

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council
Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee
July 1st, 2024

EBONY HAVEN: I just wanted to let you know we're still trying to get a quorum. We're having a few participants having a little trouble getting promoted to a panelist so as soon as we get them moved over we can get started.

LAUREN WOMACK: I was trying to get on earlier on my cell phone. It won't let you be a panelist apparently if you're signing in on your cell phone. So I don't know if that's part of the issue that people might be having trouble with.

JILL HANO: So do we have a quorum Eb, cause I see five people?

EBONY HAVEN: You need six. We're waiting for Angela. She's trying to log on now. We had to send her the link to directly get on as a panelist because she was having trouble switching over from attendee to panelist. She's trying now. But we need six for a quorum.

JILL HANO: So did anyone else say they were coming and not here?

EBONY HAVEN: Christi registered for the meeting but she's not here.

JILL HANO: Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: Everyone else that registered online is here except for Angela.

JILL HANO: Okay. Fine. Thank you.

EBONY HAVEN: You're welcome.

Okay. We have a quorum.

JILL HANO: Perfect. Good afternoon, everybody. Welcome to the July 1st, 2024, meeting of the Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee. Up first is Ebony, can you do a quick roll and then move right onto our virtual protocols?

EBONY HAVEN: Yes.

JILL HANO: Thank you.

EBONY HAVEN: Ms. Nicole Banks. Mr. Mike Billings. Ms. Christi Gonzales. Ms. Jill Hano.

JILL HANO: Here.

EBONY HAVEN: Ms. Angela Harmon.

ANGELA HARMON: Here.

EBONY HAVEN: Mr. Tony Piontek.

TONY PIONTEK: Yes.

EBONY HAVEN: Ms. Brooke Stewart. Mr. Erick Taylor

ERICK TAYLOR: Here.

EBONY HAVEN: Ms. Vivienne Webb.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Here.

EBONY HAVEN: Ms. Lauren Womack. Lauren, can you hear me? If you can hear me you're muted. Lauren, can you hear me?

Okay. We're going to give Lauren a call because I'm not sure she can hear us. I think she was able to hear us earlier but I don't know if she's able to hear us now. But we know she's here because we can see her. But we will need her to vote for the summary.

LAUREN WOMACK: Can anybody hear me? I'm not getting any sound.

TONY PIONTEK: I can hear you, Lauren.

HANNA JENKINS: Lauren, we can hear you but you can't hear us. Is your speaker on on your computer?

LAUREN WOMACK: Can y'all still hear me?

TONY PIONTEK: Yes.

LAUREN WOMACK: I'm so sorry. I even tried it before we started.

HANNA JENKINS: So she's hopping out and is going to try and log back on. Sorry everybody.

EBONY HAVEN: Jill, so Lauren is having a lot of technical issues and according to the virtual protocols if the quorum is lost because of technical issues no further business or action can be taken. The meeting shall be recessed until the member is able to rejoin the meeting and if the member is unable to rejoin within one hour the meeting has to be adjourned. So we're trying everything we can possibly think of. Lauren is doing a reboot of her computer. I'm not sure if that's going to help or not, but we're trying everything that we can think of to help her join with her sound but if she can't hear she can't really participate in the meeting.

LAUREN WOMACK: Can y'all hear me?

BRENTON ANDRUS: Yes.

LAUREN WOMACK: I can hear y'all. I can hear y'all.

JILL HANO: Because I didn't watch my mama say I'm going to lunch without you for nothing. Ebony, do you

want to call roll again or what?

EBONY HAVEN: I think everybody's here. Nobody left the room or anything. So Lauren, can you just say here just for recording purposes?

LAUREN WOMACK: Here.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay, great. Thanks. So I'll go right into the virtual protocols or the rules.

JILL HANO: Thank you, Ebony.

EBONY HAVEN: Welcome. 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 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 the quorum. Please keep microphones muted 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. Public comment will not be accepted via the Q and A except for those individuals who requested the accommodation. As for order committee members in person and virtually will be allowed to speak first. Public members in person will then be called on followed by public participating virtually who have their hands raised. Comments in the Q & A will be addressed last. As with all hybrid meetings it is sometimes difficult to keep track of all those wanting to speak in person and virtually so we ask that you all please be patient. All comments and 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 those times. Okay, I'm done, Jill.

JILL HANO: Okay. Thank you, Ebony. The next thing on the agenda is y'all should have gotten and reviewed a copy of our June 7th meeting summary. And I need a motion to approve our June 7th meeting summary. So do I have a motion to approve? Okay, Mr. Tony makes a motion. Do I have a second?

ERICK TAYLOR: Yes.

JILL HANO: Mr. Taylor, I believe, makes a second. So it is motion passed. We should have approved it by unanimous consent. Sorry.

Okay. So the next thing, Ebony, I'm going to let you take the lead. But moving right ahead with our agenda the recommendations for proposed changes to our bylaws, which we have on the screen, is the changes that we kind of made at the June summary meeting with what we got from council staff as well as our parliamentarian, Ms. Nicole Learson. Is there anything you want to summarize about that, Ebony, or Brenton, or Hannah, or any staff member I don't see?

EBONY HAVEN: So yes, Jill. We will go through all of the changes that you guys made from the last meeting at the end, but I did want to kind of, since we have Nicole Learson here with us today, I did kind of want her to give you guys information about one of the things that we kind of stumbled with at the last meeting and that was the officers. So I'm going to just allow Nicole to explain that particular section and her suggestions. And not really even suggestions, I think these are more rules. But she can give you guys further information so that the committee can make informed decisions about whether or not you want to continue to go forward with the officers you have or change it today.

NICOLE LEARSON: Thank you all for having me this afternoon. Please forgive me because I literally moved yesterday afternoon and I'm living in boxes right now so I have not a clue where my Roberts is. I think, unless of course you want citations, and I can provide that to you at a later time. The information specifically for article five section one where it deals with the officers. Officers are elected to a

position. One are elected and of course they have terms of office.

JILL HANO: Can we do page numbers?

NICOLE LEARSON: Number 17. Page 17.

