

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council  
Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee  
May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

JILL HANO: Okay, y'all. It's 1:05 on Friday, June 7th. Apparently 2022. So now at this time I would like to call the Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee to order. So Ebony, if you could please take roll.

EBONY HAVEN: Yes, ma'am. Ms. Nicole Banks.

NICOLE BANKS: Here.

EBONY HAVEN: Mr. Michael Billings. Ms. Christi Gonzales. Ms. Angela Harmon.

ANGELA HARMON: Here.

EBONY HAVEN: Mr. Tony Piontek. Ms. Brooke Stewart.

BROOKE STEWART: Present.

EBONY HAVEN: Mr. Erick Taylor.

ERICK TAYLOR: Here.

EBONY HAVEN: Ms. Vivienne Webb.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Here.

EBONY HAVEN: Ms. Lauren Womack.

LAUREN WOMACK: Here.

EBONY HAVEN: And Ms. Jill Hano.

JILL HANO: Here.

EBONY HAVEN: You have seven and you have a quorum.

JILL HANO: Okay. Thank you so much, Ebony. Okay. So as like the title of the ad hoc committee states we are here to talk about our bylaws which have not been updated since 2018. So if we follow our agenda, Ebony, do you want to take over?

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah. Do you want me to read the protocol real fast, just the housekeeping?

JILL HANO: We also have adopted our virtual protocols. So can you please read those out loud to everyone.

EBONY HAVEN: Yes. For committee members and members of the public attending in person please raise your hand to speak and wait to be recognized by the chair before speaking. To help the meeting run smoothly please keep side conversations to a minimum and comments related to the topic we are discussing. For those committee members who are attending virtually

remember you must be on camera and have your first and last name showing to be counted towards our quorum. Please mute microphones unless called upon by the chair. Electronically raise your hand to request to speak and wait to be called on by the chair. For attendees electronically raise your hand to request to speak. Once recognized by the chair your microphone will be turned on. After speaking the microphone will be returned to mute. Also, the Q and A is only to be used by those needing an ADA accommodation to participate in the meeting.

As for order, committee members in person and virtually will be allowed to speak first. Public members in person will then be called upon by public participating virtually who have their hands raised. Comments in the Q and A will be addressed last. As with all hybrid meetings it's sometimes difficult for us to keep track of everybody that's wanting to speak either in person or virtually so please be patient. And all comments or questions from committee members and the public may be limited to three minutes or less should we run into time constraints so please keep that in mind. Also, comments about a person's character will not be allowed. Finally, members of the public will have the opportunity to provide public comment before each vote and during designated public comment periods. The chair may also use their discretion to determine if comments will be accepted outside of those times.

Okay. So I'm going to share my screen and the document that's online and that was shared with the committee is the bylaws with recommendations for change. So there are two sets of recommendations in the document. Did you have a question, Jill?

JILL HANO: The first thing on the agenda actually is-- well, y'all, I may be really bad at this. The first thing in the agenda was actually the ITAC document which online is a slide show but (inaudible) were an easy-to-read document. I didn't know if you wanted to go over that, what was the general items of the bylaws or just go right into the proposed changes. This was only for your consideration.

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah. I can go over that real quick, Jill. That's included in the agenda. It was online.

And like Jill said, I did make it like an easy read instead of attaching the power point that ITAC sent or has on their website. I just made it into an easy read ten comment parts of council bylaws. The first part was the name. Most councils provide the full name of the council. And then they make a statement that the council will be referred to as the council rather than using the full name throughout the document.

The purpose, you provide a reason the council exist. A lot of councils use the information from the DD Act which is in Section 121 to help them create that statement. And then most councils include their mission and their vision in the purpose.

The third element was membership. A lot of councils include the DD Act requirements. Those can be used or indicate membership and make sure that you state that they will comply with DD Act requirements for membership. So it's just detailing what you can include in that section. I don't want to go through each thing but it is in that document.

Officers, it just basically list what you should include under the officer section of your bylaws. Again, I'm not going to read it. It's there for you to read. The most common element was meetings and just going over specifics about when meetings can be called, quorums, voting.

The six element was the conflict of interest and just making sure that you include specific information about who it applies to and what must be done if there is a perceived or a real conflict of interest.

Information about the executive committee is the seventh element.

The eighth element was committees.

The ninth element was rules of order. Actually naming the rules that the council follows.

And then the tenth element was amendments. And just basically outlining how the content and the bylaws can be amended, how much time members are given to review the proposed amendments and then what it takes to approve those changes. And bylaw changes requires a 2/3rds majority vote.

So that's the ITAC guidance in a nutshell. As I was going through y'all's bylaws as they are currently written you guys have most of these things already

included in your bylaws but once we get to the staff recommendations we did recommend changes so that you can include specifics to make sure that you are including the items that ITAC says that you should have.

So does anybody have any questions about the bylaws or the comment elements? Jill, we have a hand raised. Mr. Erick Taylor has his hand raised.

JILL HANO: Okay. Mr. Taylor, you're recognized by the chair.

ERICK TAYLOR: So we have to include these?

EBONY HAVEN: No. This is just guidance from our Information and Technical Assistance Center for councils on developmental disabilities. It's just the ten most common parts that they found in council bylaws that you all can consider including in your bylaws. But whatever the committee's will is.

ERICK TAYLOR: So would these things that they asking us would they help the bylaws or would this hurt the bylaws?

EBONY HAVEN: I can see this helping the bylaws. But Jill, Lauren has her hand raised.

JILL HANO: Did Mr. Taylor's question get answered? I personally think that this is a good, like as the committee updating the bylaws I think it's a good starting point because you can kind of know what to fit where. This tells you everything. Like the bylaws is the constitution of our organization and it's not state law, it's not federal law, it's specific how our specific organization is run. And I think these are suggestions, Erick, but I think they're good suggestions. And also good for your bylaws. And again, it's to what fits where. Does that answer your question?

ERICK TAYLOR: Yes.

JILL HANO: Okay. Lauren, you have the floor.

LAUREN WOMACK: So like it kind of, ITAC gives us suggestions about like best practices. So kind of like in your profession how you would take continuing education and things like that and learn from other organizations and things like that. So just kind of guidelines to help us make sure we're following the rules and maybe prevent some of the issues that may come up maybe before they're a problem or clarify

things. And I see it as a good thing because it might help us be more transparent and fair. Especially we can go over some areas where we are uncertain before.

JILL HANO: Thank you, Lauren. Anyone else? Okay. Actually, y'all, I have to step away for like two minutes and I forgot to text Ms. Brooke. Do you mind guiding the conversation for like three minutes?

BROOKE STEWART: No, I don't mind at all, Jill.

JILL HANO: Okay. I'm very sorry. And I was going to text you and then I didn't. But I will be back ASAP. Sorry, y'all. Ebony, is that okay?

EBONY HAVEN: Yes. I was just going to remind Brooke if she wants to be counted towards the quorum she has to have her camera on. If she's going to take over for a couple minutes. Thank you. If you want to go to the first item, Brooke, I scrolled down through the bylaws. I can make it bigger if you guys need it bigger on the screen. Just let me know.

BROOKE STEWART: So the first item is the article-- wait. I'm looking at the bylaws.

EBONY HAVEN: So we can go through the bylaws. So the first item on the agenda is the recommendations for proposed changes to the council bylaws. Instead of starting with the policies and procedures Jill wanted to start with the bylaws first. And then we'll go back to the policies and procedures.

BROOKE STEWART: Okay. Do I just read the bylaws?

EBONY HAVEN: We can go over like the proposed changes. And so just so everyone knows there is a guide at the end but the red items are items that staff are recommending and when you see purple those are the items that our Parliamentarian Nicole Learson, those are the recommendations that she had for your bylaws. We have two hands raised, Brooke. One in person, Ms. Lauren Womack and then Ms. Nicole Banks as well.

BROOKE STEWART: Okay. I think we go for who's in person first, correct?

EBONY HAVEN: Correct.

BROOKE STEWART: So Ms. Womack, you're recognized.

LAUREN WOMACK: I propose that we go through article by article and see if there's any discussion on each one because some of them I think we might not even have discussion. Do I have a second?

EBONY HAVEN: You don't have to motion. If the

committee is in agreement with that you guys can go article by article.

LAUREN WOMACK: That would be easiest. Just kind of keep the bylaw one out to look over as we go through.

EBONY HAVEN: The guidance from ITAC?

LAUREN WOMACK: Yeah.

EBONY HAVEN: Yes.

BROOKE STEWART: Okay. Do we go ahead and move over to Nicole Banks now for her question?

EBONY HAVEN: She put her hand down. Did you still have a comment or a question?

NICOLE BANKS: If we're agreeing to go article by article I already had a suggested change that I wanted so I'll just wait till we get there.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So the first article is the title and that is the first common part that ITAC gives you guys guidance on. It's just the name of the council. And the only change that the staff recommended that hereafter the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council will be referred to as the council instead of using the full name. Is everybody okay with that?

NICOLE BANKS: Yes.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Article two basically gives the legal authority for the establishment of the council and it list the DD Act and where you can find the establishment of the council. And it also list the Louisiana revised statute for the creation of the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council. Staff didn't have any suggested changes for those. Neither did Nicole Learson. There's any committees members have any changes?

Okay. Article three, which is also in ITAC's guidance which is the purpose of the council.

LAUREN WOMACK: I had a suggestion.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay.

LAUREN WOMACK: I would like to include somewhere maximum potential through increased, put self-advocacy in there at some point because I feel like that's one of the values of the council that we definitely need to start recruiting some more self-advocates.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So you're talking about in that first paragraph, Lauren?

