cottonwoods and so forth. You're gonna see the views. There's wonderful, wonderful views on this trail on the accessible trail loop of not just the surrounding hills of the Galisteo Basin but also of the Ortiz Mountains to the south, the Sandia Mountains to the south. The Sangre de Cristos to the north and to the east, and in some parts of the property. I don't believe in any part of the accessible trail. You can also sometimes see the Jemez Mountains to the west as well. So lots to see at this trail. It's just a, it's beautiful, it's a beautiful place to walk, or even just be.

I'd like to point out also on this some of the other symbols. And so the numbers with the blue. Right now those are the locations where we believe we're going to have the interpretive signage. So again, kind of that storytelling of the geology of the history of the people or the people's, since it's so layered with the history out here. You can see a couple of spots where there's gonna be some shade. So at that trail head where there's gonna be a kiosk, there's gonna be a large shade structure, large enough to where our idea is that if you, when you're, you know, exiting your vehicle and you go up to look at the map and decide what you want to do here, that, you're going to be in some shade, right? So that kind of immediately off the bat we're not neglecting the fact that that heat can make people pretty tired pretty quickly.

Benches. The orange, the orange dashes are the benches. At the moment, we have three depending, I think, on what we learn once this trail opens and what those needs are, that may increase. But as of now, we have we have strategically placed benches on this loop trail to allow people to rest.

What else can I say about this trail? Okay. So there's a couple of sub loops, and you can see one with a little smaller dashes. That just is representing that the trail itself won't be quite as wide, it would still be just as flat and accessible as the wider trail, but just a little skinnier to allow a bit more privacy going off in that direction. So okay, before I leave this this slide. I'm just gonna pause for a second and see if anyone has any questions on this map. No?

>> AURORE: Yes.

>> BRIAN: Okay, Aurora. What is your question?

>> AURORE: Do you have any benches, or seating under the shade area?

>> BRIAN: Yeah. So this is kinda where I get to, like, this is the most current rendering that we have. But let's not say that it's final. And one of those examples actually is. So you see that first bench there, that orange bench kind of in that upper initial small loop? We actually think that that bench is going to get moved to where the shade is. and then you can see on kind of the northern part of the yellow loop, there's another bench under some shade trees, and those trees are big enough to provide some natural shade and so that one will also have some shade. And then, even though we don't have a bench marked at the trail head. I'm pretty sure that there's also gonna be a bench trail where there'll also be some shade as well. So, Pam, I think you had your hand up before Rachel, and then I'll go to you Rachel.

>> RACHEL: Sorry I Did you say, Rachel now?

>> Yeah, Pam is on mute.

>> RACHEL: Okay, yeah.

>> CHAIR GISH: So, Pam and then you, Rachel.

>> RACHEL: Yeah.

>> CHAIR GISH: I still can't unmute Pam. For some reason even though...

>> PAM: I'm unmuted. It doesn't matter if Rachel wants to go first.

>> RACHEL: I don't care.

>> PAM: I haven't been out here for a long time. But looking at the map, it looks fairly flat. Is that correct? You can see the horizon in all directions?

>> BRIAN: I'm going to say yes and no. So, it's definitely not flat. There are definitely hills, so like the northern part of the map where you see the brown trails, that's where it starts to become a little hilly, and then south of the arroyo as well, there starts to be some elevation gain as well. Where the accessible trail is, it's not exactly flat like there is some elevation change, but not much, not much at all, I would say. And there's definitely like the southern portion. So you know, following from where the kiosk sign is, that K, you know, down along by the arroyo with that smaller loop there, that all is relatively flat. Part of the trail construction will be to make sure that where it's not flat, that there is enough, let's just call it engineering,

to allow for someone in a mobility device, or who has mobility challenges enough grade to where it just doesn't go down. It's it, it'll be flat in that way. Does that answer your question?

>> PAM: Actually, that's the first question, the beginning of my real question. You brought up the challenge of emergency service access, my understanding is that you can do that through satellite connectivity. If there's there aren't a lot of trees or buildings to interfere with that connection. Has that been tried?

>> BRIAN: To my knowledge, we have not tried that, but that's not to say that, you know, we did hear feedback from other folks that I think, similar to what you're saying, that even if there's no cell phone coverage you can still dial 911 if you need to. Honestly, I just don't have the best answer for you at the moment, but it is something that we will continue to look at, you know. If you go out there, there's some places where you can get like a bar or two but for the most part there's no range out there, and no electricity either. So it just presents some, some challenges. Yeah, it just presents some challenges. So --

>> PAM: The reason I bring it up is because the other day I had-- I'm a cyclist. So I'm often in places where there's no connection. And the phone itself came up and invited me to use the satellite, but I happened to be in such a place that I couldn't see the horizon, so it kept directing me to a view of the horizon to get connectivity, and I'm just wondering if that's been tried out there.

>> BRIAN: I don't think I don't think it's been tried. I think, for us, what we're a little weary of is, it's not to say that someone, if they find themselves in a situation, couldn't try those things. I think we're weary of conveying any information that may or may not be true, depending on if you have a cell phone depending on which coverage you have or carrier you have. So I think when we're thinking about this question, it's how we provide a solution that is ongoing and can be communicated to people when they, when they arrive at the trail head rather than communicating something that may or may not be true, depending, on depending on someone's situation.

>> PAM: Thank you.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, thank you. Next is Rachel. Hmm.

>> RACHEL: Thanks. I I've never looked at this before. So I just wanted to ask, is the trail, what is the surface of the trail?

>> BRIAN: It's going to be dirty. So the, well, let me take that back. It's dirt. But the specific material I believe is called crusher fine (phonetic), but it's gonna be built to standards that allow for accessibility. For mobility devices.

>> RACHEL: Hmm. So when it's really windy. it will stay on the ground and not be blowing all over the place?

>> BRIAN: Definitely.

>> RACHEL: Okay yeah. 'Cause I mean, I don't know if anybody else was at the folk market on the first Friday, but about 4 o'clock I mean, there's a lot of, I don't know what kind of dirt, but the path there is a lot of dirt, and it was just blowing in everybody's faces and everything.

>> BRIAN: I mean, it's not, I mean it's a natural area. So it's not to say that the wind couldn't blow and blow some things in people's faces as it probably does now. But no. The idea is that this is going to be a construction and engineer dirt trail, with not just dirt on site, but, like. you know, brought in to make an accessible trail. Make a trail that can handle, can handle the weight.

>> RACHEL: Hmm. And the other thing I was just curious to see. I mean, I have some experience with this. The idea of horses sharing the trail.

>> BRIAN: Yeah, that's a great question. so equestrians and horses are most definitely welcome out at the conservation homestead property. You can even see there that the arroyo is marked as a trail. those dotted brown lines are signifying that you can hike the arroyo if you wanted to. I mean, it's a beautiful, beautiful place, but also not as accessible to some people, since it's so sandy. but that is where we're going to be directing. So basically, people on horses can access any of the trails right now, at the conservation homestead. This trail is going to be a little different, though, we are going to ask equestrians to stay off of this trail. for those reasons that you brought up because horses are too heavy, and they would cause damage to that constructed trail, so they'll still have plenty of places to go. But we're gonna ask them to stay off of that portion.

>> RACHEL: I just want to say a little more about it. It looks to me like your key, the 5 to 6 wide includes horses. So maybe that's an error.

>> BRIAN: I believe that that might be an oversight. Yes.

>> RACHEL: Okay, because I used to ride horses actually, in a national park And when we would encounter people, especially kids, they love to meet the horse. But people don't clean up after their own, that's all.

>> BRIAN: Very true. That's actually another reason.

>> RACHEL: If we could have a place to have horses and people meet. I mean, I have a friend who bought land down there specifically, so she could build a house and bring her horses down there, and so I know there's going to be horses all over the place.

>> BRIAN: Yeah, well, there's already horses that go out there now. So it's the real thing.

>> RACHEL: I'm glad the horse people didn't convince you that they should be on these trails too.