EBONY HAVEN: Because I separated the document, Nicole, so it's no longer attached to the policies and procedures. Is it still 17?

JILL HANO: I have the big document later I want to bring up something about that too.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Well, the document that I attached to the agenda it does not have the policies and procedures connected. So it would be on page five of the new document that I sent out in the agenda because I separated the two documents. So you guys will now have a bylaws and you will have a policies and procedures document.

JILL HANO: Perfect. Thank you.

NICOLE LEARSON: So on page five under article five officers and duties of officers. So officers are, again, elected to their office and have a term. Chairpersons are typically appointed and you all don't-- do y'all elect your chairpeople?

JILL HANO: Yes, ma'am.

NICOLE LEARSON: Okay. And so chairpersons can be appointed or elected, but they chair the committees under which you operate. They aren't necessarily, in the strictest sense, according to Roberts, considered officers. Those are two different things. For instance, if your chair was absent the next officer that would be able to chair the meeting would be the vice chair. If both the chair and the vice chair were absent there is no other officers that could start the meeting because chairpeople of committees are not considered officers. So that's the distinction.

Even though you may elect them they are not officers, they are chairman, chairpeople of the committee. And so as such when I provided my recommendations I recommended that you indicate your officers as the two officers that you have, the chair and the vice chair. And that the people elected to your committees or chairpeople of committees should be under your committee section. And that, again, is I believe when I gave you, initially when I gave you this recommendation I did include the citation from Roberts

but I'll make sure that you all get it if you don't have it. But that's why I was making that distinction between the two.

JILL HANO: I'm sorry, Lauren.

LAUREN WOMACK: No, go ahead, Jill. I'm sorry.

JILL HANO: So when we have our vote in July, or I think it's every other July, so do we still vote for who we want as the chair for Education and Community Inclusion chairs? Because what you're saying like seems like a technicality. No disrespect, but it seems like we still are going to elect all five officers or rather all five members of the Executive Committee but the chair and the vice chair are the only two officers. Or are you saying-- because I think I know where you're going with this and I don't know.

NICOLE LEARSON: Well, Jill, you brought up a couple of really good points. So an Executive Committee is made up of officers and committee chairs. So that doesn't change.

JILL HANO: Okay.

NICOLE LEARSON: In most organizations most people don't elect committee chairs. But if that's something that you all do and you want to continue to do that's absolutely fine. The only exception is most everybody always votes for the chair of the Nominating Committee. That's the committee that definitely goes by elections. So that leads me to my next point which is if you want to elect all of your committee chairs you can, but historically the only committee chair that typically is voted on is the chair of the Nominating Committee. But regardless of whether you're a chair or an officer all chairs and officers they are the membership of the Executive Committee. And again, as long as it works for you if you want to continue to elect your committee chair you can but that does not make them officers because if today or tomorrow your chair or your vice chair of the council was not present and could not preside over the meeting a committee chair does not have the authority to do that.

JILL HANO: Right. And I think that was always the practice of our council anyway.

EBONY HAVEN: Lauren has her hand raised, Jill.

JILL HANO: Okay, Lauren, you're recognized.

BRENTON ANDRUS: You're on mute, Lauren.

LAUREN WOMACK: So Nicole, should we call perhaps in the policies and procedures, not call the chairpersons officers? Is that, like you're advising us on Roberts Rule of Law, not what we should and should not do. I'm understanding that. But to fit with so that we could still have committee meetings if the chair or vice chair was not there is there something that says they should not be officers? Is that something that you would recommend having in there? When you weren't with us what we took it as oh, my gosh, we're only going to have two people that are elected and how is that going to be functional as our Developmental Disability Committee. You know, with only having two elected officers. So that was what we were concerned about.

NICOLE LEARSON: That's a good question. The functionality doesn't change because your chairpeople are chairpeople because they're still functioning in the way that she should and they're still an active member of your Executive Committee. The only difference is in a full council meeting none of them have the authority to run the council meeting if a chair or a vice chair is there. None of them have the ability to sign a contract on behalf of the full council. That's authority that only goes to officers of an organization. So it doesn't affect your functionality in any way whatsoever. But it just makes the clear distinction because when you call a chairperson an officer that comes with the authority to go out into the public and speak on behalf of the council. That gives them the authority to enter a contract on behalf of the council. Those things do not, are not under the purview of a committee chair that simply is responsible for that committee over which they chair. So my recommendation doesn't really change your functionality, but it does make a clear distinction so that today, tomorrow, three years from now, five years from now when new members are on the committee and they look at, I mean on the council and they look at your bylaws it is very clear that you have two officers and, you know, several committee chairs which make up your Executive Committee. Does that make sense?

LAUREN WOMACK: Yes. You answered it perfectly.

And as a follow-up to that is there something we should put in our policy and procedures to flesh that out or do you think it's adequate what you suggested right here on section one and we can keep functioning as we functioned in the past?

NICOLE LEARSON: Oh, yeah. I think what you see in purple right there under that is fine. I don't necessarily believe-- because this talks about your identity, it's your governing document. In your policies and procedures that talks about operations, how you are able to do the things that are required of you in your bylaws. So unless you feel like you need it, and that's strictly up to you all, I don't think any further language in your policy and procedures is needed but I do think that if you go further down in your bylaws when you get to committees where I think I suggested the committee chair information go. Yeah, yeah. In article nine section three when it talks about the duties of the chair of your committee which would be on page-- forgive me because it was separated. It would be on page ten article nine section three. That would clearly lay out what the responsibilities of each chairperson is. So I think having those two changes right there in your bylaws would be sufficient and clear.

EBONY HAVEN: Erick has his hand raised, Jill.

JILL HANO: Erick, you are recognized by the chair.

ERICK TAYLOR: So what you're saying right here you're saying that this will be for the board or this would just be for the committees?

NICOLE LEARSON: So the officers are officers of the council and the committee chairs are chairs of the committees of the council. And the board would be inclusive of both your officers and all of your committee chairs that you designate as part of the Executive Committee.

ERICK TAYLOR: If the board member don't come and the secondary board member don't come then you're saying to us that the meeting cannot go on or will we have to?