LAUREN WOMACK: Yes. Right before the council shall. On page 14.

EBONY HAVEN: So we're on article three purpose.

LAUREN WOMACK: And it says maximum disabilities to realize their maximum potential to increase self-determination, independence, productivity, integration and inclusion in the community. And I would like to do maybe include self-advocacy if that's acceptable with the council.

EBONY HAVEN: So Brooke, Vivienne has her hand raised and so does Nicole Banks.

BROOKE STEWART: Okay, Vivienne, you're recognized by the chair.

VIVIENNE WEBB: I agree.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So I can add it.

EBONY HAVEN: And Nicole Banks has her hand raised.

BROOKE STEWART: Okay, Nicole.

NICOLE BANKS: I was just saying I agree.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Erick, did you have a question? I'm going to track the changes on the screen so you guys can see. So just let me know.

LAUREN WOMACK: Can we maybe highlight them so we can see.

EBONY HAVEN: I can highlight it. That's fine.

ERICK TAYLOR: I don't see nothing wrong with it. Because that is what we do, right. We advocate.

EBONY HAVEN: Self advocacy. Yes, sir. So the rest of the items in that particular section are just stating what the council is responsible for. You guys are mandated to have a state plan as required by the DD Act. You're required to monitor, review and evaluate the implementation of that state plan. Review all comments on all state plans which relate to programs affecting persons with disabilities. Submit to the secretary of the US Department of Human Health and Services as required by the DD Act. Study, support and implement activities to promote public understanding of developmental disabilities, innovative state programs and progressive legislation in the field of developmental disabilities. Review programs which provide services to people with developmental disabilities and make recommendations to the governor, the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health. And so we just changed the name there just to make it

current because it's no longer called the Department of Health and Hospitals. It's the Louisiana Department of Health. So those are the only changes. And then number seven is just review and act upon such matters as deemed by the council to fall in the intent of the federal law guidelines and directives. So the only suggested changes that staff made there were just technical.

JILL HANO: Okay, y'all, I'm back. Thank you. I should have texted you. Sorry to put you on the spot but I'm back.

BROOKE STEWART: No problem, Jill.

JILL HANO: Thank you so, so much.

EBONY HAVEN: Jill, Lauren has her hand raised.

JILL HANO: Ms. Womack, you're recognized by the chair.

LAUREN WOMACK: I'm not sure if this is possible with staff but is there some way we can make a statement about the relationship between the community and the council? Because we do it. I don't know if we put it under our purpose of like getting input from the community, expressing the needs of the community of those with developmental disabilities. Something along the lines of LaCAN or is that broaching on possible lobbying? Do you understand what I'm saying?

EBONY HAVEN: You're saying like input from the community?

LAUREN WOMACK: Yeah.

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah, that's not lobbying.

LAUREN WOMACK: I don't know if that would be something we should put in our purpose.

BRENTON ADRUS: It's alluded to in various places in your policies and procedure where it gives more information about the council. Like facts about the council it talks about gathering input from the public.

LAUREN WOMACK: I didn't know if like in our purpose we should have like the purpose of the council is to be like a mouthpiece for the disability community at large.

ERICK TAYLOR: I think we're doing all that now.

LAUREN WOMACK: I know we are, but this is our, I don't know, like Jill was saying like our constitution. Personally I feel if somebody doesn't know anything about our council that they would read this and know



that that's one of our purposes.

EBONY HAVEN: So Jill, Vivienne has her hand raised.

JILL HANO: Can I please ask a question real quick?

EBONY HAVEN: You're the chair.

JILL HANO: I'm sorry, Vivienne.

VIVIENNE WEBB: You're all good.

JILL HANO: Where are we?

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So we're on page 15. We were going through article three, the purpose of the council. We're in the bylaws.

JILL HANO: Perfect.

EBONY HAVEN: We're going to start there first. We're on article number three.

JILL HANO: Perfect. Okay, Vivienne, you have the floor.

VIVIENNE WEBB: About what Lauren Womack was saying. I don't think it's necessary because it's already in there. Our purpose is to help lead to more inclusive and more inclusion, more self-advocacy, all of that. Gathering input from the community is one way that we do that. So because it's already hinted at and mentioned in other places in the bylaws I think it's fine. If it makes you feel better to put it in there I guess we could but it's kind of redundant.

JILL HANO: Okay. Y'all, I'm getting my bearings together. So Lauren, what was your suggestion? Because if there are no suggestions after Lauren I do have a suggestion, kind of question, suggestion. But Lauren, please continue.

LAUREN WOMACK: I was just saying it's up to the council but I would like to see something maybe more clearly stated that it's one of our purposes is to champion or give a mouthpiece to the issues that are in the community, the most important needs of the community at the time. I know we do that and like Brenton and them were saying so there's two sides to it. I guess we could just if nobody else agrees then that's fine.

EBONY HAVEN: Jill, Vivienne has her hand raised.

JILL HANO: Okay, Vivienne.

VIVIENNE WEBB: So I'm sorry. I'm not disagreeing with you or anything it's just that's not a purpose. That's a way we achieve the purpose so I don't think it

needs to be included with the purpose.

EBONY HAVEN: So Lauren, I'm looking at number five. If you look at number five it says study, support and implement activities to promote public understanding of developmental disabilities, innovative state programs and progressive legislation in the field of developmental disabilities. And so that may encompass just getting like the public. So that may encompass--

LAUREN WOMACK: I just didn't feel like it captures. But that's fine.

EBONY HAVEN: I don't know if the other committee members have any comments that they want to make about Lauren's suggestion. It's up to the committee. Jill, Nicole has her hand raised. Do you have a comment?

JILL HANO: Okay. Nicole Banks, you have the floor.

NICOLE BANKS: All right. Thank you, chair. I'm going to agree with Vivienne because it's already stated in number five. We're already supporting studying, implementing activities to promote public understanding. So we're already going to be getting the community involved so you know that we are going to be involved in the community. There's no need to state it that many times because it's already there. So it's not like it's not there. It is there and it kind of goes into details exactly what we're going to do. So I feel like it could stay just as it is.

JILL HANO: Okay. I met with Ebony this morning and like two minutes ago and one of the things I got out of the whole conversation is avoiding redundancy. But that being said, I do understand that purpose is actually one of the ten elements of bylaws. So I was kind of wondering if right on page two, actually section two, we had the mission and then the values. Okay, never mind. I'm talking about two different things. Y'all, ignore me. I'm sorry. I do have a question, Ebony. So policy and procedures are separate from bylaws, correct?

EBONY HAVEN: Correct.

JILL HANO: Okay. So right now all we're focusing on the document is what page?

EBONY HAVEN: 14 on.

JILL HANO: Okay. Thank y'all.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So Jill, I don't know where the committee is landing on the information that Lauren suggested. Is it the will of the committee that we add something about public input?

LAUREN WOMACK: We can move on.

EBONY HAVEN: I don't want to just ignore it.

BRENTON ADRUS: There are areas that it can be added in your policies and procedures. This is mostly aligned with what's in the DD Act. We haven't really taken any liberties to update our purpose outside of what we're federally mandated.

LAUREN WOMACK: It was just a suggestion. I understand.

BRENTON ADRUS: But I think there's some areas in policies and procedures.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay, Jill, Lauren said she's good with us adding more to the policies and procedures.

JILL HANO: I was going to say I think public comment kind of seems more like a procedure issue. Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah. The only other suggestions that staff had were technical for article three.

JILL HANO: Okay. Let's go to those technical suggestions.

EBONY HAVEN: Just changing the Department of Health and Hospitals to the Louisiana Department of Health. That's it.

JILL HANO: Okay. Is everyone in agreement of that?

ERICK TAYLOR: Yes.

JILL HANO: Okay. Mr. Taylor speaks on behalf of everyone. And then there were technicalities that the current bylaws when they say governor-- I don't believe this is an actual statement. There was a lower-case g for governor and a lower-case s for secretary. And the staff just put the G and the S in capital letters and I'm assuming everyone's good with that. All right.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So we go to article four, council membership. Most of the information there, again, is straight from the DD Act. The only change we made at the beginning was the capital G for governor and not less than 60 percent we clarified the number of members that you all have that have to meet those criteria. Out of 28 members 17 have to meet the

criteria right there. They have to either be individuals with disabilities, parents or guardians, or immediate relatives or guardians of adults who can't advocate for themselves. Vivienne has her hand raised, Jill.

JILL HANO: Okay, Vivienne.

VIVIENNE WEBB: What if we increase the percent?

JILL HANO: I don't think we can because it would go against-- well, it says not less, but I mean there are still-- and I'm going to go off on a tangent but between according to Robert you have your governing document so you can't go on-- like your bylaws are maybe at the bottom. Bylaws can't conflict with state. Then state can't conflict with federal. And I think there's something I'm missing. But I know what I'm talking about.

But to that point you can't go less but could you go more. But I personally don't know if that is necessary. And you also have to keep your federally mandated agency and you can't cut like your Department of Ed, your OCDD, your human district authorities. So I personally wouldn't, but I don't know if you can go more, you just can't go less. Staff, do y'all have a better answer?

EBONY HAVEN: Brenton has his hand raised, Jill.

JILL HANO: Okay. Mr. Andrus.