>> BRIAN: Not to get too gross about it, but I'm sure, those of you who are in a mobility device have encountered this, we were we actually really concerned that, exactly what you said, Rachel, that the horses wouldn't pick up after themselves. And then someone in a wheelchair would get a bunch of manure.

>> RACHEL: Get stuck there.

>> BRIAN: Exactly.

>> RACHEL: Yeah, it's not nice.

>> BRIAN: Okay, was there any other?

>> CHAIR GISH: Next was Catherine, if you needed to say something? Or if you were saying, I'm just checking in to make sure you didn't have a comment.

>> CATHERINE: The question was asked and answered. That's all I had. Thanks.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. Aurore?

>> AURORE: Yeah, I have another question. I was really interested in your dark sky thing, but at the time it was like a half mile walk to the event, and that was too far from me that time of day. Is this new place going to be a new parking lot, it's going to be closer?

>> BRIAN: Yeah, I'm glad you actually mentioned that. We can't hold that many events out at this property because of the challenges of not having electricity and basically no infrastructure out there. But two events that we would like to hold out there annually, and we just did our first one in the spring and are planning to do another one in September is, as Aurore mentioned it, a star party, a stargazing party. And so until this parking lot gets built people are still parking at the Cottonwood trail head and walking in. I do believe it at the one that we had this past May, there were a few people that needed that accessibility to drive further in. And so when the next one is announced I would encourage you just to get in contact with us, because it shouldn't be a problem to allow you to kind of park closer, like we would basically allow you to kind of park in like, let's just call it like, halfway in between like 3 and 4, in that kind of that, there's kind of a little parking there that you can't see that we have in there right now. So, but to answer your question, yes. Once this parking lot gets constructed, the idea most definitely for things like those star parties is that that parking is going to be there and accessible for folks who most need it. And then while the parking lot will go in first before the trail is constructed, you know, looking out a few years. you would then have that accessible trail to reach the location where we do those star parties which is, which is kind of in that area. If you see where 4 is, if you look like just a little bit north of that, you see like a couple of more

trees, and like a road there. That's kind of the area that we do stargazing. And so yes, with this trail it would become much more accessible to, to go to those.

>> AURORE: So how far of a walk would you have at this?

>> BRIAN: From that parking lot to that site, that is probably gonna be like a little over a quarter of a mile. Like the whole, the whole, that whole yellow loop, now we haven't like, you know, we haven't like taken out and tested it or anything like that with the GPS to get the exact the exact mileage. But that loop, let's just call it like a half mile plus. It's probably a little bit more than half a mile

>> AURORE: Super. Thank you so much.

>> BRIAN: Yeah, no problem, no problem. Okay, so it doesn't have to be the end of the questions, but I just wanted to make sure, if people had questions on the map itself, to be able to answer those with that as a visual. But before I wrap up. I just wanted to give a big thank you again to all of you guys for inviting me to this today, to share with you this, this exciting new project that we have going on, but also to say a big thank you to folks in this community that provided us just absolutely wonderful and priceless input that has made this this project already better than what it was, and so New Vistas, Kendra, her colleague Ken from the Governor's Commission on Disability, Stan, Lisa, Gemini, Annette, Nadine, and Hope from Adaptive Sports, New Mexico, Bonnie and Camill, and from the Cerebral Palsy Parents Association, John, and then Marco Carol and Celine. We're all kind of a team, and we're really great. Marco is an individual in his mid twenties that has cerebral palsy and is pretty limited in his physical mobility. Carol was his mom, and then Selene was his caregiver, and Marco and Selene joined us on the site visit, and I think he had fun but, we got him around the loop in his wheelchair, even though the trail has not been constructed yet. But I think he definitely gave a big thumbs up to the project. So, thank you to all of them, and thank you to RGC Access as well who provided ASL translation for us. So all those folks just made this project so much, so much better already. And we thank them. And you know, we will continue to share with you guys and with that group how this project continues to move along.

Right now our hope is that the parking lot might get constructed this year still. That's our hope. And then in the next 6 months or so, we're gonna be doing some more fundraising for the construction phase of this project. And you know our hope is that this gets constructed like summer or fall of 2024, and it will be, it will be open and ready for everyone. So unless there's any other questions, yeah, thank you. And that's ,and that's my presentation.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you, Brian. I just have a quick comment, and I want to commend you for including the people who this is meant to be designed for and not just assuming what is needed. I think it's very important to include disabled people that will be utilizing these trails. So thank you. A lot of, a lot of nonprofits don't do that. And I think that it's really incredibly important to do that.

>> BRIAN: Definitely. Definitely. Thank you for just acknowledging that. And yeah, I mean, it's the right thing to do.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you so much.

>> BRIAN: Yeah, thank you guys.

>> KENDRA: Madam chair, just before Ricky pops off I would just like to say, thank you Brian, for coming and presenting our trail like, you know, receiving our input, and then as well as just including the facility population in general, that it's needed for.

>> BRIAN: Of course, of course, and like I said, if -- please go check out our website. If any of you have questions about me, if you want to talk a little bit more about this project. If you wanted to offer your you know your own thoughts. If you had some thoughts after looking at this map and hearing me talk about it, by all means. please get in contact with me. I should have included my contact information on this slide, but I neglected to. But Kendra has my info. So ...

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you so much, Brian.

>> BRIAN: Yep, thank you guys, appreciate it. Bye-bye.

>> CHAIR GISH: Bye. But then our next items are action items. We have 7a, which is the disability Pride, month proclamation and flag raising review and starting, planning for July 1st of 2,021. And, Eli, would you want to start that conversation?

>> ELI: Here? Are we talking about planning for 2023? 2024?

>> CHAIR GISH: Reviewing what happened. And then, yeah, and then planning, so I could, I could do some review if you want. But go ahead.

>> ELI: No, no, this is first of all just really appreciative of the city of Santa Fe. Everyone on this in this committee. It was really a fantastic event. Really fun. It was the first time putting it together. So we were kind of working out what it would look like. How we were gonna pay for things, how we were gonna work donations, how we were going to logistically set everything up. We did it very quickly, and I thought it went off really, really, well, was really impactful with the community. I've gotten loads of emails from folks thanking us for the event. And I think it sets us up really well for next year, and thinking about how we can commemorate the American Disabilities Act, have the accessibility awards, some fundraising projects that we could have in between there and really had a calendar of events in Santa Fe and throughout the State. So at this point I'm kind of like taking a deep breath, let it all soak in. But I think we want to very quickly start developing some strategies moving into next spring, and how we want to continue with these awards, but also think about other kinds of events we might be able to do here in Santa Fe and coordinating with some of the other State partners.

There was also a second event last Friday that was run through the State at the roundhouse which was a bit of a trick to pull off. We didn't have a lot of time, but we were able to coordinate with the Governor's office, lieutenant Governor's office, disability agencies throughout the State and have a very brief but very meaningful commemoration, somewhat similar to the one that we had with the city of Santa Fe. This one was with the State.

So again it was a great event. But I think another platform for us to build on looking into next year, and I'll say that we should probably plan for something for October, which is disability, employment awareness month, and as all you know, I think employment is really one of those places where more progress needs to be made. When it comes to disability rights, the American Disabilities act. So maybe as a group we want to think about having a presentation or doing some sort of panel. Maybe. I'm not sure, for-- for bringing up awareness when it comes to hiring people with disabilities. And there's a lot of information that is shared from the Federal Department of Labor on this. But we might want to also think about State workforce, about workforce solutions and some other partners across the State. Developmental Disability Council is another one that comes to mind. So, some fantastic, wonderful, great events we had these last 2 weeks. I think it sets us up really well for thinking about how to plan for next summer to commemorate the American Disabilities Act, and then in the short term. I think we should come together and think about what we can do for October for disability, employment, awareness month. I can go on. Not but I'll stop there.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. And I know you can order free posters for disability employment month online. So I can try and order some of those. And I used to go around different buildings like the library and DVR and ask them to please post those up for the month. And they always did so. So yeah, we can definitely work on that. I can order those.