NICOLE LEARSON: For the council, that is correct.

ERICK TAYLOR: Nobody else would be in place?

NICOLE LEARSON: No, sir.

EBONY HAVEN: So if the chairperson or the vice

chairperson. So right now that would be Ms. Christi Gonzales is your chairperson and our vice chair is Ms. Jill Hano. If either one of those individuals are not present at a council meeting then you guys could not have the meeting.

ERICK TAYLOR: So we could not put nobody else, it would not be nobody else put in place if that happened?

NICOLE LEARSON: That's a really good question. And so rarely does it happen, but yes, there is a procedure according to Roberts that will allow you to elect what's called a chair pro tem. You hear that in the council meetings of the metro council meetings that Councilman Cole is mayor pro tem meaning because the mayor's not here he serves as the person who runs the meeting for that meeting. And so the short answer is yes. In a situation like that where neither of the officers are in place. But this is with any organization where neither of the officers-- in some instances they have a secretary, a treasurer, a president and vice president. If all four of those people aren't there then the body can potentially elect a person to run just that meeting for that day so that you can still operate. But it is not, but because there are no more officers you can't officially give that to the same person. You can only give it to that person on the spot and it's by election.

ERICK TAYLOR: By election. So to the committee I want to ask have we ever thought about putting somebody in that in case of a situation?

NICOLE LEARSON: But that's just if you can't. I mean, if it happens you can do it when needed but you can't assign that to someone. So you just can't assign that to someone because it's supposed to be permanently for an officer, any officer. Any officer actually is assigned that responsibility. But if God forbid none of your officers show up then of course you can elect any member and that can be anybody as long as they're a member of the council.

ERICK TAYLOR: So I'm trying to get an understanding that it would have to be done on the spot?

NICOLE LEARSON: On the spot, correct. Because that person would only serve for that particular meeting only.

ERICK TAYLOR: Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: Is that something-- I'm sorry, Jill. I have my hand raised. Is that something that needs to go into their policies and procedures because at this point I don't think that they realize-- yeah, I didn't even know that that could happen. That the chair or the vice chair were not here--

NICOLE LEARSON: Yeah, you could put that in the policies and procedures because that's something that, again, it rarely ever happens but you want to be able to know how to handle it when it does. And it doesn't hurt to have it.

ERICK TAYLOR: That was my kind of question in a way. You don't know when things happen but if that was put in place.

NICOLE LEARSON: And I can provide you, I'll email you the language and the citation just in case y'all need it.

JILL HANO: This is actually good to know because we had this happen, or I've seen this happen on one occasion not that long ago. What is it Nicole, a chair pro tem?

NICOLE LEARSON: That's correct. A chair pro tem.

JILL HANO: Thank you, Ebony. Tony, you have the floor.

TONY PIONTEK: Thank you. I have heard of this before even though when we first started our council here and I've been only several others through the National (inaudible) of Congress which is national too just like us. So I've known those predicaments that we have on committees like this. I've heard a lot of this.

VIVIENNE WEBB: I think we lost quorum.

EBONY HAVEN: Jill, are you still there? Did you go and turn your fan on?

JILL HANO: I'm here. I'm sorry. I went to get a Powerade. Sorry.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay.

HANNA JENKINS: Do you still have a question, Erick?

ERICK TAYLOR: No. I have a better understanding of it now. I never knew that could be done. That's more clear being that it's a board that's with disabled something could happen. That's something that's being

clarified that we know okay, we don't have to shut the whole meeting down. That needs to be done and that's some good understanding that we have that understanding.

EBONY HAVEN: Lauren has her hand raised, Jill.

JILL HANO: Okay, Lauren.

LAUREN WOMACK: I guess we didn't realize it because a lot of other governing bodies, like she was saying, have a secretary and treasurer. So they would be the two other people. But if we only have two then I think it's important. And I would like to suggest that we take the parliamentarian's suggestions. If there's no other comment, I mean, I'm ready to vote on it, I guess, if nobody else objects.

TONY PIONTEK: I'll second it.

JILL HANO: Hold on. So before we second, because this is, I don't know if that was official, an official motion. But so in my mind is Nicole Learson, is your suggestion that we add a member pro tem?

NICOLE LEARSON: Because it seems to be something that you all may feel that you need clarity on in your policies and procedures you can add some language around what would happen if your chair or vice chair was not able to preside over a full quarterly council meeting. So that, but not in your bylaws. Actually, I mean, whatever works for you whether you want it in your policies and procedures or your bylaws. If that's the language that you want I can provide that language and you can add it in whichever governing document you feel it is best suited. I think it's probably your policies and procedures as Lauren and Mr. Taylor suggested. But I think if that's the language that you want I think that's a good idea.

JILL HANO: Can I make a suggestion?

SPEAKER: Absolutely.

JILL HANO: Okay. Because I don't know where we are. Because I always thought that that was one of the duties of our member at large. Instead of having another position hypothetically, Angela, would that be something to add to the duties of a member at large?

NICOLE LEARSON: So again, only an officer has the assigned duty of being able to preside or run over a full council meeting. Only an officer. And in the event in the situation where neither officers are there

then you elect, any member can be elected as a chair pro tem. It's not a distinction of classes of members. It can be any member.

JILL HANO: At that time or do we say okay, blah, blah, blah is going to serve as our official president, chairman pro tem or is it just there's no president, no chair, no vice chair, we elect Lauren to preside over the meeting for this particular meeting.

NICOLE LEARSON: That what you just said. You can't assign it to anyone other than an officer. So if it happens to happen on that day someone can nominate Jill. I mean, well, you wouldn't be there, but someone can nominate Mr. Taylor, someone can nominate Tony, someone can nominate Angela or Lauren. And if you get the vote required that person would chair that meeting for that day. And as soon as the meeting's over with their responsibility ends.

JILL HANO: Okay. That's what I was getting hung up on. Thank you, Ms. Learson. Okay, so should we make a vote, make a motion, Ebony?

EBONY HAVEN: Well, she has one other thing. But can I say this one thing?

NICOLE LEARSON: Go ahead.