BRENTON ADRUS: Thank you, Ms. Hano. So if you do increase your percentage, at least from my understanding, you would have to look at increasing the amount of people that akre on your council. Because right now outside of those 17 you have other representatives mostly from agencies and the nonprofit rep that sit on the council and most of those are actually required to be on the council so you wouldn't be able to cut them. You only have a handful of people that you would actually if you want to redefine your membership to increase that percentage but not increase the amount of council members you have. And that would be people like Julie at OCDD is not required to be on our council. I think the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs I think they are not required to be on the council. So you would have to look at removing some of those positions to keep it within the 28 if you want to increase your percentage. I know that doesn't

necessarily speak to can you do more than 28 in the process of doing that but that's just perspective there for anybody that was curious.

JILL HANO: I thought Julie-- I don't want to mess with the OCDD rep on the DD Council. But you have the Rehab Act, IDEA, Older Americans Act, Title Five Medicaid, Dr. Phil, Tory, local and non-governmental agencies with services for individuals with DD. So isn't that Julie? And then a nonprofit group. So Julie falls under the DD-- I mean shoutout Julie, I love you. We're going to say OCDD does fall in DD Act mandate.

EBONY HAVEN: No, Jill. You're looking at Section 4B, that's a representative from a local nongovernmental organization. Julie is a state agency rep. And OCDD does not fall under the DD Act. She's not mandated to be on the council.

JILL HANO: Where I think I'm getting off topic the question at hand was can we increase the number of self-advocates. Virtually we could, but I personally wouldn't want to. Any other thoughts?

EBONY HAVEN: Vivienne has her hand raised and you have a public member with her hand raised as well.

JILL HANO: Vivienne, you have the floor.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Okay. Thank you. So I didn't say we should increase the percent of self-advocates. I said we should increase that 60 percent there or we might entertain doing that. It's not just self-advocates but parents or guardians of children with developmental disabilities, immediate relatives.

JILL HANO: My brain just dropped. I should have said citizen member. That was my fault. Yes, Vivienne.

VIVIENNE WEBB: I don't want to kick Julie off the council. She's very important on the council. I'm not looking to kick anyone off, I'm just thinking what if those people could be filled by people with disabilities or relatives of people with disabilities.

JILL HANO: And I, again, apologize because I said the wrong thing and jumped to, I got ahead of myself and I thoroughly apologize.

EBONY HAVEN: Jill, Lauren has her hand raised.

JILL HANO: Lauren.

LAUREN WOMACK: Well, I was on the membership

committee and at first thought that sounds like a really good idea but it was really challenging because out of the people we had applying there also has to be considerations of representing parts of the parishes that don't have council members applying and trying to meet the different minority backgrounds. So it's like other considerations as well that go into it. I don't know if that is something we should put on the membership as well. Because I know that was a challenge we were having this year when Brenton you had given us that printout of us doing our best to fulfill, you know, I don't think it's an obligation but our suggestion of making sure council members are from all regions of this state which is one consideration, you know, that they're represented. That they're all not just women. We're trying to find men as well which is a challenge. So that's something else for the council to consider and maybe consider putting in the bylaws some of those other things that we were considering when we were trying to do membership. I don't know if we would put that in there or if we would put that in the policy section when we were looking at trying to fill some of those spots that didn't have council members or representation.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. You have two more committee members with their hands raised. Vivienne was first and then Erick. And we still have the public member with her hand raised as well.

JILL HANO: And it was in that order, Ebony?

EBONY HAVEN: Yes.

JILL HANO: Okay. Then Vivienne, you have the floor.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Thank you. So are we wanting to decrease diversity? What's the goal here? You can disregard what I said previously by the way.

JILL HANO: And y'all can disregard what I said previously by the way because I feel so bad. Absolutely not. Diversity is on the DD Act. If you look as the chairperson of the membership committee, like if you look usually I like for every, I only had one, but there could be like what are we doing as like it concerns with how it aligns with the DD Act. I don't know what I'm saying anymore. Erick.

ERICK TAYLOR: Yes. My question is to the council.

Is what we trying to fill chairs or is the chairs filled? I'm kind of lost here.

EBONY HAVEN: Are there seats currently filled, is that what you're asking?

ERICK TAYLOR: Yes.

EBONY HAVEN: Currently we do have some vacancies that we're going to advertise for probably next week. But if I can, Jill, I think that the purpose of the DD Act including that 60 percent was to make sure that individuals with disabilities, their parents and then immediate relatives remain the majority so that you all's voices are heard and then your voices are, I guess--

LAUREN WOMACK: Majority of the vote.

EBONY HAVEN: The majority of the vote. Yes, thank you. I think that was the purpose of the DD Act including that percentage. And so if that provides clarity for anyone I'm not sure. But I'm not even sure did I answer your question.

ERICK TAYLOR: Are we looking to fill some of the open chairs. So we looking for people with disabilities and parents with disabilities, correct?

EBONY HAVEN: Correct. We will because we are four members down. So yes, we will.

ERICK TAYLOR: Some of the members that they're talking about removing is members that don't have to be on?

EBONY HAVEN: I don't think anybody was saying they want to remove anybody from the council. I think what Vivienne's suggestion was-- if I can, Jill, can I answer his question?

JILL HANO: Yes.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. I think what she was suggesting was to increase that percentage. Like go over the 60 percent. So I was just saying that these citizen members already have the majority to make sure the majority of the vote comes from citizen members which are individuals with disabilities, parents and immediate relatives. So you already have the majority vote so I don't know if the committee wants to consider increasing that 17 to 19 or something like that I think what Brenton was saying is that we may have to look at the other members that are not required to be on the council which include the Office for Citizens with

Developmental Disabilities, the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs. They're not mandated. So if we increase that 17 to like 19 we would have to remove those members that are currently to keep the 28. Does that make sense?

ERICK TAYLOR: No. I'm trying to get an understanding of it.

EBONY HAVEN: Those two agencies are not required to be on the council. Those agencies they provide services for individuals with disabilities and the governor's office they advise the governor and so the council decided that they wanted those members or those representatives to sit on this council but they are not federally mandated.

ERICK TAYLOR: So basically that's two seats that we're holding that we can fill with somebody?

EBONY HAVEN: No. Those seats, somebody's in those seats.

ERICK TAYLOR: Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: I was just basically saying that the citizen members with the 17, the 60 percent you all are already the majority. You all are already controlling the vote.

ERICK TAYLOR: Okay. I'm not trying to hold nobody up. I'm just asking the question. So majority of the chair is what 17 that's holding the seat?

EBONY HAVEN: Seventeen citizen members, yes. The rest of the members are either state agency reps. We have a nonprofit representative.

BRENTON ADRUS: Disability Rights, our protection and advocacy. And then from the Human Development Center as well.

ERICK TAYLOR: Okay. So where is the concern? I mean, if we're under where we need to be.

LAUREN WOMACK: Vivienne just made a suggestion.

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah. She was just making a suggestion and the committee was considering her suggestion.

BRENTON ADRUS: I think the intent was how do you increase more citizen representation and then we went into the discussion of the logistics of being able to do something.

ERICK TAYLOR: Okay. I got an understanding now. Okay. I got an understanding.



EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Vivienne has her hand raised again and we still have our public member with her hand raised.

JILL HANO: Okay. Vivienne, you have the floor and I have to charge my phone.

VIVIENNE WEBB: So I don't want to kick anyone out of their seats. I think the people in those seats are important and we need them on the council and they're valuable. So I wasn't wanting to move that. You can disregard what I said. We can keep it like the same. It was just a suggestion. I was just pondering.

JILL HANO: And I went down a rabbit hole. So yeah, that was my bad too. Vivienne's question was asked and answered. I think we can discuss it but the point is for the citizen members-- and y'all, the citizen members are your self-advocates, your parents and your immediate relatives are your citizen members. The point is that the citizen members have whatever the number is percentage wise they have to have a majority, as I understand it, a majority of the council has to be citizen members. As these bylaws are written we do have a majority citizen members. And the only thing that the staff suggest, which I love because (inaudible) that on our council so the 60 percent is 17 members so that gives you what the actual number, what the percentage equals. So I don't know if that answers your question, Vivienne, but that's how I'm interpreting everything.

VIVIENNE WEBB: I forgot what I asked. Sorry.

JILL HANO: We can increase the citizen members. Which we can but I don't think we need to. Yes, Vivienne.

VIVIENNE WEBB: I don't think we should. I was just wondering if we could like possibly.

JILL HANO: Okay.

VIVIENNE WEBB: And we can't, not really, without kicking someone off.

JILL HANO: Or increasing our membership numbers. Vivienne, I'm so sorry but this has to be your last question because we need to get to the public comment and we still have tons of work to do. So you have the floor.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Is it in the budget to increase the number of members?

JILL HANO: I don't think that's a budget issue per say.

BRENTON ADRUS: Travel and things of that nature.

JILL HANO: Why I say per say because as I was saying it I was like well.

BRENTON ADRUS: It is not currently considered in the budget so I would say as of right now no, we don't have the money for it. They're not there so we don't plan for them.

EBONY HAVEN: And they are not increasing our allotment for 2025. I can tell you that now.

JILL HANO: Okay. Lauren.

LAUREN WOMACK: This is real quick and if nobody wants this that's fine, we can move on. And this is kind of a question to staff as well. Should we put something in there that when considering new membership we will consider or prioritize underrepresented regions as well as strive to make sure our demographics represent Louisiana? Because I know we are doing that.

EBONY HAVEN: We're federally mandated to do that.

LAUREN WOMACK: So we don't need to put that in the bylaws?

EBONY HAVEN: I wouldn't put it in the bylaws. It sounds more like the policies and procedures.

LAUREN WOMACK: That would be something good because when I was getting ready for membership if I would have known that. I didn't really understand how it worked. I think that would be good to consider.