Okay. So then the next, if there's no other comments on that, I just want to say that I wish the Mayor was here. but I was really grateful for the Mayor reading the proclamation and raising the disability Pride flag, and the ways that it was done was very respectful. I do, however, hope that we work on making that flag more accessible so that one day we can have a person with disabilities who cannot travel across the grass, actually raise that flag. And so that's my hope at some point to work on that. And I know that's a long term project. But that's it. That's on my list. So next is...

>> ELI: Chair Gish?

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah?

>> ELI: Yeah, just on that point, we were thinking about some high level things that just to put on everyone's radar is. I think we want to work on better positioning of captioning for our events. And then also, this last event was missing chairs. I think we needed more chairs, so we had a lot of people show up which is kind of like, it's kind of a good problem to have. But it's

still a problem. So for our next event, we'll definitely be thinking about different kinds of seating arrangements that we can have for everybody.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, and a larger venue, too, so that people can spread out. And there's not so much, there's a lot of chatting and commotion. And you know, for someone like me who's like trying to prepare and focus, to speak like I just heard people talking. So I need like a quiet place to go, and there wasn't nowhere to go. But we did okay, we did really good.

>> ELI: I'm going to put Kendra on the spot.

>> CHAIR GISH: Go ahead (giggling).

>> KENDRA: What did I do?

>> ELI: Vice Chair Garcia, any words?

>> KENDRA: (laughter). Just like you said. I've gotten quite a bit of email saying, Thank you. They enjoyed the events. My boss in particular as well as my coworkers were very impressed with how the event went. One thing that we did mention, and this is one of my co-workers, is having the community more involved. And so I told them, well, that is something that we're looking at, possibly adding for next year or the years to come, so that I was like, oh, no, we already have plans for that, don't worry. They'll be happy.

>> ELI: We do. We have some plans for that.

>> KENDRA: Yes, so I think everybody is right. It really liked it. I would actually like to add more categories for our awards. But those...

>> ELI: I wanted an arts category.

>> KENDRA: There you go, yes. Yes, there's some other ones, a youth one, that I would like to add in there. So I'm just saying, but yes, most definitely, I did enjoy it. It was great.

Registration. I think we need to work on that part just a little bit as well. At least like check in and sign-in, but other than that I think we did very well, like everybody was really impressed, and really enjoyed it. So I'm grateful for that.

>> CHAIR GISH: Pam? Go ahead.

>> PAM: The reaction button has fallen below my screen. I can't raise it.

>> CHAIR GISH: That's okay.

>> PAM: Here's something I don't think there's a solution for. But if I were to get more of the hard of hearing people involved, having that wonderful violinist made it impossible to socialize for the hard of hearing. So that's-- I don't know that there's a solution, because that's particular to this disability.

>> CHAIR GISH: Okay I'm noting it down. I think we could make it so that there was a time where there's music, and then a time for discussion where the music is quiet, or we could have made the music more like in the background. I did notice, even for me. I'm not hard of hearing, but with the venue being so small that the music did take over, and I couldn't even hear someone I was literally like less than a foot away from listening.

>> PAM: It wasn't just me.

>> CHAIR GISH: No, no, no, no, the music itself was projected to be too loud for that area. But she was a beautiful, beautiful violinist, and very, very talented and so I would, I would hate to like not have the music, but I think that because it was, it was, you know, projected with the speaker. that we could definitely tone it down so that you still hear it. But it's not taking over. But like I said, we're hoping to have a larger venue, that's my hope. So that people have more space to move around. There's a seating area, there's standing areas. And then, if that happened, even with the music being that loud, it wouldn't have taken over the space. As much. So yeah.

>> PAM: Space to get away from the Speaker.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah.

>> PAM: Physical Speaker.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah. Yeah, of course. yeah, for the music. Yes.

>> ELI: Chair Gish, on that point. While we were doing the planning for this, we had at least one other venue that we had contacted about catering, and then offer to do the event next year. So I think we want to take into account acoustics and all kinds of different things that we just didn't have the time to take into account this year, even a more quiet space identified for children's neuro diversity. For example. We just didn't have the time this year, but it's a learning experience. And the hallway was like **echo-ie** right? It was just the way it's designed that lobby area but just all lessons learned. So I really appreciate the feedback on. Thank you.

>> CHAIR GISH: And I want to commend and thank the mayor. the city staff, including Regina Wheeler and Halona, and the Public Works parking staff, who literally were given about 5 days notice to set up our needed parking, and they came through completely. And I am so grateful. And also there were city councilors. I didn't see everyone because of where I was standing, but I did get to see Carol Romero Worth as well as Renee Villareal and Michael Garcia. I don't know if there were any others there because of, I couldn't see the crowd after that. But yeah. So

thank you to everyone in the city that contributed and helped and attended. You definitely helped to make the event what it was. Kendra, go ahead.

>> KENDRA: One last thing that I wanted to add, for those of you that took pictures or would like to see the pictures of the events. there is an online gallery, if you by any chance had taken a picture, and it was printed, in the back of that we did picture, is a QR code. And if you scan that QR code, you should be able to go online and see that gallery? And it's open to everyone. and you can also download it too. That is an option you would like to do.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you Kendra. Eli?

>> ELI: Yeah. So just on that point about folks who attended. In addition to city leadership. We also had Tara Luhan, State Representative. We also had representatives from the Lieutenant Governor's office, from the Governor's Commission on Disability, and the Attorney General's office. and really special shout out just for the record here Tara Luhan. She really coordinated some extra awards that were given to our awardees, and it was a little bit of a surprise and really fantastic. So Tara's support was crucial for this . Aso we had the State Senate majority leader attend as well. So we had a really great attendance from our officials. And just something to build on, because I think it's connecting the disability constituency with State officials and leadership is vitally important for our community. So it was great.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, thank you Eli for adding that, I didn't have that list of people. So I appreciate you including them. So are there any other comments or questions on this? And this will be an ongoing discussion because we are absolutely planning over the next year. So this will be continuing of things to think about. Go ahead, Catherine. Yyou're on mute.

>> CATHERINE: Thank you, sorry. Yeah, I was just curious. I know I am disabled, and I know a number of people who are. How does one get notified of these events?

>> CHAIR GISH: You can if you want to send me, you can do a direct message to me, your email. And I can include you on my email list. I'm already emailing people, and we have just started doing this. So I don't have a set email list. But I do email the people who are attending our meetings regularly. And so you know, if I send out an email, it goes to everybody, not just the Mayor's committee members. So it I can include you in that as well.

>> CATHERINE: Thank you.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah. Okay, so the next time I'm going to skip 7 right now--

>> REGINA: I'm sorry to interrupt.

>> CHAIR GISH: You were hidden behind a little pop up.

>> REGINA: Thank you so much. Catherine I just wanted to say the city also puts out a weekly wrap that talks about what's coming up in the following weeks, and this was really well advertised there. The flag raising was advertised there. The awareness event was advertised there, the displays that they put up in the libraries for disability awareness month was advertised there. So the city put out quite a bit of press about it as well, and you can sign up for that weekly wrap thing.

I just wanted to say, you guys, I just thought that event was so moving and amazing! At the end of the day, I really feel like the vibe in the room when human beings are together, when you've created a space that makes access for everyone possible and recognizes everyone, it's so good for all of us, like we just have this experience that we never have-- it just, I was high for a day. It was amazing! And the mayor, too.