EBONY HAVEN: Whenever you guys are done with this entire document you will vote, you will just do one vote to send the whole document. You don't have to vote on each thing.

JILL HANO: Okay.

NICOLE LEARSON: So article seven section one, two and three operations of a council that really should be in your policies and procedures.

EBONY HAVEN: Oh, okay. We haven't got there yet. Hold on.

NICOLE LEARSON: Oh, okay.

EBONY HAVEN: Because we haven't even picked up where they left off, which was article six section number four. That's where they stopped. We're going to pick up from there. I just wanted to bring up the officers and stuff because I know we discussed that and I wanted you to just kind of give them the information that you gave me and Jill. Erick has his hand raised, Jill.

ERICK TAYLOR: I have a question for you, Ms. Nicole. Being that we elected somebody and the chair

is not here and that particular person don't want to take over that meeting what happens then?

NICOLE LEARSON: Well, the process would be very brief. First of all, they would have to accept that nomination. When I say I nominate Erick Taylor to preside over the meeting you would have to then acknowledge well, yes, if elected I will do it. So we can't vote you to do it if you're like no, I don't want to do it.

ERICK TAYLOR: Okay. All right.

JILL HANO: Ebony, I do have a technical question if I may?

EBONY HAVEN: Yes.

JILL HANO: Do you have all the additions in the smaller document but like in a normal format? Because I tried to print it and it was really small and weird looking, unusual looking. I was confused. Is that the only-- sorry, is that the only format you had that in?

EBONY HAVEN: So for now that's the one that I've been tracking all the changes you all have made. And so it adds comments to the side column, Jill. Whenever I send it to the full council I'll make sure that the side column is eliminated so that the document isn't small. Yeah, for now it will be that small document because as I'm tracking the changes sometimes it adds comments in that column but I'll make sure that the document I send you guys doesn't have that column and it will be in normal font.

JILL HANO: All right. Because I needed a magnifying glass. I'm not even going to lie. Thank you, Ebony. So where are we?

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So you all left off on article number six section number four. I have it pulled up on the screen. Section number four was talking about if a member is absent. And so the highlighted parts are the parts that you all added. That was the last thing that you guys did at the June 7th meeting.

JILL HANO: Okay. Can you, Ebony, do you want to help us mosey along?

EBONY HAVEN: Yes, sure can. So the section five that was originally there it was the recommendation from our parliamentarian that we take that part out. I think she suggested that we move that to the policies

and procedures so that's where that is now. So you have a new section five which is there on the screen. And all I did was add information from your virtual protocol. If it doesn't have to be this detailed, Nicole, I can take some of the information out.

NICOLE LEARSON: It's fine.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So those were the recommendations from our parliamentarian, just to add the virtual protocols there to section five. Does anybody have any questions about that part?

TONY PIONTEK: Nope.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. All right. So we'll move onto article number seven. And that's the operations of the council. We didn't have any suggestions for sections one or two. Section three we just changed the language from the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals to the council's designated state agency. That's what DSA stands for. Just in case we're ever moved from the Louisiana Department of Health we just wanted it where we wouldn't have to go back in and change that so we added the council's designated state agency there.

NICOLE LEARSON: The language itself is fine, but once again, operations of the council should be in your policies and procedures. Even if you look at the template that the information and technology center provides there's not an article in there for operations because, at least last time I checked, but your bylaws is a governance document. It is who we are. How do we become a member. What is our purpose. What is our name. Who is our officers. When are they elected. That's that highest set of rules. It's about governance. Your policies and procedures are about day-to-day operations. Who do we go to when we get reimbursements from committee expenses. How do we operate. What is our annual year. When is our budget due. Those are the types of things that belong in your policies and procedures, not your bylaws.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So I highlighted that, guys. This is a change that we made here in the actual committee meeting itself so I will move these to the policies and procedures and the document that I send out to the council to review will not have this section in it. It will get moved to the policies and procedures. Does everybody understand that?

SPEAKER: Yes.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay.

JILL HANO: Are you making me a script for when I present this next week?

NICOLE LEARSON: I absolutely am.

JILL HANO: Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So anything in purple, Nicole, is what you suggested. So I don't know if you want to elaborate on this section or this article. Right now, guys, we are moving onto article number eight which will turn into number seven, the executive committee.

JILL HANO: Wait, can I say something? Well, never mind.

NICOLE LEARSON: I think it was just a move of where it was. But I don't think the language itself other than the changes that you all suggested. I don't think that I changed the content.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So for section one if you look at number five under the Executive Committee show up, meet at least quarterly to carry out the following duties. For number five we changed monthly to quarterly financial statements as submitted by staff because we were submitting financial documents to the council and the Executive Committee every quarter and not monthly. Does anybody have any questions about that?

TONY PIONTEK: Not really.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Thank you, Tony. So yeah, this was basically just a move from where it was previously and we just moved it down. So we didn't recommend any other changes, or staff didn't recommend any other changes to article number eight or seven now, the Executive Committee.

So we can move to article number nine, which are committees. And we basically, for section one, we added the committees, besides the Executive Committee we added the Self-Determination Community Inclusion Committee and the Education and Employment Committee. On the next sentence we just stated that Act 378 Subcommittee and such other committees including but not limited to the Nominating and Membership Committees will meet as required to address the goals of the council. And we just took the other wording out because it just seemed unnecessary. Or we made that

suggestion to take that language out because it just seemed unnecessary. Does anybody have any questions about that particular section?

TONY PIONTEK: Just a really good common-sense group just to get rid of this for that, whatever reason that we all have to agree upon as a group.

JILL HANO: I do think it needs to be, unless I'm missing it, I do think it needs to be in writing that chairpersons of subcommittees can be anyone.

NICOLE LEARSON: Yeah, so that is normal practice when an organization creates a committee they give that committee the authority in some cases to create its own subcommittee. And typically a subcommittee member can be anyone in the community who's not even a member of the organization itself. Because they bring, they sometimes are subject-matter experts and they bring knowledge that the council members themselves do not have but need in terms of making critical decisions for operations and strategic planning. And so there's no problem with that as long as, like you said, Jill, the language is in there that the subcommittee can be nonmembers of the council.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. I think that's later in the document.