JILL HANO: Okay.

LAUREN WOMACK: That's it. We're going to talk about it during policy.

JILL HANO: We are running really-- well, not really behind on schedule, but yeah. And we have, I believe, a public comment. Can I call the question? There's no question to call. Who has what public comment? Is it Ebony or Brenton?

BRENTON ADRUS: It's Ms. Kathy Dwyer.

JILL HANO: Okay. Ms. Kathy, you have the floor.

KATHY DWYER: Thank you, Jill. I want to correct some things that were stated. First of all, as long as you meet the minimum of the DD Act requirements you are good. While I know you've already decided since it would have been helpful if I could have been given the opportunity to speak earlier-- I will address this

after the end of this comment. As long as you meet the minimum requirements of the DD Act you have no problem. So if you wanted to increase the percentage you could. There are some things to consider when increasing the percentage that then increases the quorum requirements. You wouldn't necessarily have to kick anybody off unless the DD Act restricts your membership to a maximum number, which I don't believe it does. Had worked 25 years for the UCED by the way. Just so you know where I'm coming from.

I would suggest that you include in the bylaws that OCDD representative is a required member. We've done similar things with RACs where we exceeded the state DD law but we still met the minimum requirements and it was all approved by the Board of Ethics and the Louisiana Department of Health legal. So there's no reason you couldn't add membership. You don't have to take membership off. Again, if you increase the percentage for those representing the DD community let's say, for example, from 60 to 66 percent which would be by a 2/3rds majority and is usually what most-- is used mostly. But anyway, it would just increase your DD community membership by one and a half person so it's not significant. Those are the things to consider. But I understand you've now dropped the issue based on incorrect information by the way.

Also, again, for the second time I request that you modify your policies and procedures. I find making the public who are participating virtually to wait so long to make a comment that ends up being heard after much discussion is made and then move onto other areas surrounding the topic it just is not fair. It is disrespectful especially when it's mostly people with disabilities including myself who just had knee surgery so I can't travel. It's disrespectful to make me wait so long. There's got to be a way you can honor those present first then those virtual in the order that their hands are raised and recycle. So if the first group present had been heard and there's a public member who's participating virtually that has had their hand raised before another member who is present raises their hand that public member should be given the respect and heard. You just recycle that same scenario. Those that are physically present, those that

are virtually present and just recycle it. It's just not fair to have me or anyone waiting as long as I was left waiting in the conversation because my comments made no difference so it's just as much silencing me. Thank you.

EBONY HAVEN: Just point of order. If you are a committee member you have to have your cameras on to be counted towards the quorum and right now I think we're in jeopardy of losing the quorum because our virtual members don't have their cameras on. Thank you.

JILL HANO: Thank you, Ms. Dwyer. Can our virtual members put on their cameras because--

EBONY HAVEN: They did, Jill, yes.

JILL HANO: Okay. I'm sorry. So the bottom line is that the changes-- never mind. My bottom line is the only suggestion is 60 percent is equal to 17 members. Is everyone good with that because we need to move on. Okay. So Ebony-- I'm sorry, y'all. We need to be careful of time. And Brenton, can we talk on the phone after this meeting. Yes, thank you, Brenton. Our next item on the agenda.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So we're not done with the bylaws, Jill, so we're not ready to go to the next item on the agenda. But I'm going to go to the next item in the bylaws where we had suggestions and we're still in that same article, section five.

JILL HANO: Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: The suggested changes there were just your virtual protocol that you all adopted on April 4th. It just says the council or committee member who participates virtually shall be allowed to participate and vote when they display a live feed video of their face with their first and last name during every roll call vote. All members of the council whether participating in person from the anchor location or via electronic means may vote.

JILL HANO: You're red and Nicole's purple, yes?

SPEAKER: Yes.

JILL HANO: Thank you. Nicole Learson, my bad. Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: Jill, Brenton has a suggestion that he wants to share with the committee.

JILL HANO: Please share.

BRENTON ADRUS: Just going back to Ms. Kathy's

comment where she mentioned maybe adding the members that are not federally mandated into your bylaws. So those three agencies are Office of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, Office of Aging and Adult Services and the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs. If you were interested in those being added into the list of agencies that we require that would be under section four which is just above section five that y'all were talking about. Still under membership but I think section four is probably where you would add those three agencies if you wanted to protect them in bylaws or it would still be up to the governor to appoint those positions.

LAUREN WOMACK: I move we do a vote for that, please.

VIVIENNE WEBB: I second.

JILL HANO: Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: You don't have to make a motion if the committee is in favor of you guys adding that we can just add it.

JILL HANO: I am in favor of this. Is anyone not in favor of this? Okay. And Brooke, I know you're on camera but I can't see you. I'm assuming you're all good?

BROOKE STEWART: Yes, I'm good with that.

JILL HANO: Okay. So I did have one maybe, not because I thought the wording said that these were federally mandated, but the wording does not say that. But I was going to add before we did this can we write-- never mind. But yes, I like this idea. Do we still have a quorum? Okay. Thank you.

EBONY HAVEN: Yes, I'm pretty sure we have one.

HANNAH JENKINS: Yes, you do.

JILL HANO: Thank you, Hannah. So that's good? All right. So let's move.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. I'm assuming everybody's good adding just the protocol that you created to section five for voting. On section six those are just technical changes. Here after the council is just going to be referred to as the council. Just took those DD developmental disabilities out. What you'll see in purple where article five is scratched the Parliamentarian thought that the terms of council membership should be added to article four. So that is

her suggestion and we just added the terms of council membership to article four.

Where you'll see a change in section seven that is due to the suggested guidance from ITAC. They under membership suggested that the council include just specifics about when you're filling vacant positions. We just added the word due to resignation or unexpected vacancy which was their recommendation. And an unexpected vacancy would either be due the death or disqualification. Disqualification would be a member that maybe they have missed consecutive meetings. If once when we get to attendance you'll see where if they've missed three out of the four quarterly meetings the executive committee will meet with that council member and they may ask for their resignation. That's what disqualification means. Vivienne has her hand raised, Jill.

JILL HANO: Vivienne, you are up.

VIVIENNE WEBB: I agree with the suggestion but maybe we should increase the period of four years for the term to five years. Because when taking into consideration electing officers if someone comes in like during that odd year and it's like passed when things have been elected they only have one chance to run for officer. If we increase the term limit another year then they have two chances. That way there's going to be more availability and more people will be able to be elected. That way we don't have such a small pool like we had last time.

EBONY HAVEN: Jill, you're the chair. You don't have to raise your hand.

JILL HANO: I don't know how it works because I have a hand raised but I have a comment. I did have this in my wheelhouse when I was thinking about this back in March. But by increasing it to five years you aren't, your term is a full, your term co insides with a five-year plan. And you're not coming-- well, you virtually are, but like your term coincides with a five-year plan and that's what I was thinking about. So moving the terms up to five years was actually one of my suggestions. Just something to think about. But Brooke, we go to you.

BROOKE STEWART: I would suggest actually limiting the, like making our terms two to three years,

preferably two years and we can hold membership more often. But I think two years would be better and I think five years is a little excessive and kind of like keeps the same old thoughts in. And I think having a shorter span for our membership would increase like diversity and more opportunity for people to be involved.

EBONY HAVEN: Vivienne has her hand raised, Jill.

JILL HANO: Okay, Vivienne.

VIVIENNE WEBB: So if we limit it to two years, two or three years, that actually decreases participation because they'll have fewer opportunities to like run for officers or anything like that and they won't be on the council as long so they won't be able to form connections, meet as many members, all that. It's important that we learn how to network. And I feel like five years is a nice sweet spot and the two or three years would be cutting it short.

JILL HANO: I kind of agree because two years is eight meetings and it takes me nine meetings just to know what I'm doing. We'll obviously discuss it, but I kind of don't like the two years because it cuts things rather short. I just thought that it's a way to be concise with our planning cycles. But does anyone have any opinions? Lauren.

LAUREN WOMACK: I agree with both you and Vivienne. I think it could be helpful. I also have a question for staff. Is that even possible with the state regulations. Is there somewhere in there that it can only be four years on a board? I thought I read that somewhere in the act that you could only be on for four years.

EBONY HAVEN: So the DD Act the way they explain it is that the governor has sole authority over appointments and rotations. So he is the sole appointing authority. He or she. They are the sole person that controls the rotation. Now, you guys can put whatever terms. You can put that in your bylaws, but just keep in mind that he or she, the governor--

LAUREN WOMACK: Even make it one year.

EBONY HAVEN: If they wanted to.

LAUREN WOMACK: And then, my other question is, and I just want to get the councils input and the staff, would it be possible since we are trying to increase

self-advocate representation for self-advocates to be able to stay longer than other members? Because I feel like sometimes it's harder for us to get on councils to understand how things are working and I feel like this is for us we should have a bigger voice being formed. And I just think it would be a good way to increase getting more self-advocates on the board and allow us to mentor other self-advocates that may be getting on the board that would give us a longer period of time. But I don't know if that's in policy.

EBONY HAVEN: So the DD Act doesn't, they don't give term limits. That's something that a lot of councils put in their bylaws. So there's no federal guidance on that. I could ask, I could reach out to ITAC to see what other councils do if they have guidance on that particular thing, Lauren, and get back to you. But I don't have an answer.

LAUREN WOMACK: I don't want to be like oh, give preferential treatment but I feel like, I mean, I honestly understand the whole thing with the families but we're living it and I feel like we're not really getting enough votes and stuff for stuff that affects our lives. And I feel like council members need to be here to provide the testimony. I know this legislative (inaudible) we have trouble finding people. It's just my opinion.