So the city manager texts me is like, why weren't you at this other public meeting? Well, since I'm the acting ADA coordinator, I was at this other awesome event. He said the mayor was raving, I knew it, and I could see that. The Mayor was completely moved, completely inspired and I think, like you guys said everybody was that we had such good representation with the leader of the Senate was there, Peter Wirth right? All the people from the Governor's committee. You know, it was just incredible. And I just so -- congratulations. Wow! I just was so impressed at how, what a great event it was. And I'm-- I think it's absolutely essential that we keep doing it because it, you know, it makes people understand and moves the initiative forward and I was super impressed. Thank you so much for doing it. And congratulations. It was, it was awesome.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. I'm with you on that 100%, and you know, even for me having to speak like normally, I'm like, Oh, my God! What-- but I, but it felt so welcoming there and just you know, I mean, of course, I got nervous, but it wasn't the same level of like oh, my God! I have to speak, you know, it was like I have to speak, but there was just --it just felt like I was being embraced by everyone there. So yeah. So one second, Catherine, I'm going to message you really quick. If I can. Catherine, you should be able to direct message me now. With your email.

So I'm going to skip 7b, because we combined both 7a and b together. And that's fine. And I wrote down everyone's comments about categories and planning and stuff like that. So 7 c is questions for city candidates and the current City Council candidates for the November 2023 election. And this is just to like, get everyone's gears going. Thank you, Catherine.

And like what they things that I was thinking of is, because a lot of times in our elections the candidates come in, and they never answer any questions about disability, or what they plan to do for, to help people with disabilities in the community; they never answer, they might say, affordable housing. But does not include accessible housing. They might talk about transportation. But does that include accessible transportation? Or accessible routes and things like that? So I was trying to think of ways where we could collect questions to give to our candidates. and this it would be ongoing. It wouldn't just be this election for anyone who is

running, where we would have a list of questions we can ask them both in forums or by email, or in this meeting or in the newspaper, wherever we decide, we want to have them be, to have them answer our questions.

And so just to get the conversation started. I know. I was thinking of things like asking questions like, what issues do you think are most important to disabled people in Santa Fe? And how do you-- they intend to address and resolve those needs? That's a pretty general one.

There is a housing crisis currently in Santa Fe, but it is even more so for disabled people here. many of whom are ending up homeless. How will they-- how will they help to bring more affordable and accessible housing to Santa Fe? Just things like that. And so I'm thinking, you know, if you need to meet with me to kind of brainstorm. I'm available. But if you have questions that you think would be important for the City Council candidates to be asked, please, please email me. And I will compile those questions. I know not everyone is going to be able to feel like they can think of questions. But I know we're a pretty good team. So it's kind of, it's kind of putting the pressure on you. I know. I know you can do it. so. But I'm available if you, if you need to brainstorm. But I think that this is really important in getting our candidates aware that we exist as a committee, and also that we exist in our community. And to make sure that our future Council members will be addressing our needs as well. And so yeah, please, email me if you want to say your question now, if you have a question, go ahead. Aurore go ahead.

>> AURORE: I revised, thanks to your comments. Okay, so it's how can the sidewalks in downtown Santa Fe be made more accessible for people using wheelchairs and strollers?

>> CHAIR GISH: And then I would follow up with what do they intend to do about, what do they intend to do about that? Yeah. Anymore, Pam? Go ahead.

>> PAM: Well, I have, how can the city expand accessibility for the hard of hearing and deaf communities through technology? And how would you plan, what is your plan to follow up with education and training of this technology?

>> CHAIR GISH: Rachel?

>> RACHEL: Alright thanks. First, I'm just unclear as a visitor to the meeting. Is it okay if I speak?

>> CHAIR GISH: Yes!

>> RACHEL: Because I totally blew past the public comments. It's okay?

>> CHAIR GISH: No, no, no, we... we include, our guests in our meeting. Yeah.

>> RACHEL: Okay and I just want to say, Thank you. I'm here because I know there's an opening on the committee, and I am not -- I do not have a disability myself, but I have a bit of, I think, quite a bit of personal experience with friends and family members who do. So I might be able to contribute. But I didn't even know there was this committee, so of course, it makes sense for me to come and read your minutes, and so forth.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you for being here.

>> RACHEL: And yeah, no, it's interesting. So and, and I actually, I wrote to Regina to ask this, and that is, does -- is there a map of some kind? Do we know where in the city people with different kinds of disabilities live? And I ask that because I live right near the rodeo grounds, and I go to Zephyr all the time. I mean. I just, you know, I won't after they extend Richards across the Arroyo, (clearing throat), excuse me, but you know it's just, it's always stuck me in the city how many young people there are, who have, who are in wheelchairs, you know? Or how many people there are who are panhandling, who are in wheelchairs, and I don't know if that's a consequence of, you know, not having had good insurance coverage, whether it's, you know, work injuries or violent crime. But it-- it just would seem to me to be a good tool to have. And I don't know about, you know, privacy and data issues. So-- I, I'm not sure how to turn that into a question for candidates.

>> CHAIR GISH: I can, I can definitely look into that. And also that's one of the issues of disability is that there are inadequate statistics and data on our needs. That's nationwide.

>> RACHEL: Maybe that's a question. You know, we know that in our planning we don't know enough about what kind of disabilities people have and where they are, so great. Thank you.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah.

>> RACHEL: Thanks.

>> CHAIR GISH: Kendra asks, When do you want questions by? I can send them to you? I would say by the next meeting. Please get them to me because then I can compile them and we can get them out in September, and then they would have about a month to answer them, and then we would have the election in November. So Catherine, and then Eli.

>> CATHERINE: Am I muted? Yes. I have a couple of things I wanted to just highlight, one of them what Aurore just said, regarding this watch, you know, for consideration. The sidewalks, some of them are okay. But I am in a wheelchair, and they are pretty much disarray and to the point that it's dangerous. And people in motorized scooters or wheelchairs can't pass, have to go around sometimes miles, so they are not adequate places. Anyway, on and on and on. Because I'm on the streets. So I know. So I would definitely suggest that that's a really good one to ask. And the second question I have, my background, I'm a rehabilitation counselor. And I am also interested in the opening of the committee. But I don't know how to pursue that.

>> CHAIR GISH: Okay, so I'm going to be doing a really quick presentation on just how complex it is to file to apply for our committee. That's on our agenda, so if you can stay here through the entire meeting. I will be going over that. And I will be offering a simplified version. You can also email me. You will have my email. Once I get you on my list I will make sure you have my email as soon as possible. But yeah, so yeah, I'll get to that. So is that all you have to say Catherine?

>> CATHERINE: Yes. Thank you.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah. And then, Eli.

>> ELI: Thanks. Yeah, I just wanted to comment on the point about mapping where people with disabilities live. And this is something that is discussed quite a bit. It's a bit tricky because you want to protect the privacy people with disabilities. census data and track data is pretty bare. It does have some information that you can utilize. There are a couple of other components that are used in the emergency management field because they get some special information through local, like, law enforcement and first responders to identify folks with disabilities who are self-reporting or on Medicaid or Medicare services. It's a really complex field, but they do have some of those GIS mappings that go a little bit beyond what census data would provide.

There's a lot of debate in the disability community about like voluntary registries, for the most part voluntary registries for people with disabilities are found to not be that helpful and they often can sometimes create more problems because they can be outdated or caused confusion. Or people may have a sense that they're gonna be saved when often they're not So, long story short, census data is really what we have right now, and there's a few other organizations that collect the census data. That kind of package it in a way that's more helpful. I will include HHS Empower, which is a data tracking and website of tools and resources from the Health and Human Services administration that collects some durable medical equipment data, particularly people who have, like are on life sustaining equipment. It does have some mapping there. So I'll put that in the chat. Thanks.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you Eli. And I want to say for the census data, one of the issues is that they for every government data set that collects data on people with disabilities, they have different criteria for what constitutes disabled. So, you know the CDC differs from Health & Human Services, and you know, so it's all very like, it just depends on what they do and don't include. So it to me, it's never fully accurate.