JILL HANO: I thought that, but I just wanted to make sure that it was in writing that the chair-- okay, cool. Section six. But I just wanted it clear. Okay, it's actually section two that the subcommittee chairs specifically can be anyone because that's come up.

EBONY HAVEN: And so where did you want to add that, Jill?

JILL HANO: I don't know.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Do you want to add that to section six or?

JILL HANO: I don't mean, I don't know where it would fit, but just so it's clear. Like I wasn't thinking a specific section. Just to have it in there.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay.

JILL HANO: Whatever the will of the chair is. I mean, the committee. It just was an idea. I don't know what y'all's thoughts on it were.

NICOLE LEARSON: So if I'm understanding correctly she's saying not a chair of a subcommittee, but a chair of a committee, a standing committee.

JILL HANO: I said that wrong. I think I said it wrong. Because I meant to say a subcommittee.

EBONY HAVEN: So maybe the best place to add that would be section six. So section two is moved to the Executive Committee. That was article number, I think, seven or eight in y'all's document. So that just got moved. This section number two just got moved. I just want to make sure you guys know that that is still in there. So the new section two is the chairperson of the council shall appoint committee chairs but that was just based off the recommendation that you gave us previously. I think they still want to elect those chairs.

NICOLE LEARSON: Yeah, I saw it in black so I assumed that's what y'all were already doing. If you elect, that's fine. Whatever your practice is that works. They can be appointed or elected. It's up to whatever the needs of your organization are.

EBONY HAVEN: I'm assuming the committee, if you all are in agreement, you still want to elect the chair for the Self-Determination Community Inclusion Committee and the Education and Employment Committee. Am I correct in assuming that?

VIVIENNE WEBB: Yes.

JILL HANO: Yes. Tony, do you have a question?

TONY PIONTEK: Well, not so much a question but, I mean, I totally accept. I totally see what we're doing so to help you out, Jill, I don't mind.

JILL HANO: Okay. Thank you.

TONY PIONTEK: Sure.

JILL HANO: Okay. So does anyone have a problem with this? Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So if I'm reading this right the council shall elect committee chairpersons, including the standing committee chairpersons, and members to committees taking into consideration their preferences and willingness to serve. So you all aren't electing the members. I think we need to change that part. So it would be the council shall elect those chairpersons and the chairperson shall appoint members. Does that make sense?

JILL HANO: Yes, ma'am.

ERICK TAYLOR: Y'all saying the council should elect chair members, correct?

EBONY HAVEN: Yes, we're going to continue to do the same process that you all have had in place. So you would still elect the chairpersons for the Self-Determination and Inclusion Committee and the Education and Employment Committee.

ERICK TAYLOR: Okay. And we elect chairpersons on the board, correct? But do we still have to go through, I know it might be a question, to elect somebody on the board is that different than going through the governor thing or is I'm thinking of something?

EBONY HAVEN: You're thinking of something different. So that is for membership. We're talking about the Nominating Committee. These people that we're talking about right now they've already been governor appointed. So anybody that's either elected to be a chairperson or appointed to a committee they're already appointed by the governor.

Okay. So the council shall elect committee chairpersons and the chairperson shall appoint members to committees taking into consideration their preferences and willingness to serve. So does that make sense to everybody? Okay. Great.

Section three I think was just moved from one of the sections. It was up earlier in an earlier article and so we just moved it down to the committee section, the committee article. And so none of the language for section three, besides removing housing and health off those standing committees, was changed. Does anybody have any questions or anything for section three?

JILL HANO: What do we add to approve the meeting summary is the duties or am I being too specific?

EBONY HAVEN: I think, I mean, when it says to develop the committee agenda and conduct the meeting that may encompass that, Jill, because it's a part of the agenda, you approving the summary.

JILL HANO: Well, no, I meant if Brenton takes up the SDCI summary before he post it he sends it to his committee chair to approve it.

BRENTON ANDRUS: It's approved as a draft to send to the committee but it's not necessarily the final approved summary of the meeting. That happens at the actual committee meeting.

JILL HANO: Okay. All right. Thank y'all. Are we

good on time, y'all?

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah. Okay. So section four, again, council staff just made a suggestion to take out the language where it says committee of the whole and add the language the duties of the council, standing committees and any other committees shall be to implement the goals and objectives of the council in their respective areas. Just to try and make the language a little more easy read or plain language. And, again, for section four we added information from your virtual protocols based on the recommendations from your parliamentarian. And it's just giving that the council primarily focuses on issues dealing with disabilities. Committee meetings will be held via electronic means to allow for full accessibility. All members of the committee whether participating in person or from the anchor location or via electronic means shall be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum. So that's just straight from your Zoom protocols, virtual protocols. Does anybody have any questions?

Okay. So we didn't have any suggestions for section five.

And then for section six I think that is where we probably need to add the language that you were referring to earlier, Jill. So I'll just kind of read it. Non-council members may be appointed to ad hoc-- staff suggest not including standing committees. So the standing committees, what is currently in your bylaws that non-council members can be appointed to standing committees but it's the staff recommendation that you not allow non-council members to be appointed to standing committees. But ad hocs, caucuses, task force, all of those are more appropriate to have non-council members be appointed to those. And so you were saying you wanted me to add subcommittees here too, Jill? Non-council members may be appointed to and chair subcommittees.

BRENTON ANDRUS: That's impossible language based on what she had said. You could always say non-council members may be appointed to and serve as officers of subcommittees, ad hoc committees, caucuses, task force. And I think that encompasses what Jill was talking about earlier. And I think that covers what she was

talking about earlier.

JILL HANO: And that doesn't go against what staff suggest, correct?

EBONY HAVEN: The only suggestion we had here, Jill, was that you all not allow non-council members to be appointed to your standing committees.

JILL HANO: Okay. Which yes, I agree.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So everybody's in agreement with this change?

SPEAKER: Yes.