JILL HANO: And I know you're using the word testimony like probably for lack of a better term, but, I mean, like I don't want to say I'm not on the council to make my voice heard because that's I think unfair to anybody. And no disrespect to the council because I think-- okay, I should look at y'all. Sorry. I think the citizen members or specifically the self-advocates offer perspectives more than anything on the council. And I'm just dwelling again on the term testimony. But like a lot of getting your voice heard and input in getting out there I think is more, not saying more, but like with your LaCAN leader and with LaCAN-- like you're going to have so many opportunities to specifically do that. Like make your voice known, testify. And then but everything matters. I might be thinking out loud, but even if you're not, and I know that like you didn't mean preferential treatment by any means, but like I don't know. I'm a very like fair



person and like I don't want to be on the-- I would feel, personally I would feel uncomfortable if we had bylaws that said I could be on the council longer than let's say Nicole could. So that's just where I'm at. But again, it's up for discussion. I don't know who had their hand up but all I see is committee members' hands up. So do I get Vivienne first since she's in person?

EBONY HAVEN: I know both Vivienne and Erick had their hands raised. I'm sorry, I didn't see who was first. Do you guys know?

VIVIENNE WEBB: I put my hand down a few times so I guess technically Erick.

ERICK TAYLOR: My question is this is what I'm saying this board is self-advocates for people that's with disability. Now the concern that's at the table now is I notice that we focusing on the self-advocacy but if we get off this board or on this board we're self-advocacy for people that's with disabilities regardless. If I'm making sense. I mean, everybody in this room and everybody on the camera we self-advocacy regardless where we sit and where we go. And these bylaws setting for the next person that come on the board, for the next person that sit on the board.

My other question is five years having a term to be on the board I think that's a little much. I think what we're doing now, two years? I mean four years. We're holding the chair four years and then we got another, we can run another term to sit another four years. In that term time I think we got enough time to get to know the person, get to run where we need to run. If we run a second term that's ten years being on the board that we can do something else and do what we need to do. Guys, what we got to realize we as self-advocates when we walk out this door we're self-advocates. The bylaws are making sure, the next person making sure we're taken care of regardless.

EBONY HAVEN: So Jill, you still have Vivienne's hand up. I think Brooke was first and then Nicole.

JILL HANO: Okay. Let's go Vivienne, you're recognized.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Okay. So not everyone is going to be reappointed for that second term. Increasing it to five years would mean that everyone gets two chances to

run for a position of officers. And trying to remember what else I wanted to say. Some voices are not more important than others. Every voice is crucial and important and everyone plays an important role. Therefore if we increase the term limit it should be across the board, not just for some. Thanks.

JILL HANO: Okay. Thank you. And y'all, I'm trying the best I can. I'm really doing a shabby job today because I feel like I'm hearing what I want to hear and I don't mean to. I just paraphrase a lot and that's how my brain works. And that's all. I'm single and have no friends. Ebony, did you say Brooke Stewart was first?

EBONY HAVEN: I think so. Just according to the order that it has it on the Zoom Brooke's hand was raised first and then Nicole.

JILL HANO: Brooke, between your background and the way like I see you like your head bobbing you look like you're in a hurricane and it's amazing. Okay. Sorry. Go ahead.

BROOKE STEWART: I would just like to explore, correct me if I'm wrong, do we have to sit out a year after we finish our four years before we apply again? I think Nicole is shaking her head yes. I think possibly could we explore eliminating that year to sit out for our people that apply with disabilities. Instead of them sitting out a year after they have their four-year term could they just immediately reapply. Like could we remove that stipulation?

EBONY HAVEN: So I can answer. You can remove that stipulation but it's the will of the committee whatever you guys want to recommend to the council. This is going to go to the full council so if y'all want to make that recommendation you can. I don't know if Nicole is going to have something for you guys to consider but she still has her hand raised, Jill.

JILL HANO: Okay. Nicole Banks, you have the floor. Could y'all please, once y'all are done, lower your hand because I get confused. Thank you. Nicole. Hello.

NICOLE BANKS: I'm just talking and I forgot to unmute. Sorry, y'all. I'm not feeling all that well right now but I'm going to push through. I don't feel like extending or allowing other people to stay on

longer or not because of their self-advocacy. I disagree with that all the way around just because I know that I speak, I advocate for someone that cannot speak for their self. They're a self-advocate but they're seven and they're nine and, you know, they're young. Even though I'm not saying that they can't because there's no age limit up on self-advocacy but I don't think their brain is all the way wired. They're like mom, I have this going on. Fix it for me. Until they get up to get the courage to speak for themselves, you know, there's a lot of people that speaking for people that can't speak for their selves and advocating just as strong for self-advocates then, you know, the self-advocate that may cannot speak for their self. I feel like everybody should be up on the board equally because then that's going to create like a discrimination thing going on where you're discriminating against other ones than the other ones because you want them to stay on longer or you want them to stay on because this is about them. We're all here because of people with disabilities. That's why we're all here in the first place. We're here because we care, because we want to advocate because we have something to say and we will fight for them for things that are not equal to others. So I'm just expressing my thoughts up on letting other council people stay longer for self-advocates. That's just my personal thing.

And as far as the four year, I could see where the five-year thing can work because like Vivienne stated it will give someone the opportunity to run again. It will give someone the opportunity to get in office or explore that whole leadership sector up in our council. So the five thing it could be feasible, it just depends on everybody have to agree up on it. If they don't agree up on it we have to come back to it. But I yield the floor. That's what I had to say.

JILL HANO: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Banks. Vivienne.

VIVIENNE WEBB: So I would like to point out that youth are not completely hopeless or helpless. They can be self-advocates as well. I started advocating when I was 11 or 12.

JILL HANO: And to Nicole's point. I was thinking-- well, to Vivienne's point, I went to my IEPs

in kindergarten and it was either I want PE with my friends or I want recess with my friends. And it was one or the other. But whichever one it was like I got, like one thing I said and whatever one it was was in my IEP at six years old. But Nicole, I was also thinking you were going in another direction because some of our citizen members are on this council on behalf of their family members and they may be nonverbal. And then you have to be your family member's voice. If your family member literally does not have a voice. Okay. All right. So let's continue.

BRENTON ADRUS: Jill, I just wanted to chime in real quick to make sure that everyone is aware of the time. You're 35 minutes into the policy and procedure discussion is where you should be and you're only on page three of your bylaws. The meeting, I'm not trying to rush y'all, but I don't know if you have a quorum once 4:00 hits when the meeting is supposed to be over. I just wanted y'all to be aware of that when you're having your conversations. I just needed to bring that up. We're behind.

JILL HANO: Is that you testing me?

BRENTON ADRUS: I did send you a message a while ago but we're even further behind now.

JILL HANO: Okay. Ebony, let's continue. Where are we?

LAUREN WOMACK: Jill, can we just read the rest of it ourselves and then if anyone has a comment about any of them.

EBONY HAVEN: About any of the other articles?

LAUREN WOMACK: The bylaws. Just an effort to save time.

EBONY HAVEN: Before you say something, Vivienne, I don't know where the committee is landing on the term limits. So I don't know if we want to just raise our hands if you guys want to raise the term limit to five and if you want to keep it the same don't raise your hand. Who's in favor of increasing the term limit to five years raise your hand. Raise your hand if you want to increase it to five years. So I'm counting Vivienne and Lauren. Are those the only two committee members that want to increase the term limit to five. If you're virtual and I can't see your hand just say something. Okay. So everybody else is in favor of

keeping it at the four years.

JILL HANO: Do I vote?

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah, Jill. You're a part of the committee. And this isn't like a motion.

JILL HANO: I vote for five.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So that's three for five and then I'm assuming Brooke, Nicole, Angela you all are voting for to keep it at four?

BROOKE STEWART: Correct. Four years.

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah. Erick, he's four. So the fours win so we can move on.

JILL HANO: Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Vivienne has her hand raised.

JILL HANO: Oh, shoot. My bad, Vivienne. You're recognized.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Thanks. So I would like to disagree with what Lauren said. I would like it read out loud for clarification.

EBONY HAVEN: Whatever the will of the committee is we can go through it.

JILL HANO: The will of the committee is to go faster.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Well, we'll go faster. So the next section where it talks about the terms for the chairs, the vice chair and the other officers. So this is a section where I missed it because Nicole's feedback came a little late. Technically the only officer she states are the chairperson and the vice chairperson. The other two members or the other two chairs are appointed. They're not elected. According to her feedback, which is why I wish she could have been here today. Unfortunately she couldn't have been. According to the feedback that she gave there are only two officers for the council. The chairperson and the vice chairperson and those are the only two members that are elected. You guys can keep it the way you have it where the other two chairs are officers as well. But I'm just relaying the information that she gave to us in her feedback which was the only two officers that are elected are the chairperson and the vice chair. The other two officers are appointed.

BRENTON ADRUS: Our chairs for both committees and the member at large are elected by the council.

EBONY HAVEN: I know, but she's saying they

shouldn't be. Those members should be appointed.

JILL HANO: What do you mean appointed?

EBONY HAVEN: Appointed by the chair.

JILL HANO: Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: That's her guidance. So that's why I said I wish she could have been here today. She couldn't be but that is what she said in her guidance is that the only two elected officials should only be the chair and the vice chair. The other two chairs for the Self-Determination and Community Inclusion Committee and the Education and Employment Committee are to be appointed by the chairperson. Which you'll see further down I moved some things based on her recommendations that's in purple.