>> RACHEL: Yeah, if I could just comment quickly. I mean, I've muddled around in census data a lot, and I know that as soon as you get down to sort of a block group level, you know, they're-- because they're only doing everything by survey and not total account, that they stop providing the data because it could potentially be a privacy violation. So the data just isn't available down to a useful level. The self reporting. I don't think would work, and I partly encountered this also during Covid, and trying to look with some people where most cases of

covid were. And it's infuriating because we sort of know, because we read about it in the newspaper, by zip code and things. But there's a prohibition. So yeah, I mean, I just think it's worth continuing to try.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, no, I think it's also important with when it comes to segregation and disabled people, you know, being forced to live in one area of a community which we know happens. And so because of, well, lumping low income, or that's where the accessible housing is, is in like on one side of the city. And so we know that that's a possibility. And so I think that it is important. You know, how you do that without identifying people to, and exposing people to be to be more vulnerable and to be, you know, I have no idea, but I think that it is important, and I think, including disabled people in data and statistics like that, to make sure that we aren't ending up segregated to one side of the city. I think is really important. So...

>> RACHEL: Yeah, and if you want to try and target any infrastructure or services it's hard.

>> CHAIR GISH: Exactly. Yeah.

>> RACHEL: Thanks.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, thank you. Let's see.

>> PAM: My hand is raised.

>> CHAIR GISH: Go ahead Pam.

>> PAM: But the flip side of this. I'm gonna-- I want to go at it, two parts of what is being talked about, because I'm entering the age of disability because of age. And I think this question is huge, because my friends before my very eyes have become disabled with dementia, with mobility issues. And there I'm worried about them, and there's just nothing that can be done. They've lived in that same place, and they may have had everything in place, but suddenly they are disabled. So I just wanted to point out that keeping track of old people is -- I just don't see how they're even making it, some of them.

And the next thing is, the flip side of knowing where the disabled are living is knowing where you can go that's accessible. And I don't know all of the disabilities that are being put out on Google Maps. But now on Google Maps, if you want to find out before you buy tickets, whether that theater is accessible, Google Maps will tell you that that's an accessible venue. And I imagine it's for mobility issues as well. I haven't not looked for that. Does anyone know if it's for all disabilities or just hearing now?

>> RACHEL: I call.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, yeah.

>> RACHEL: Call the place. Because you have to find out if you can get into the building, and then you also have to find out about seating.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah. And I know that some of my blind friends have been trying to use Google maps to get around ,and it-- it's kind of hit and miss. It definitely doesn't show all of the barriers that might be in place in the way of their path. So I think it's definitely-- I would consider it a work in progress. I think that with, if there was community feedback constantly noting that, you know, something moved, or something was in the way it might help. But I think as it is, it's just. It's an experiment, and it's a work in progress is how I would categorize it. Eli, go ahead.

>> ELI: Yeah, absolutely. So, Google maps primarily will just show the wheelchair accessible icon for wheelchair accessibility. And, primarily that's for ingress and egress, not even accessible restrooms. So it is like, Chair Gisch is saying, it's pretty limited at this point. There are some programs and projects out there that from the community level do have a lot more information. And there's a group actually in Great Britain that has gone way out of this world in mapping places of public accommodation, and their levels of accessibility. there are a few organizations like that here in United States that do that. But Google maps right now is kind of in its infancy, and what information it shares. And it's not - it's relatively accurate. But it's very limited.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, thank you Eli. Are there any other comments on this? If there are no other comments, I'm noticing the time. And there are things that I needed Angelique here for So I'm thinking to hold a vote if we need to, to postpone-- trying to look through this real quick. To postpone items 7d, 8a, 8c and 8d. And if you want me to like, list those out, I can. Which means our next item would be 7e. And f, and then 8b. I don't know if we need to hold a vote, Halona, do you know? You're on mute.

>> HALONA: Yes, I believe so because you are changing the agenda.

>> CHAIR GISH: Okay. So I'm going to postpone, so 7d is the library disability Pride month books display. And I need Angelique here for that. 8a is continued discussion on updated ADA coordinator job position. That job description is in the packet. 8c is continued discussion of appropriate placement for ADA Coordinator. which I was hoping we could have a presenter. But we didn't have time. And then 8d is continued discussion on updates on city website. So I would postpone all of those until the next meeting

>> AURORE: Move to amend the agenda as proposed.

>> KENDRA: And I second, that.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you.

>> HALONA: Okay. Motion to postpone items 7d 8a, 8c and 8d. Aurore Bleck?

>> AURORE: Yes.

>> HALONA: Kendra Garcia

>> KENDRA: Yes.

>> HALONA: Kathlyne Gish?

>> CHAIR GISH: Yes.

>> HALONA: Pam Parfitt?

>> PAM: Yes.

>> HALONA: Eli Fresquez?

>> ELI: Yes.

>> HALONA: Motion passes.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you.

>> CHAIR GISH: So the next item is 7a. The ADA Emergency kits. Urgent need for training and emergency planning. Pam, would you like to-- or Eli can relay what occurred with these emergency kits? During the -- I guess it was before the event. I wasn't there. So If you want to do that and then we can go into the importance of these kits and the need for them currently.

>> PAM: I can, I can speak to what I experienced it.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, that's what I'm asking.

>> PAM: And I'm sorry, but I have forgotten the man's... is it David? And his whole name, the man who's in charge of the kits for the city? Right? I've forgotten his name,

>> REGINA: Brian Williams.

>> PAM: David, real close, right? Does not know any more about the kits. He's waiting for the ADA Coordinator to come on board and order a training session. They were charged, so I was able to fool around with them. But they're not... we spent most of our time figuring out what linked with what and what the equipment is supposed to do, and there was at least one or two things that neither he nor I could even figure out its use, and there didn't seem to be a manual, or... he says we just need training, and that's what he's waiting for.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. Pam. Eli, you have anything to add to that? Or...

>> ELI: Yeah. maybe we can ask for Brian to be proactive on this and arrange training. There's two sources that he could do that with. One is the vendor and the other one is through the Governor's Commission for the Deaf or Hard of Hearing. I think together they'd be able to pull that training together. The person who has used these kits the most was Lauren De Acevedo over at the Department of Health, but he has since left, so if Brian could take it upon himself and be proactive and organize that training that would be really helpful. I think I'd be happy to participate, but I think that would be a good next step for us.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah. And I just want to voice that, you know right now I literally have nothing but dead grass in my yard. The city is dead. There's... it's dry and dead. and it any spark and there's going to be a fire. And I worry about the entire perimeter of the city. and I worry about having to evacuate in that case. This is the hottest and driest city that I've experienced in 20 years. And it is to me, these kits need to be ready, we need to have at least enough trained staff so that if there is, God forbid, an emergency where they are needed they are ready to go. And right now we need it more. This this is like the reason why we got these kits was for these exact conditions. And so you know to me it's urgent. I would really hate to have it happen where people are stuck in the city and don't know what to do to evacuate and cannot pay attention to the news and not listen to the news, cannot access the news, whatever is happening, because they're panicking because they don't have access to these kits because they can't hear, because they, you know, they need them for language, they're Spanish as well as for definitely hard of hearing. And I am sincerely worried about the conditions that we are experiencing and how dry the city is.

I'm also gonna say, people on the main street where I, from where I live are shooting a fireworks still, you know, it's like this is dangerous. So we know that this is happening around this entire city and all over the county. And so we may need to evacuate if something were to happen.

And so Eli, I really like your suggestions. And I think that we should reach out to Brian. The other thing I was thinking is, if we could get EMT and fire department to be included in that, because they would be the main people as well as police, would be the main people who would help people evacuate if there, if that was needed. And so I think that we can make this happen. I don't think that we need to be waiting 2 or 3 months for ADA coordinator to come in. I think that that's dangerous to wait. and so I think that this needs to happen as soon as possible. Go ahead, Pam.

>> PAM: Well. talking to Brian Williams, he also indicated that there is a culture surrounding police and fire. And that they feel perfectly fine communicating with deaf and hard of hearing people with a piece of paper and a pencil. So, I think that attitude either from Brian, which is accurately refracting fire and police needs to be addressed. I think education is key to everything that we do. No one's going to use those kits if they don't believe they're necessary.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you, Pam. Eli go ahead-- okay.