EBONY HAVEN: All right. So article number ten from the advice of our parliamentarian she suggested-- because I think this was in earlier. And we just made a total new article for it, for parliamentarian authority. And I think this is also one of ITAC's guidelines or their suggestions for your bylaws that this actually be a separate article. So Roberts Rules of Order newly revised shall govern the conduct of business in all cases in which they are applicable and not in conflict with these bylaws. So it's just your parliamentary authority that we added for section ten is Roberts Rules. Does anybody have any questions or comments? Okay.

And then for article number 11 now, amendments. So any proposed amendment to these bylaws along with the date it needs to be voted on shall be presented in writing. Staff just suggest to make it clear that we can email these instead of having to mail them because I think that was maybe what they were doing prior. To the council at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which it is to be voted upon. And at the recommendation of our parliamentarian a 2/3rds vote of those present and voting at a meeting at which there is a quorum will be required for adoption of any amendments instead of ratification. Does anybody have any questions about article number 11? Okay.

NICOLE LEARSON: I just want to commend you, Jill, and commend all of the committee members for doing such a thorough job in evaluating your governing documents. Organizations don't always do this and for you all to have the foresight to work with staff to come up with bylaws that are clear, that are specific to your council's needs really do make a difference, not just for existing council members, but any new council

members to be appointed to the council. So again, I commend you all for the hard work that you're doing. Both council members and staff.

TONY PIONTEK: If I can add one thing before we go, Ms. Jill, and you talking. I got some great info through specialist Beau Beaulieu. Not so much Blake but Mr. Beau. So happens that we are looking forward to, I got the email list from Mr. Beau, and he's looking into what just happened on our LADD Council, the ones that were let go. I will for sure let you know, Ms. Ebony, right away what the answer will be and the response from that too. So you'll be the first and then I'll add Ms. Jill to your email.

LAUREN WOMACK: Mr. Tony, they also did it to the LRC.

TONY PIONTEK: I know, right. Beau and his family, especially him, are very close to my family. I just sent the email out.

LAUREN WOMACK: It's not just us. It's a lot.

TONY PIONTEK: Right. Exactly. He's looking into it right now. I haven't heard from Mr. Beau Beaulieu since last week when we talked. But I will definitely get on it and kind of wait until the weekend, after the weekend is over, Ms. Ebony.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Thank you, Tony.

JILL HANO: Thank you, Tony.

TONY PIONTEK: You're welcome.

JILL HANO: But while we were on the amendments, and Nicole said something that made me think of this, I know in my research ITAC suggest that we go through our bylaws once a year. Do we need that written maybe under the amendments or somewhere?

NICOLE LEARSON: That would fall under operations rather than governance. So if you wanted to put it in your policies and procedures you could.

EBONY HAVEN: We have that section.

NICOLE LEARSON: Or actually, I'm sorry, because you now have a section on committees you could actually put that, you could actually put the duty of the Bylaws Committee is to review governing documents annually. So that actually could go under the duties of one of your committees, yeah. Because you put a general statement about what the committees' purposes are, but if you wanted to specifically outline, you know, the

Bylaws Committee's duties you could do that. To annually review the bylaws and provide recommendations to the council.

JILL HANO: Y'all, can we take a three-minute recess?

BRENTON ANDRUS: You're the chair.

JILL HANO: I call a three-minute recess.

TONY PIONTEK: I'll second it for you, Jill.

BRENTON ANDRUS: In three minutes we'll be back.

{Recess}

EBONY HAVEN: Jill, we're ready when you are. But Christi, I just wanted to remind you if you wanted to be counted towards the quorum you have to have your camera on.

CHRISTI GONZALES: Sorry.

EBONY HAVEN: No, you're fine.

CHRISTI GONZALES: Y'all have done an amazing job. Thank y'all.

EBONY HAVEN: Thank you, Christi. Okay, Jill, we have a quorum.

JILL HANO: It is 2:47. Thank you for bearing with me. And I would like to call the meeting back to order. And so, Ebony, we can continue where Nicole Learson was talking.

EBONY HAVEN: Were you still talking?

NICOLE LEARSON: Oh, no. I just, again, commend you, Jill, for the work that you and your committee are doing and the hard work that the staff is doing as well. That's it. But I'll say it again.

JILL HANO: I don't know why but I always have to call you Nicole Learson, one word. I don't know why. Okay, so Ebony, can you-- as Brenton would say, I'll ask Brenton about the duties for the two chairpersons and he answered. So now we can move along. Ebony, will you please continue?

EBONY HAVEN: Yes, ma'am. So you guys are done reviewing the bylaws. So the next thing on the agenda was the review of the draft bylaws. So we're just going to go over everything you all did at the June 7th meeting and today. And once we are done with the review you can then ask someone to make a motion and we will send the entire document to the council. Okay. And it will be on the screen as well. Remember I separated the documents so it is two documents and I

did change the table of contents to match the page numbers now. So article one we made one change and that was just to say that hereafter the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council will be referred to as the council throughout the rest of the document.

Article two, we didn't make any changes to article two.

Article three, the committee wanted to add self-advocacy to that one sentence where it is discussing the council's purpose.

We're trying to make sure that one of our committee members is following along so please bear with us.

JILL HANO: So what you have in the agenda is from the bylaws with-- okay. Never mind. I confuse my own self.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Do you want me to continue, Jill?

JILL HANO: Yes, ma'am, please.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So article three, like I said, for the purpose the committee decided to add the word self-advocacy with the other describing factors for the purpose of the council. And number six under article three, those were just technical changes. We just capitalized some letters and changed the name of Louisiana Department of Health.

So onto article four under council membership for section one we just added a capital letter.

For section three it was the advice of our parliamentarian that we use either/or. I didn't take it out because I wanted to make sure you all knew what I was doing. So Nicole suggested that we use the language from the DD Act or we actually put the number. And I think what I would suggest to the committee is just to use the language from the DD Act and not include the number. So my suggestion at this point would be just to take out the 17. Is everybody okay with that?

SPEAKER: Yes.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. And it will go back to what it was previously before we suggested anything.

So for section three there are no suggested changes.