LAUREN WOMACK: Decide to keep that or throw it out?

EBONY HAVEN: It's the will of the committee, whatever you all want to recommend to the council. I don't have a say.

LAUREN WOMACK: Can we just raise hands like we did last time?

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah. You guys can raise hands like you did last time. If you want to keep it the same where all the officers, the chair, the vice chair, the chair of the Self-Determination and Community Inclusion Committee and the Education and Employment Committee we can keep that like it is. Those were just her recommendations.

JILL HANO: Before we vote, in July the executive committee meeting is going to be just me and Christi tossing out ideas?

EBONY HAVEN: No. That's not what I'm saying. The executive committee can still consist of those members. What she's saying is the only officers of the council should be just the chairperson and the vice chairperson. Those are the only two officers and those are the only two members that should be elected. The other two members, the other members of the executive committee should be appointed.

BRENTON ADRUS: I would think if this is something y'all wanted to do this would go into effect probably the next term so you still have what's left--

JILL HANO: That was just for dramatic effect, Brenton.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Vivienne has her hand raised. I don't know if she has a question or a comment.

JILL HANO: Vivienne.

VIVIENNE WEBB: So should as in like by law or?

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah. So that's why I wish she was here because I don't know if that's something that is parliamentary procedure where it should be like that.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Does she just want it like that?

EBONY HAVEN: No. I don't think it's anything she wants. Any recommendations that she makes I'm sure are like parliamentary procedure or maybe even in Roberts Rules. I'm not sure. I'm not the expert on Roberts Rules at all.

VIVIENNE WEBB: I don't want to break any laws or anything.

JILL HANO: These are recommendations. Roberts Rules doesn't even have, like the officers in our council don't even align with officers in Roberts Rules. And they can't because-- oh, my God. Does anyone have a hard pass at 4:00?

BRENTON ADRUS: It looks like you will lose your quorum at four based on the hands raised.

EBONY HAVEN: If we need to schedule another meeting, Jill, we can because I don't see us getting--

JILL HANO: Is everyone still available June 12th?

EBONY HAVEN: I can send out another Doodle poll to see who's available and what dates because I don't think you guys are going to be done by today.

JILL HANO: Okay. I'm so sorry, y'all. This is on me. But Nicole Banks, you had your hand up so let's go. You're on mute again.

NICOLE BANKS: Sorry. I'm trying to get it together today. But as far as the issue that we were just speaking about with Nicole, with her having recommendations. Her recommendations comes from Roberts Rules and it also comes from our DD Act so we can stay in compliance with any kind of state or federal laws and stuff that's going on. She's not going to give us recommendations that is going to go against any acts that we have to follow, any jurisdictions that we sit underneath. So if she's recommending something it's because other councils probably have that in their bylaws and she's just suggesting that we adopt those or we can leave them out

and just, you know. A little tad bit of information in there.

EBONY HAVEN: Vivienne has her hand raised. Then Angela.

JILL HANO: Vivienne.

VIVIENNE WEBB: I don't see the harm in accepting the recommendation. And also I can't be down here on the 12th but I can be here on the 11th after BESE.

JILL HANO: I am off Thursdays so if that needs to go in your poll.

BRENTON ADRUS: I think y'all can hash out the next date after the meeting.

EBONY HAVEN: We still have time. We can get through as much as we can.

BRENTON ADRUS: Angela's hand is up.

ANGELA HARMON: The only thing I want to say is if we don't have true clarification can we table this. As far as appointed and elected personally I like as a group we're electing those people. Not one person can just say oh, I want you my buddy to be member at large. I want you my buddy. I think collectively it's better to vote. But like I said, maybe we could table and get clarification from Ms. Learson when we see her. But the voting aspect is the fairest way to go. That's just my thoughts. Thank you.

JILL HANO: Thank you. I do feel like I wholeheartedly agree with your statement. And as you were talking I did want to say that I feel like Nicole's not making rules up to make rules up. But I do feel like that takes away even more voice. So that's chipping off the democracy part. I don't like it, but if it were up to me I wouldn't even wait to get more input but it's not and I just think that way does take away from more reasoning, take away our voice. So what is the will of this committee?

EBONY HAVEN: You guys are going to have to have another meeting. I'm hoping that Nicole will be able to join you then and she can provide clarity. Again, I'm just giving you all the recommendations that she sent me. And Jill, and I'm just putting it out there, so we can table this to the next meeting if that's the will of the committee. If you are good with that just raise your hand. If you're good with tabling this particular conversation until she's here. Yeah, I think



that's everybody.

BRENTON ADRUS: And we did try to get clarity. They tried to have a meeting with her ahead of time.

EBONY HAVEN: Jill, Lauren has a suggestion.

LAUREN WOMACK: I think we might be able to finish the bylaws or as much as we can get through. But could we maybe make a plan in preparation for the next meeting to study the materials and kind of have our comments ready to go so it could be shorter than three hours if possible.

EBONY HAVEN: For the next meeting?

LAUREN WOMACK: Yes.

JILL HANO: Nicole, is your hand raised from the vote or do you have another comment?

NICOLE BANKS: No it was for the vote. I'm sorry.

JILL HANO: Don't be sorry. Okay. So let's move on. An hour, two hours. I'm getting the hang of this. So Ebony, can you proceed us right along to our next suggestion.

EBONY HAVEN: Yes, ma'am. When we go to section eight...

JILL HANO: I need page numbers.

EBONY HAVEN: We're still on page 17. And this is a suggestion from the council staff and this is based on feedback that we received from the feds of us recycling members over and over. Right now the current time that you can be off the council and then reapply is one year. We're suggesting just due to the feedback that we received from the feds that we increase that to two years.

JILL HANO: Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: And that's our recommendation. And then if you go further down there wasn't a lot of clarity about the officers and individuals switching offices. It seemed like based on how the current bylaws are written that if a person wanted to switch from the chairperson to the vice chair to the chair for SDCI to the chair for education and employment they could do that consecutively and just stay on the council for years. And so we recommend that you guys limit those officer terms to two consecutive terms which is in the bottom part.

JILL HANO: I'm going to withhold that because Brooke I'm coming for your job.

BRENTON ADRUS: She isn't on.

JILL HANO: I'm coming for her job.

BRENTON ADRUS: You have exactly a quorum. But if anybody leaves or turns their camera off the meeting has to stop because you've lost a quorum.

EBONY HAVEN: We'll lose a quorum so we can't lose anybody else.

JILL HANO: I do have a comment but I don't think it is relevant because it's crossed out in purple. So now officers should serve two consecutive terms in any office. Thoughts, opinions?

NICOLE BANKS: So you said are we tabling the issue about as far as the two years consecutive we should make it longer and not have them just sit out a year. What is going on with the federal situation, Ebony, because you said it was something per the feds. What the federal people said?

EBONY HAVEN: We submit our membership with our PPR, our performance report every year. And so the feedback that we receive from the feds was that it seems like we're recycling members. So in order to address that our suggestion is to increase the timeframe that an individual can reapply to be a member. Once their term ends is to increase it to two years to address that feedback that we received from the feds.

NICOLE BANKS: Or we could just open up the thing and have more applicants apply so that we wouldn't have that issue and just, you know, on the next round then put them on or something instead of just increasing the whole time. That's something that we have to, as a council member as part of the membership committee, that's something that we can kind of combat because we're picking the people that gets on the council. We pick the people that get on the council so we know that this person has already been on the council. We need to stop doing that and we won't be in un-compliance. Whatever the word. We'll be in compliance if we will stop doing that because we do that a lot. This last time they did it a lot with a couple other people that allowed to come up on the council because they were on the council before. And then once you get a vote on it it's voted whether you agree with it or not it's voted on. So I think that instead of changing the whole two

years, extending it to two years and keeping it at one is have a better selection. Have the council members on the membership committee be a little more tedious in their selection process. All right. I yield the floor.

BRENTON ADRUS: Just for clarity. Their feedback, we're not noncompliant. It was just their suggestion that we try to get various other stakeholders at the table as opposed to the same ones. But I agree with you, Nicole. We need to do better with our membership applications and really trying to recruit people to apply for the council because that's been a struggle for many years now of trying to get people that would actually commit to being on the council. Hopefully with this virtual opportunity now that the law has changed maybe that will help have some people interested in participating. But yeah, that's been a struggle.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Vivienne has her hand raised and then Lauren.

JILL HANO: All right. Vivienne.

VIVIENNE WEBB: So I think members should still be able to come back. It's there for a reason. That's why there are two terms available, not just one. Earlier we said that we weren't going to increase it to five years because there were two terms. In fact, Brooke mentioned taking out that year instead of adding two because we could just recycle. But I think it's important that we do get more people in the council as well so I said like to revisit the idea of increasing. I agree with the two-year thing as long as we increase the term to five years. And this wouldn't apply for current like council members. Probably just for new incoming ones.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Lauren had her hand raised.

JILL HANO: Lauren, you're recognized by the very thirsty chair.

LAUREN WOMACK: If that's their suggestion I think it's valid. And I think to Nicole's point as well maybe we can see about putting something in the policy to reinforce taking membership into account maybe with like the diversity thing. Try and get as many new members on the council as possible.

BRENTON ADRUS: We don't have a quorum until Jill

comes back.

JILL HANO: I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Okay. What are we doing in terms of membership rotation?

EBONY HAVEN: Lauren has her hand raised.

JILL HANO: Lauren, you're recognized.

LAUREN WOMACK: Should we just say either keep it or change it at least to move on? If we have to change it and come back to it.