>> ELI: I was waiting for Kendra, but I'll add a little bit to that. I think the kits could be useful in some first responder circumstances. but they also may be really useful in a mass care setting. So if you are opening up an emergency shelter like setting, these kits are really designed for that effective communication. and it often happens that people have to evacuate very quickly and earnestly, and they don't have the time to have their devices with them. So these kinds of things can be really helpful in a mass care setting, and I mean, part of me is like, well, what are the chances of their being a mass care event where we need to open up a shelter? Last year we opened up a shelter. I know very few people attended that shelter, but it was opened up at the **Genoveva Chavez** Center for the wildfires, so I think emergency preparedness, putting on an emergency manager hat, you want to be prepared for everything. If you have something that can increase accessibility for people with disabilities, why wait? Let's go ahead and move forward as quickly as possible on that and get that training. started.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. Pam, you still have your hand raised, and you're on mute. Do you need to -- have anything more to say? No? Okay.

Can we unmute Pam? I accidentally muted her trying to change a setting, and it muted her instead, which was not what I was trying to do. Thank you.

So, next item is 7f, discussion and plan to implement inclusive city meetings, the accommodations process, zoom hybrid meetings, ASL cart language loop system in city buildings and an ongoing need to correct and update community access.

So, Pam, I'm gonna pull you into this one, too. And Eli as well. So in the event, at the accessibility awards event, afterwards councilors Renée Villarreal and Michael Garcia. spoke with me for a little bit. and I let them know that I was aware that they are trying to make our meetings more inclusive and accessible to the entire community. Renée told me that she became aware that ASL is pretty standard in most public meetings, and I agreed. And I let her know that we are also working on this issue. And so she reached -- her and Michael both reached out by email to me, asking if it might be possible either for them to come to a meeting and or for us to present to the City Council on this issue. And to do a presentation. I let them know that me and Eli did have a little bit of an issue with the city clerk's office when we were trying to do a presentation, but they said that that shouldn't be an issue with this, that we should be given enough time to do a presentation and not the standard two minutes. And so I am into presenting to the city Council, and I would ask that everyone on this committee who is able and wanting to join us join in with us to present on this issue. We can work on a presentation together. and make sure that all of our points and views are in the presentation and make sure that it's thorough and helpful to the city council, to in particular-- to Renée Villarreal and Michael Garcia, but to the entire governing body.

And so I'm wondering what your thoughts are on that, and if you have anything to add. Go ahead, go ahead, Regina.

>> REGINA: Thank you so much. I think it's a really good idea to prevent present to the governing body. You know, we have that really gigantic, comprehensive list of stuff we want, and it's we're just not making very good headway. And so I think it's really important that the Council take that on themselves to make it happen. And the difference between the two minutes and the presentation, you'll be on the agenda for a presentation, and you'll have the time that you need to present. The two minutes is for public comment. Everybody gets limited that way.

I have a number of questions now about how we really want this to look, and it might be helpful if we get that hammered out for the presentation to say we want this. I think we want a separate screen with the captions streaming separately. I think we also want captions on the screen with the Zoom Meeting, right\_ So that you can put it under the speakers. We want ASL at every meeting, and I don't know if that can be a little box in the corner, so that a remote ASL interpreter could provide that, or if it has to be someone in the room. I think we want Spanish at every meeting. I can't believe we don't have it honestly. And I don't" is that a separate screen? So one streaming caption is English. One streaming caption is Spanish. We have also had interpreters in the room so that people can wear headphones for the Spanish. That's hard to do in that room, because what happens is the people speaking, the interpretation in Spanish are interfering with everybody else hearing the Council. So I don't know if just text is okay. But I think it's great-- we really want to talk about the accessible podium. I think we've got that got that coming and I think the loop is definitely coming. I think we got those two pieces. But, boy, I mean, we've been at this a year, and we've got a loop coming.

I think we have some challenges with our CART service. And we just set up a meeting with those guys because I think what they did in order to make it real time, so that Pam can read the lips and read the subtitles is they had to abandon their streaming function right? That was where the delay was, and I want to find out from them. Can they do both? And they still haven't answered that question. I also have a question about it. Seems to me I was watching the captions really carefully at Finance Committee on Monday nights that one uses the zoom built in like, Oh, my gosh! That's getting really, really accurate, and I noticed that it's doing what the live captioning does to is where it's doing contextual corrections. So, as the speaker continues, it'll go back and correct the word when it realizes that word didn't fit. It was, I would say, I watched it solid for 15 min. I only saw one incorrect word. So I what? I wonder if we might want to use the zoom built in for the on the screen, and then use the cart for the slightly delayed one that's on a separate big screen. So I just feel like we have a lot of details to hammer out. And if we're not super clear, and if we can hammer out the details, I think I can arrange with partners interpreting. I can get the resources. I can pay for it. and we can make it happen. It's just... you know it's a learning process for me. So I kind of wanted to say some of those things. and I thank you so much. I think it's a great thing. I'm so glad the councilors want you to be present and are really committed to support. That's great.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah. That's how I felt, too, is like, we're finally like coming together with the city and the committee and working to help the entire city and all of this entire community to

be able to participate in these governing body meetings. And how important that is. So, yeah, Eli, go ahead.

>> ELI: I think Regina just summed it up perfectly, that outline of your suggestions about some of the challenges we have, and then let's have a clean, clear strategy and prioritization of what we need. So when we go there, we can say, we need A, B, C, D, E and F, and here it is. This is what it's going to look like. I think that will be really, really great. And frankly, this could be one of the most successful meetings in the State easily that we could set up for Santa Fe, and just something we should be really proud of. But we're we just need the will; and I think we have the will now. So let's work out the kinks and see what makes sense and what doesn't.

And also let's also be aware that we want this to be sustainable. So we want it to be cost efficient. And if it means that we do have to use some cost-efficient devices let's do it. Because these meetings, right? They're pretty long. So they're unique in that sense. We want it to be sustainable even in down times. So accessibility does cost money. So let's figure out how to make it accessible and affordable and then where we need to put the money we'll put the money, but this sounds like a really excellent endeavor.

I wonder if we wanna like set up a even a, hate doing like a subcommittee or something where we have like a working group to get an outline together, get the PowerPoint together if we want to have some slides and then really work on the details. This seems like a detailed kind of presentation where we present high level. But there's what -- what it looks like, what kinds of services we stream that really matters. How do we incorporate ASL? Where are they positioned in the room? All that matters. So it needs to be worked out in detail.

>> CHAIR GISH: And, Eli, I'm thinking you me and Pam, and then Regina as well. So kind of -- to be creating a working group together. I think between us, I've been in all of the meetings with Pam and CART and trying to get that resolved as well. So I know a lot of those details. And so I think the four of us, I think, could really get a really solid outline, and ...

>> ELI: Sounds great.

>> CHAIR GISH: ...and create a powerful presentation. Regina go ahead.

>> REGINA: Thank you, Madam Chair, I just wanted to add, we should ask for money, because I think I did do an estimate of cost, and you know we're zooming in on \$100,000, because those council meetings go from 5 p.m. to midnight, every other week. And so, and then with all of these different services. So, I think another thing, you guys are gonna-- we're all gonna work to get this really nailed down. And I'm gonna say, we're gonna need this much money for the budget. And I think that's been a hesitation from the city clerk's office as well.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. Yeah, thank you Regina. Rachel?

>> RACHEL: Yeah, thanks. I just want to put on your radar kind of yet another, a little detail about this switch, is that I've attended a lot of planning commission meetings recently, and I go to a lot of ENNs. I listen to a lot of ENNs online. And one of the things that is sort of up in the air right now, maybe with this sort of zoning commission rewrite is whether-- I mean, we've asked that an ENN become a formal city meeting, because when, when we all started using Zoom it became possible to record those meetings and to put them on the city's website, which then, sort begged the question of whether or not those meetings should always be recorded and on the city's website.

And in the past responsibility for an ENN, an early neighborhood notification meeting, has been moved, meaning the developer needs to put those together. And when we're working on one proceeding, you know it is a really key place for non-English speakers to have input into things that are going to affect them. And they simply don't participate because they don't expect that, you know, they'll be able to, to understand or to provide comments. And that's a real inequity.