And then for section four the committee

recommended adding those representatives who are not federally mandated to be on the council to this section. The representative from the Office of Aging and Adult Services, from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities and the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs just to describe who the council shall consist of.

JILL HANO: Ebony, well, we-- never mind. I don't want to interrupt you.

EBONY HAVEN: No, this is the time to interrupt, Jill. You can add anything or change anything. This would be the time.

JILL HANO: I see a hand up but now that I'm thinking about it that was not the opportune time to tell you.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So yes, Lauren does have her hand raised.

LAUREN WOMACK: You had mentioned, or someone had mentioned a while back about DCFS wanting to perhaps have a seat on the council but we hadn't really heard anything back about that. I wanted to know if the participants thought about maybe having DCFS as well because we are developmental disability and I think it would be really important if we include them. I don't know if we want them mandatory, but to maybe offer them a spot.

VIVIANNE WEBB: The camera isn't looking at the council anymore.

BRENTON ANDRUS: I think just going back to having DCFS on there you have the agencies that are responsible for providing the services to the DD community whereas DCFS is not necessarily charged with that. They will partner with these other agencies to make sure the children have the same services that you would if you had a developmental disability. So I don't know what role they would serve on the council in that respect.

LAUREN WOMACK: Because I was a CASA and a lot of kids with developmental disabilities are in foster care and I just know they're very underrepresented and they're more likely statistics wise to be abused and neglected. I really wish-- was it Michael that has the children, I wish he could be here to speak to it. I'm newer. I don't know what value they could bring or

even if they would want to attend. It was just something I thought would be something to consider.

BRENTON ANDRUS: I know there was a discussion about having some sort of initiative of the council around that area and I think OCDD was partnering with DCFS on some things which is kind of why the council did not necessarily fund an activity in that area.

Jill, you have hands in the room.

JILL HANO: Oh, my God, y'all. I'm sorry. Do I have more than one hand?

BRENTON ANDRUS: Yes.

EBONY HAVEN: Vivienne and Nicole have their hands raised.

JILL HANO: Nicole. No, I'm sorry. Vivienne, you're recognized by the chair.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Thank you. So maybe we should do outreach with DCFS. They need more, their staff are not trained and really equip to handle special needs children especially with autism. They don't seem to recognize it and they look at the kid and think they're insane, we should lock them up. So we might want to do some outreach so they don't, you know, get locked up.

EBONY HAVEN: You muted yourself, Jill.

JILL HANO: Can you please stop trying to read my lips because you know it's never going to be nice words. Nicole, you're recognized by the chair.

NICOLE LEARSON: The contact that I know at DCFS is Christopher Kirby. He's director of developmental disabilities services for DCFS. So to your point, Vivienne, if y'all need to speak to someone to see what their initiatives are that's who I would recommend you contact, Christopher Kirby, director of DDS over at DCFS.

EBONY HAVEN: Vivienne has her hand raised, Jill.

JILL HANO: Vivienne.

VIVIENNE WEBB: I'm sorry, I would just also like to add that kids with fetal alcohol syndrome are incredibly common in the foster care system so that's another thing to consider.

EBONY HAVEN: So one other thing-- I had my hand raised. One other thing to consider is that if we do add a seat for another agency representative you will have to go up on your citizen representation as well because we have to keep that 60 percent of individuals

with disabilities, parents or guardians of children with disabilities or immediate relatives. So just keep that in mind.

LAUREN WOMACK: That was the other part of my question. If the committee decided like self-determination do we have something in place where it could be like a subcommittee or something like that? Or can we invite them to come? Or how was it that they weren't mandated to attend the Partners but that they did come? Like the adult aging and all. How were they in our membership even though they weren't required?

JILL HANO: I thought I knew the answer but I don't.

BRENTON ANDRUS: I will say that was before all of our time so I don't know for sure but I would say having someone from Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities and the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs made sense given the work of the council. Also, at the time or up until the last few years I guess Office of Aging and Adult Services did have individuals with a developmental disability on some of their waivers and there was, I can't remember how long ago it was, but they were transitioning them into the ROW on OCDD side of things so it's very possible that there was that thought process when OASS was added onto the council but I'm not certain. We wouldn't have record of that anywhere to figure out exactly why they were added on there at that time.

LAUREN WOMACK: Because I know we're short on time and we really don't want to sit here and talk about everything. But for some of them I feel like we don't get as good enough information as we would for maybe DCFS or what, I don't know, especially with the education and stuff. Or for the kids that were being neglected and things like that. Or the families that were having trouble getting access to services and things like that. So I don't know a solution. I just kind of wanted to get the other council members' thoughts on it.

EBONY HAVEN: Lauren, I can reach out. They haven't expressed any interest of being on the DD Council. But Nicole just provided the contact person so I can reach out to see what their interests are, but anybody is welcome to come to our meetings and provide

information. I don't think that this is going to affect y'all today because we can't add them if they're not a governor appointed member.

LAUREN WOMACK: Right. Like I said, I don't even know if it will matter if they'll come. I didn't know where exactly to say we may want to reach out.

EBONY HAVEN: Yeah. And that's something that I can do. I can reach out to Christopher Kirby to see what their interests are in joining the council and then we would have to move forward from there. Jill, Tony has his hand raised.

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

EBONY HAVEN: You're muted, Tony. Can you unmute?

TONY PIONTEK: I totally agree with that but for what you're expressing, your whole description of that because it needs to be that. We're here for these unforeseen topics that we're discussing. And plus we wanted to have a deserving, equal, fair share of these topics that we're sharing. Especially the one right now. And we just need that complete fairness line of going out there and just really find out what we can do and not what we can't do. We want to open that extra door and say let's see what happens.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Well, thank you, Tony. I'll make sure that I reach out to Mr. Kirby to see what DCFS's interests are.

TONY PIONTEK: And if you want to add me to the phone call so you won't be by yourself.

EBONY HAVEN: Thank you. Okay. So I'm going to keep moving. Section five. We added the information from the virtual protocols to the voting section. And so I want to just make sure with Nicole that this is right here, right? It's not in the policies--

NICOLE LEARSON: That's perfect.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Great.