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah. You guys can vote. If you're in agreement with if you want to keep things the same. Right now currently a year has to lapse before a member is eligible to reapply for membership. If you want to keep it at the year raise your hand. And I know yours is dependent upon the other thing, but since y'all already voted for that I'm going to say the majority wanted the four years so you would raise your hand because you would want less time, right? You would want just one year.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Yeah. But I don't want to go against the feds either.

LAUREN WOMACK: It's not mandatory. Just a suggestion.

EBONY HAVEN: It's just a suggestion that we were making. Just piggybacking off of what Nicole and Brenton were saying, if the membership committee is a little bit more proactive in helping to get members to apply for membership and just looking at the members that they have to choose from. If you're choosing different members then you won't be recycling the same members on the council.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Does the membership committee cheat and change every time?

EBONY HAVEN: Yes.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Okay. I think I've been on it once.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So all those who want to keep it as the current bylaws and keep it at one year raise your hand. So I have Vivienne and Nicole. And Angela. Okay. Those who are in favor of changing it to two years raise your hand. So I have Jill. I have Lauren. Are you raising your hand or no?

ERICK TAYLOR: I'm very confused right now. It's a term for one year. You have to sit out for that one year, correct?

EBONY HAVEN: Correct. Currently you have to sit out one year after your term is over before you can be eligible to be reappointed.

ERICK TAYLOR: I see. When I was appointed on the board I didn't even know you have to sit out that one year. I thought it was two years.

EBONY HAVEN: No. It's just one year currently.

ERICK TAYLOR: Okay.

BRENTON ADRUS: The recommendation is two years.

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah. The recommendation is two years. So what's your will?

ERICK TAYLOR: To sit out the one year. You can get fresh.

EBONY HAVEN: All right. So the one years have it.

JILL HANO: Can I make a suggestion?

EBONY HAVEN: Go ahead, Jill. I'm sorry.

JILL HANO: Nobody on this committee was in the meeting that I was in, but I learned firsthand that if ITAC makes a suggestion I'm not going against it.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So I'm going to go to the second part where officers may serve two consecutive terms. So that's another suggestion from the staff that we limit the amount of consecutive terms that officers can serve. Who is in favor? If you're in favor of limiting that because right now currently there's no limit. If you're in favor of limiting it to two terms raise your hand. And if you need further explanations or anything just let me know. So I have Vivienne, Erick, Lauren, Nicole, Angela. So I think that wins. Yeah. We have a majority so we're going to move on.

ERICK TAYLOR: This was the part I was saying there's no limit.

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah. There was no limit to the officer's term, yeah. Okay. So section nine we made a recommendation, staff made a recommendation just to change the wording a little bit. If the remainder of the term is one year or less. So currently if there is a year and a half left on the term that member is eligible to be reappointed. We're reducing that to if there is just one year or less-- are we reducing it or increasing it?

BRENTON ADRUS: I have to read it again. Which section?

EBONY HAVEN: Nine. If the remainder of the term is one year or less the council member is eligible to be reappointed for a consecutive term of membership. Currently if they have 18 months left on their term the person will be eligible for reappointment for a consecutive term. We're saying if there's a year or less then the council member is eligible to be reappointed. That's the suggestion.

LAUREN WOMACK: Seems that we already discussed that. Didn't we just say a year?

EBONY HAVEN: No. This is different. Let's say you had 18 months left on your term. Currently if somebody comes in and they're filling your term they're eligible for reappointment. We're saying we should change that to if you had a year left and not 18 months, if you only had a year left then that person that's filling your vacancy will be eligible not the 18 months.

LAUREN WOMACK: Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: Does that make sense to everybody? I'm sorry if that's confusing. That doesn't make sense?

ERICK TAYLOR: No.

EBONY HAVEN: Brenton, do you want to give it a go? I don't know how else to explain it. Or maybe one of the committee members feels like they can explain it a little better.

BRENTON ADLUS: I'm not sure how to explain it other than if you have 18 months left on your term you can automatically be reappointed. You don't have to go through reapplying to the membership committee or anything like that. You automatically get reappointed assuming you want it. The recommendation is to bump that down to a year instead of 18.

ERICK TAYLOR: Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: Who's in favor of the suggestion that the staff made? If you're in favor of that raise your hand. So I have Lauren and Nicole and Vivienne. If you're not in favor. I'm assuming Angela's not in favor, Jill's not in favor and Erick you're not in favor. Okay.

LAUREN WOMACK: Can anyone say why they're not in favor.

JILL HANO: Hold on. So if the expired term of

membership is less than a year and a half which is 18 months. Are y'all talking about-- you have to explain this to me so I can visualize. If I quit and you appoint, y'all have a membership committee, whatever you have to appoint someone-- okay. So yeah, I agree with what staff recommends. I agree what's in red.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. That's four people that agree so we're going to move on. I'm not going to address article five right now because you guys will do that next time with Nicole. And section two that small change that we made in article five for section two that's just going with the limiting those consecutive terms for officers.

LAUREN WOMACK: So we took out policies and procedures because that goes in other stuff? On page 19 you just crossed them out. I'm asking. It goes better somewhere else is that why y'all changed it?

EBONY HAVEN: On page 19? Wait, I'm not done.

LAUREN WOMACK: I'm sorry.

EBONY HAVEN: I want to take this slow because I know Vivienne wanted all of the things read. Just section three on page 17. What did you say, Jill?

JILL HANO: What time is it?

EBONY HAVEN: 3:30. We have 30 more minutes. Okay. So section three on page 17 we just added the language that was in the guidance from ITAC. Basically when a vacancy occurs in an office due to resignation, rotation off the council or an unexpected vacancy which can be either death or disqualification. And then at the end members will be advised that there will be an election two weeks-- and this is in the event that the chairperson resigns and then the vice chair is unable to fill the spot. There's going to have to be an election at the council meeting immediately following that resignation of the council person or the chairperson if the vice chair is unwilling or unable to fill the spot. So members will be advised that there will be an election at least two weeks before the council meeting when possible. Because if the chair resigns one week before the council meeting then there's no way that we would be able to notify you guys two weeks before there's an election. So we just added that wording when possible.

JILL HANO: Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: All right. Section four on page 17. Again, these are recommendations from Nicole. I don't know if you guys want to table this, this part.

LAUREN WOMACK: Are we marking down the ones that we want Nicole to go through with us?

EBONY HAVEN: The purple. And I'll just make sure that she knows. Here, the red part, where the staff are making recommendations, where it says the council's elections. We just added the word biannually or as needed because you may have to have another election before that biannual comes up so we just added that. And the committee shall provide notice in writing via email. We just wanted to add clarifying language because we were mailing that information. So those are the only changes we made and we can table the nominating committee part in purple to when Nicole is here at your next meeting. If everybody is cool with that I will continue.

The duties of the chairperson. Number three, Nicole stated that the chairperson cannot be a member of the nominating committee. They cannot be an ex-officio member of that committee or on that committee. I think it's just a conflict of interest. So I just added that. If everybody is good with that we'll keep moving. Just let me know if you're not. Or if you need explanations. We didn't change any of the duties of the vice chair. Were you talking about this section right here, Lauren?

LAUREN WOMACK: Section nine.

EBONY HAVEN: Oh, section nine. Just to let you guys know the stuff that's in purple we didn't get rid of it. We just moved it to another section. That was at the recommendation of Nicole.

All right. So we're on the new article six, meetings and attendance. Staff just recommended clarifying language there that it's the third Wednesday and Thursday of each quarter. Now if there's an extraordinary reason that the executive committee wants to call a meeting we just added the word date. It could be held in a different month or different date. So if everybody's in agreement there.

Section four we removed it here but we added another article at the end based off of Nicole's recommendations. So we didn't remove that. It's just



in another section.

JILL HANO: Okay. Can I just say that we had a very odd happening about this and we haven't even-- and I wish Christi were here so we could all understand this together. But we as a council do an awful job of enforcing this. We just need a way to be so much better. Like not these elections but like another election. And I'm not saying names or anything, but someone who didn't abide by this was nominated for an executive committee position and the person sent an email, text message or phone whatever. And I just think that we need to be more specific about this in how are we going to let the chairperson know that. And I don't mean to be the bylaws police, but we just need to have a system to let the executive committee know that this person was not there because I've seen council meetings who I've seen new members that this is your fourth meeting since you've been nominated and I'm just meeting you. Like how is that acceptable. Of all of the things, and I haven't gotten past it, but we just need a way to enforce the attendance.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So Lauren has her hand raised, Jill.

LAUREN WOMACK: Jill, I just wanted to piggyback off of what you said. I'm a newer member but I notice a lot of people don't come and I think that we do need to be more stringent on the absentee policy and maybe reduce the amount of absences. Of course there are gray areas.

EBONY HAVEN: Right, extenuating circumstances.

LAUREN WOMACK: You shouldn't have to broadcast it to the council, but maybe staff and the executive board or staff and, you know. But yeah, and then that messes with quorum. That throws everything off. So I really think that we need to maybe go down to two absences in a row, you know. If you don't have-- and even if you are absent notify before or after. That might not have to go in policy, but something along the lines of letting us know you're not going to be there or, you know, just courtesy. We might want to table it for next time. But yeah, that was something that I had marked to discuss today.

EBONY HAVEN: Y'all have time. We still have 20 minutes y'all can discuss it. Vivienne has her hand

raised, Jill.

JILL HANO: Vivienne, what you got friend.