And so for one, this one proceeding, we did arrange to have Spanish and ASL translation, but you know, it was good. I mean, it was really good because people did participate more, but it also was difficult because they were sort of complaining about the expense. You know they were like, well, we only have the translator for another hour. Community wrap up your questions, and you know there's always going to be that tension. But, I just -- that is a point of discrimination. Really. I mean inequity in these things that many people would love to see addressed, you know? And it's a hard one.

Maybe it means that, you know, if you create facilities that are automatically set up to do the kinds of things you're talking about, which are over my head. I mean, I would just go to some city, some city like ours and say, Well, what do you do? Can we buy one? If these ENNs are going to be these ENNs in the future, maybe need to be held in a public facility where these types of technology are available. So thanks. And ESL, too, should be present for those I mean, I don't mean to say I mean, I don't know whether we had ESL needs, but so thanks.

>> PAM: It means -- did you say you did not know what ESL means?

>> RACHEL: Actually, I want to say I did a, I did a radio, a radio program on ESL in the theatre. Believe it or not. If that doesn't have more twists and turns than you can imagine. Because I was in a theater once in Washington, DC. And I was watching, people were doing ESL. And I was so blown away by it that I looked into the whole thing. So I'm saying that in the proceeding that I was referencing, I'm not sure that there were people actually participating who needed the ASL. It's totally known, I know I totally know. ASL not ESL

>> PAM: It's translating it as ESL and that's English as a second language?

>> RACHEL: I know I'm sorry, that's me. I was saying that, I was saying that I meant ASL.

>> REGINA: My madam chair, I really appreciate what Rachel's saying, because here we are just trying to get governing body meetings acceptable. But there are planning commission meetings and early neighborhood notification meetings, and we have constant design update meetings on our road projects and our building projects and our corridor studies, and at the very least what we might want to consider on our presentation is, you know, we've just spent all of this time talking about how we're going to get our governing body meeting accessible. And here's all the other meetings that we need to think about. You know, how we're going to tackle those, because I think it's a really good idea to keep the entire universe of accessible meetings. And I think Rachel's idea is a great one, that if there was a place where you just go and plug in, everything worked. I mean, you do have to schedule Partners Interpreting, or whoever the resource is, but if we just had a couple of numbers that you called. It's not that expensive, you know. It's like 150 bucks an hour to get Spanish and English subtitles, live captions. So, but I think that's a great point Rachel, that you raised, and we should not lose the visibility of that at the meeting to the governing body, because they'll understand. And it's really true, because another perspective to remember is that the governing body wants to involve those folks that Rachel was referring to that are completely unable to participate. And we wonder why. And so you could frame our recommendations that this is gonna get you some of that equitable participation from the community that the governing body really seeks.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah.

>> RACHEL: If can just follow up with, I mean, Regina, yeah, I don't know if we can make it something a capability in each of the libraries has. I mean, each of them. They have community media rooms. It has to be very easily used. So, but yeah, I mean that the whole pipeline up to the city council meeting, and that's where things are pretty much done, right? I mean, sometimes they really change the outcome of things, but an awful lot of opinions and the comments and all that stuff, it all starts out at the periphery and works its way in. And maybe we'd see greater levels of voting. So thank you, Regina for recognizing that.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, thank you, Rachel. I really appreciate those comments. We have also been saying, you know, really, all committee meetings should be accessible. Everything, but it's a matter of planning for that to happen. So we're focusing right now on the governing body-- the meetings from the governing body, and then we have every intention of branching out to the other committees, because this entire community needs to be able to be engaged with their government to know what's happening, to be informed and to be informed voters. And so I think that that's kind of where we're going, this is a starting point. But this is nowhere near where we're planning to end. So thank you so much, Rachel.

So I know that we need to hold a vote to extend the meeting time. I don't know how much time. How long Halona you and Regina have. I need to do a really quick presentation. It would take me about probably 5 min to go through the pages and explain just how confusing prime.gov is to use, to do an application on there.

>> REGINA: I can see as long as you need. Halona, if you want me to--.

>> HALONA: Same here.

>> CHAIR GISH: Okay, cool. So I'm thinking then of asking for a half hour, but I'm not intending to take that up. It's just in case there's comments and everything else. So if everyone else can stay, I don't know. We still have a quorum. So Rachel, go ahead. You're on mute. Rachel you're on mute.

>> RACHEL: Yeah. I saw that Catherine, who also expressed an interest, had to leave, and I will say I'm actually pretty--I I'm not going to say that I can do this at the application on it, and I'm not 100% sure I'll do the application because Catherine might be really great to have on the committee. But I can kind of get on prime.gov. I mean, if I'm the only person here that you're really practically doing a presentation for you.

>> CHAIR GISH: No, no, no, this is also it's because of continuing issues with prime.gov to explain how complex system it is to use, but also for anyone who wants to apply in the general public, to show them how, where they need to click in order to get to the form, because when I went through it, I was shocked at how hidden the actual places that you need to apply.

>> RACHEL: So somebody might watch this later.

>> CHAIR GISH: Exactly. Yeah. And we have these on YouTube. So yeah, so this is just going to be a really quick showing of where it is to click on prime.gov, and what happens when you click in different places.

So let me do screen share real quick. All right. So can everyone see this very blank menu?

>> Yes.

>> CHAIR GISH: Okay. so this is what it looks like when you just sign into prime.gov. And so it doesn't really help if you make a-- like there's nothing on here at all. So it's very confusing. If you just sign into prime.gov, there's nothing. If you go to the public portal, this is all it shows, is the committee meetings. There is nothing about any board, vacancies, or anything else. And hold on because I have lost everyone. I can't see anyone now. Okay, you're all back.

And then I noticed-- so I was looking on here, I'm thinking well, maybe you could click on the Mayor's Committee on Disability link, but no, we can't. And then you have to go to this very specific link within this ad and click on it. And I'm gonna right click. And it takes you to this new page that is very specific, and you can only find it in that ad. And then it sends you to this page, which is incredibly confusing, because we are not listed in this menu at all. And this doesn't make any sense. If you click on these, you would think, okay, maybe I need to click on vacancies. But we are not listed under vacancies. We're not listed under meetings. There's just nothing listed here. You have to click on this view all boards and commission vacancies link. And then, once you get that, you get this very long menu of all of the vacancies.

And so to prevent you from having to search through each link, which a person who is using a text reader is going to take half hour going through that menu, you have to click on this little drop down box on the top that is kind of hidden, because you can't really tell easily that it's a drop down menu. And then it lists all of the committees in this drop down menu, and you scroll down until you get to Mayor's Committee on Disability. So it's quite a ways down. It's about halfway down. And you click on Mayor's Committee on Disability and apply. And then you get this menu where we are. You can't click on Mayor's Committee on Disability. You have to go to the very end and click, apply.

And then, once you do that, you get this very, very long menu of things to input with most of it starred. And I'm not sure why this has to be so long, but I do have some concerns.

I was gonna ask you, Regina, if I could do an application run through and see how it works, and then report back to you because I haven't done this yet, but I intended to just to get a review on what it feels like to go through this. Also, I wanted to test it to see if it saves, so that if I accidentally click off the browser menu, does it, or the browser window, does it save my information? Or is it all erased? Because I'm very concerned about that because this is such a long page of information to input.

And most of it like, I said, it is starred. There's very few things that are not required on here so -- so I will do that by tomorrow, Regina, and then we-- I can give you feedback. And I can test this out. In lieu of doing this because it is very complicated for someone potentially to do all of this, the alternative was to email you. Can you give more of a rundown of how to do that in an accessible way, which is to email you? Do you want to-- instead of doing this to the alternative was to email you.

>> REGINA: Thank you Madam chair. Send me your name and phone number.

>> CHAIR GISH: So the alternative was, I think I think it was, and I print it. So I and I have to share screens. I'm gonna stop sharing screen, because that's what I wanted to go through.

>> REGINA: Oh, my God. I can't believe how hard it is to get to that form though, that is just impossible.

>> CHAIR GISH: It took me about an hour of clicking around, trying to figure out where everything was. And yeah...

>> CHAIR GISH: What do you think about? Should we just email people as a fillable pdf, that has the same information? We could have a pdf or, or the old way was to just email the ADA Coordinator. And then people just emailed me like a literal brief paragraph of why they were interested. I was thinking of making a more involved and engaged process so that we actually reached out to them, maybe do an interview process which I know other committees do, and kind of really engage them in this process. Let them know, even if we don't select them, that

they are welcome on our committee and are welcome to participate. They just can't be voting numbers. That's the only thing that is different.

And so, yeah, so I'm I've been thinking of how to improve this process. But I think for ease of people applying, I think, emailing you and just putting, like Mayor's Committee on Disability Application in the subject would be the easiest way to go, because this is really complex.

>> REGINA: And really any of the committees are probably hampered by that horrible process, and then it occurs to me, possibly if we have to fill out the application, we could pull that up on the screen and ask the person the questions. Right?

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, yeah.

>> REGINA: We could do that. I'd be happy to do that. And I guess I failed to do that process for the person that e-mailed me the questions. But I'll be more alert to be more responsive to that.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, and we can figure out what the city is requiring, like, what is absolutely necessary. Are these questions absolutely necessary now for someone to apply to a committee? Because before that was not the process. It was literally just a paragraph of why I'm interested. And then their resume. And so it was -- it used to be a lot more simple. And we've never really done, like I said, we've never really done interviews before, but I think we can absolutely find a really good candidate. But it's just -- this process to me was kind of shocking, and the fact that you can't access it from the public portal at all, like there's nothing saying that there's vacancies in any of the committee meetings just by going to prime.gov and you, and then you can't go into your login and find even the committees that you are a chair of. There's just nothing on there.

And so it just-- it's like multiple levels of disconnect and confusion. And so, yeah, so I wanted to highlight that for anyone who is trying to get through this, that is what you're going to experience. And to me, just email us, because that is a lot more simple and more accessible.

>> REGINA: So then the person will email me. And then what will be the next step?

>> CHAIR GISH: You would forward those emails and resumes to me.

>> REGINA: Okay.

>> CHAIR GISH: And you can do that at either of my emails. You have my city email or my private email, either is fine. And then I collect those. I already have a selection committee of me, Kendra and Aurore that will probably continue, and like I said I was, I was considering, because of the complexity of what happened last time, and how disconnected we all were, and just kind of guessing about things, that I think it would be more important to really engage each of the candidates and ask them the questions and make sure that they are living in the

city of Santa Fe and things like that. Because there was a lot of questions about that where it just wasn't clear with what they were saying so, a lot of people in the last time, like I think 2 or 3 of them weren't even in New Mexico yet. They were like moving here. So it was, there was a lot of, a lot of confusion and trying to figure out like, okay, are you really here? Things like that.

So yeah. I think that that would resolve a lot of the issues we experienced last time. So, that's how I would ask you to proceed. Please, email Regina, and make it clear that you are wanting to apply for the Mayor's Committee on Disability's vacant position.

>> REGINA: Thank you so much Madam chair. And Rachel, so I should forward your email. I just pulled it up that had the question, and I'll forward that to Chair Gish, to start you in the process.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you.

>> REGINA: Okay good.

>> CHAIR GISH: Okay. So next is, if there's no other comments or questions, yeah, okay. Next is 8e, Mayor's Committee on Disability Subcommittee reports. Are there any subcommittee reports? Go ahead Aurore.

>> AURORE: The remaining members of the old Transit Advisory Board are still trying to get a group together. And we're trying to get-- we've got our in done. We're just getting permission to have a meeting either August 22, or August 29. It would be from 5:30 to 7:30 in the evening, and we've already written an invitation for all interested people in the community. So that's our goal. Anybody who's interested in public transportation and disability, public transportation.

>> CHAIR GISH: And then where is that being held? Is it in person or is it online?

>> AURORE: It's gonna be at Transit. There may be a zoom component. I'm not sure.

>> CHAIR GISH: That would be very helpful. I'm just gonna say for me. That would be very helpful for people like me who use paratransit or have to get a ride.

>> AURORE: I'll mention that. I'll mention it. Okay.

>> CHAIR GISH: And I would even make an effort to show up for a committee meeting if I was really able to. You know, if you get the date set because there's some long-standing issues that I would love to bring your attention to. And also right now, with the buses the way that they are like, you know, we already know that there's an issue with service being disrupted and people not being able to access public transportation the way that we used to. Which was already limited before. So now, it's even more limited.

And so yeah, go ahead, Regina.

>> REGINA: I should let you guys know that you know one of the reasons it's been bad, obviously, Covid kind of crushed it. And then we've got, you know, a 60% vacancy rate on driver positions. But we have just hired a new employee-- I created a new position, using another position of a Director of Transit Administration, and we have a very seasoned transit professional Gabriela Chavez, will be joining Transit. Very exciting. She's accepted the offer, so it'll be a matter of weeks, and that'll really help us. She'll be responsible for a service assessment upgrade. So we've assessed our service. We know we need improvements, but there hasn't been anybody to design and implement that. She'll be responsible for that. She'll also be responsible for getting Grant funding to improve our bus stops. So she, I think she's going to be a real help to improve our bus system, because with only one director, it's just they basically been treading water for 3 years, and I just have to apologize that we are clear that it needs a lot of work. And we're hoping that with Gabriela coming, we're going to be able to make some progress.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. That's a wonderful okay, Regina. Hopefully, hopefully, that will happen soon. Fingers crossed. Are there any other subcommittee reports? No? Okay.

Rachel, I will be in touch with you. If you could leave me your email address. That would be the easiest for me. Okay, thank you.

>> HALONA: I gave her hour emails. Yours, Chair Gish, Regina's, and myself.

>> CHAIR GISH: Okay, thank you. I appreciate that.

Next is matters from staff, Halona.

>> HALONA: A link to the video recording of this meeting will be added to the meeting minutes for the meeting.

>> CHAIR GISH: Thank you. And then we have matters from the committee.

>> REGINA: Madam chair could I add a little bit? We have-- I think the committee may be aware, but we had to write a new job description for the selected ADA coordinator, because the person has vast experience and expertise. We rewrote the job description. It's now entitled Equity and ADA Manager. We posted it, we interviewed. The only qualified candidate was the gentleman that we had selected from the ADA Coordinator interviews. He interviewed spectacularly. We pushed him to the limit of a little bit more towards equity and inclusion. He blew our minds. So we'll be making an offer to him within the next couple of weeks. As soon as HR can get out the door, he has secured an apartment in Santa Fe. His goal is to be here by September first, I said-- that's pretty aggressive, knowing our HR Department, but I think he'll probably start on September 15ish, so, great progress on that.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, thank you. Yeah. And if he's available during our next meeting we can invite him to sit in. If he's if he's available. I'm sure he's gonna be busy moving,

>> REGINA: He's moving from El Paso. You know, his wife is in a chair. She's a quadratic, so there, I'm sure it's a big, a big undertaking, they are so excited, super excited.

>> CHAIR GISH: Yeah, thank you, Regina. I appreciate that update. Matters from the committee.

>> AURORE: My granddaughter is in college! So far, so good.

>> HALONA: She's going to Fort Lewis. Right?

>> AURORE: Yes. She started the early program this Monday.

>> HALONA: Oh, wow! Good for her.

>> AURORE: Yeah.

>> CHAIR GISH: Very, very cool. Congratulations to her.

>> AURORE: Thank you.

>> CHAIR GISH: Okay, so if there are no more matters from the committee, our next meeting is September 6, 2023, from 3 to 5 pm. On zoom. And we are adjourned at 5: 28 pm.

>> Thank you, everyone.

>> REGINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Great meeting.

>> [End]