VIVIENNE WEBB: So I'm going to be playing bad cop here for a second. I missed a council meeting because I was in the hospital due to my disability. And then I also missed another meeting due to the weather because it was unsafe to drive down to Baton Rouge. The roads were iced over. There was snow. I had to reject nomination for chair because of my health. I would like to emphasize that we need to accept extenuating circumstances especially if it's related to health and safety. So I don't want to discriminate against anyone especially if it may be more difficult for someone to participate. We also have the virtual accommodation though so you think that would help.

EBONY HAVEN: Jill, Erick has his hand raised.

ERICK TAYLOR: This is my thing that I'm bad on email, I'll say that. But when I'm recognized to come to these meetings I'm here. I even have been here when I was sick. So what I'm saying in all that in a nutshell is if you take these seats and you have emergency medical reasons of it it's our job to get it to the proper person we need to get it to and that be done. Our medical health, I think our medical health should not have nothing to do with the meetings. You can get sick. If it happens, it happens. But if you're on the board and you're just not coming don't accept the chair if you know it's going to be too much. If it's not your bread of taking a board seat just be honest. Look, I came to one meeting, I don't like it. This ain't my cup of tea. Just be honest. And I hope I'm making sense.

BRENTON ADRUS: And the language in there allows for those considerations. It says that the executive committee will discuss those reasons and may, doesn't mean they will or shall, they may ask for a resignation. Allowing the consideration for reasons of absences.

EBONY HAVEN: Jill, Vivienne has her hand raised.

JILL HANO: I just felt bad now because this isn't your job and I don't feel like-- hell, I skipped a meeting because I went to Michael Bubl . Who the hell cares. I feel like this isn't your job. This isn't school. Like asking for a note is kind of not really

necessary. But I do find this is fair because you don't want to say okay, you're done. I don't want to be too hard. I mean, no one wants you to come--it's a DD Council meeting. Like you can't drive in snow for a DD Council meeting and you can't like risk your health for something that gets, that you don't get paid for. But like again, I was just on my soapbox and I apologize. And I can reassure, I can assure you that the examples I gave are nobody in this room. But I just noticed that.

And then I think we have people on our board, and I'm not trying to knock anybody because I mean some people like my time is expired and I don't know that I need to wait until someone replaces. I'm on the council until someone replaces me. I don't know. Vivienne, you can talk.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Thank you. So we do have to navigate mental health facilities in the community. I missed one of the meetings because I was in Brentwood Hospital. That is a mental hospital. I was hospitalized because I burned myself. I could not access any of my devices or anything while I was in the hospital. I could not attend meetings virtually even if I begged them to because that would be against policy. Jill, are you crying? Are you okay?

JILL HANO: Go on.

VIVIENNE WEBB: So I don't think we have a quorum because Erick walked away.

EBONY HAVEN: Eric, are you leaving or do you have to take a break?

ERICK TAYLOR: I just rolled away.

EBONY HAVEN: He's in the room. He's coming back to his seat now so you can continue.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Okay. You do not have outside contact or contact with the outside world in there though. When I got out I was trying not to get hospitalized and sent down here. Due to my disability they looked at me and wanted to commit me like longer. They did not want me out in the community and I would like to emphasize that we need to act so that we do not end up in the hospitals. I would like to live out in the community and I would like for that to not count against me if I miss a council meeting.

EBONY HAVEN: Lauren has her hand raised, Jill.

LAUREN WOMACK: Jill, I've also been hospitalized with mental health. I totally agree with you. What bothers me though is people who take the position and maybe just want to have their name on it but just don't want to come. So I'll propose that we maybe change it to two consecutive meetings and we put something in there due to health related, you know, safety reasons, things like that. What I would like for maybe we can talk to the Parliamentarian about is just people that just don't show, no contact. We have members I've never met. I didn't even know they were on the council and I've been coming for quite a few meetings, you know. And I think you would agree too. I think that's the issue and it's definitely not, you know, those extenuating circumstances. But I think we definitely need to be a part of the conversation, we all do, about how to phrase it correctly. And also to protect our privacy as well because it's really nobody's business. You may want to share that but if someone else feels privately against it we need to put that in there too.

EBONY HAVEN: Jill, Vivienne has her hand raised and then Nicole.

JILL HANO: Okay. Vivienne, you can speak.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Thanks. I did not want to share that. I felt I had to because of some things Erick was saying.

JILL HANO: And I realize that my comment was really, really, really harsh and I just wanted to reassure y'all that it was not directed at anyone in this room or this screen. But so I just wanted to put that out there. All right. Nicole Banks, what ya got.

NICOLE BANKS: Just for like time sake purposes can we like just not keep taking everything so personal. This is a committee for us to share things that's happening within the community. Like if someone says something I know that everybody in here is on the same team. We're not trying to downplay one person or another. But I just feel like a lot of people are taking things way too personal. It's not that serious. I don't think that we're trying to get it to that point. I think that everybody is here for the same common goal. We're trying to make sure that, you know, things are being met. It's not to say that your personal experience doesn't matter, but I'm saying I

feel like a lot of people taking things way too personal and is making us extend time when we shouldn't be extending time on certain things. But that's it. I agree with all the health-related things because if you can't come to the meeting you can't come to the meeting. And I feel like you shouldn't have to be obligated to tell anyone. Only the chair or the people that we have to answer to to let know that we're not going to be there. It's no one else's business.

JILL HANO: Okay, y'all. Moving on.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So Vivienne has her hand raised but can I say something real quick, Vivienne. I did add some other language. I don't know if you guys saw I highlighted it just based on the conversation. So the staff agreed that there should be stronger language which is why we suggested this but I just added the other part. So if a member continues to not attend council and/or committee meetings after the initial meeting with the executive committee for reasons other than extraordinary circumstances i.e. health related reasons, acts of God, natural disasters, et cetera the executive committee will submit the member's name and the number of absences to the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions for consideration of removal if the member hasn't resigned. So I don't know if you all are in agreement with that. We did add that extra language because we don't want members to be penalized for missing meetings for something that's outside of your control. So if you guys are good with that language, I know Lauren your suggestion was to decrease like if they're absent from like two.

LAUREN WOMACK: Yeah, I would like because that's half a year.

EBONY HAVEN: So I'll go with the staff suggestions first. Are you guys good with the red part and the yellow highlighted part. Is everybody on board with that part? Okay. So Lauren's suggestion is to change the three. If a member is absent from two change that three to two.

LAUREN WOMACK: Or we can do two consecutive if they prefer.

EBONY HAVEN: Or two consecutive meetings. Then the executive committee will discuss the reasons that

the individual is missing the meetings. So is everybody on board with adding that two consecutive? I can add it now if everybody's in agreement. Raise your hand. Two consecutive meetings. If they miss two consecutive meetings. All it means is the executive committee is going to meet with that person and discuss why they're missing those meetings.

BRENTON ADRUS: Are you keeping the 12-month period in there or are you just saying two consecutive meetings at any point in their term? Because right now it's based on 12 months.

JILL HANO: I would like to keep the 12-month meeting period.

EBONY HAVEN: She wants to keep that 12-month period and not make it so that it's within that person's term.

BRENTON ADRUS: Because situations may change et cetera within that year.

EBONY HAVEN: So again, if you want like the two-- I'm going to change it and if you want that change raise your hand.

LAUREN WOMACK: Should we also put or three of the four because what if you're just skipping every other meeting.

JILL HANO: But then I feel like there's something that-- I want to make sure there's language that you have the opportunity to meet with either the chair or the executive committee not just peace out. But, I mean, everyone's, nearly everyone's entitled to like-- I mean, you can't just we want you to resign, no questions asked. Nearly everyone's entitled to a discussion.

EBONY HAVEN: So that's in there, Jill. It's saying the executive committee will discuss the reasons.

JILL HANO: I'm sorry. I'm sorry.

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah. They won't just be dismissed. Like the executive committee will discuss the reasons and they may ask for that member's resignation in writing. So if they discuss the reasons and if you find out it's extraordinary circumstances. Nobody's being dismissed.

JILL HANO: Okay. I'm sorry. I'm sorry.

EBONY HAVEN: No, you're good. I just wanted to

make sure you understood that that was in there. So again, I'm going to go back. Is everybody on board with the two consecutive meetings? Because I think this will be the last decision that you guys will be able to make and then we're going to have to take public comment and end the meeting.

LAUREN WOMACK: Real quick though.

BRENTON ADRUS: Lauren had a great point.

LAUREN WOMACK: I said two consecutive meetings or three nonconsecutive because what if somebody's coming to every other meeting to get around it. I know that's goofy but you never know and then somebody can say it's not in the bylaws. I'm just trying to cover us. If somebody doesn't like that just say it.

EBONY HAVEN: You okay with it, Erick? We're almost done. Nicole, I think your hand raised because you're good with that right? I just want to make sure you don't have a comment.

NICOLE BANKS: No. But I have to-- I can stay for like maybe two more minutes.

EBONY HAVEN: I see Angela has her hand raised. I think everybody's in agreement with this particular change. Jill, do you want to ask for public comment?

JILL HANO: Yeah. Any public comment?

EBONY HAVEN: I think we only have one public member and she doesn't have her hand raised so I think we're good.

JILL HANO: Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: So again, I'll send out another Doodle poll to the committee. I may not get it out today, but I'll do it definitely Monday. And then you guys can let me know when you're available to meet again. I'll call you, Erick, I promise. And I'm pretty sure that Nicole Learson will be able to join us at the next meeting. I'm going to make sure I include her in the poll this time and not just tell her afterwards. She had a family emergency. So Jill, if you have unanimous consent you guys can adjourn the meeting.

JILL HANO: Okay. By unanimous consent this meeting is adjourned.