Section six, we only decided to take away developmental disabilities because remember in section one or article one we said that the council will be referred to as the council from here on out so those are just technical changes.

We added a section seven, terms of council membership to article three. Or article four, sorry, council membership. Terms of membership, we just added information here based on that first paragraph based on

ITAC's recommendations just kind of making sure we clarify that if there is a vacant position it's due to resignation or unexpected vacancy which could be due to death or disqualification.

And the second paragraph, the term of the chairperson, vice chairperson-- and I'm assuming we're not saying other officers so I need to take that out. Yes, so I'm taking this part out.

ERICK TAYLOR: I have a question.

EBONY HAVEN: And Erick has a question.

NICOLE LEARSON: Madam chair, I misspoke. Because you all will continue to elect you should probably not say officers but all elected-- you should say officers and elected committee chairs.

JILL HANO: I was thinking just say Executive Committee but, I mean, your suggestion is probably more appropriate than mine but I did want to throw that out there to just turn everything that says officers into Executive Committee.

BRENTON ANDRUS: This may also be me overthinking things because I'm good at that, but after elected should you say standing committee chairs because otherwise it would be implied you're talking about subcommittees or ad hocs.

NICOLE LEARSON: They're not elected. The others aren't elected. The language that y'all included was that the chairpersons of what committee?

EBONY HAVEN: Self-determination and Education and Employment.

NICOLE LEARSON: Yeah, that's the ones.

BRENTON ANDRUS: So that will be referenced in the previous section.

NICOLE LEARSON: Correct.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Got you. Okay.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So this reads the term of the chairperson, vice chairperson and elected committee chairs shall be limited to two consecutive terms. Should we keep in any officer role?

NICOLE LEARSON: In any elected role.

JILL HANO: Because I was only vice chair for a few-- I don't think I was vice chair for two quarters so by this could I be vice chair that year and then run for another Executive Committee position?

EBONY HAVEN: I'll have to look at it, Jill, just

because you were appointed as the vice chair whenever Rashad resigned from the council.

JILL HANO: And I only filled in for Nicole for two months and then I got my own term in October.

NICOLE LEARSON: So according to Roberts once you serve more than 50 percent of the term that's considered the full term and in which case then, you know, it would count. But anything less than 50 percent of that first term is less than-- it's just simply filling an unexpired term and that does not count towards the term limit here. So that means that's not included. You start with the election where you serve the full term and then you have another consecutive term.

JILL HANO: When you find your manual can I get a citation on that?

NICOLE LEARSON: Absolutely, yes.

JILL HANO: Because I haven't read that.

NICOLE LEARSON: I absolutely will email that to you.

JILL HANO: Thank you.

NICOLE LEARSON: You're welcome.

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

ERICK TAYLOR: I'm good because you kind of answered my questions with the things I had. So I'm good.

JILL HANO: Okay. Then, Ebony, can we please continue?

EBONY HAVEN: Yes, ma'am. Section eight we just added the information there that officers may serve-- well, maybe I should change that to elected officials. So should I say officers and elected committee chairs.

NICOLE LEARSON: Uh-huh.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay.

Okay. So section nine, the suggestions that we made were just their terms for vacancies. Their terms shall be for the unexpired terms of membership. 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. We just changed it from one and a half years to one year.

Okay. So now we get back to the part where Nicole is explaining things earlier. The officers shall be

the chairperson and vice chairperson. We're on article five. The officers and duties of officers. I think we may have to change some things here. All officers and standing committee chairs shall be elected by a majority of the council at the July meeting to serve for two years effective October 1. No elected officer or standing committee chair shall serve more than two consecutive terms in any office. Does that make sense, Nicole?

NICOLE LEARSON: Or elected role.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. In any office or elected role.

Okay. Section three, when a vacancy occurs in an office we just once again added that language, and this was ITAC's recommendation, due to resignation or rotation off the council or an unexpected vacancy due to death or disqualification. We just added that there.

And then at the bottom members will be advised that there will be an election at least two weeks before the council meeting when possible.

Okay. So moving onto section four. The Nominating Committee shall be elected by the council or the Executive Committee. Because if you all recall Nicole Learson said that the only committee where the chair should be voted on by the full council is the Nominating Committee.

NICOLE LEARSON: The only committee that the chair of the council should not have any involvement with is the Nominating Committee. She should not appoint at all, that person.

JILL HANO: I like that.

NICOLE LEARSON: So because the Nominating Committee is about electing officers the chair who can appoint any committee members should not have the ability to appoint the Nominating Committee because that could be, you know, that could be seen as them trying to appoint someone that's favorable to them so that they could get reelected and you want to stay away from any even perception of impropriety. So the chair of the council should not have anything to do with the Nominating Committee because of their role. Does that make sense?

EBONY HAVEN: Uh-huh. I just added the wording there. A Nominating Committee including the chair

shall be elected by the council or the executive committee at the April meeting of the council during the council's election year biannually or as needed. That's a suggestion from staff. The committee shall provide notice in writing via email. Once again we just wanted to make sure that was clear and we don't have to mail these things. Of these nominees to all the council members at least 21 days in advance of the July meeting. So that's section four.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Add your commas including the chair because you're referring to the Nominating Committee chair, right?

EBONY HAVEN: Right.

All right. Section five, number three. These are the duties of the chairperson. To appoint the membership of all standing and ad hoc committees with the exception of the Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee. And Ms. Nicole Learson just explained why.

Okay. So we didn't make any changes to the duties of the vice chair which is in section six. And then remember we moved all of those duties for the chairperson to the standing committees down to a different article.

Article six, meetings and attendance. Meetings of the council shall be held the third Wednesday and Thursday of each quarter. Nicole, did you give us some advice on this part. Was this too specific or?

NICOLE LEARSON: Yeah, the bylaws should include the frequency of when you meet, monthly, quarterly, annually. I do not recommend being too specific because if you meet any other time than when your bylaws say then you're out of compliance with your bylaws.

EBONY HAVEN: So your suggestion would be just keep it at quarterly?

NICOLE LEARSON: Yeah.

JILL HANO: Could we put the specifics in the policies and procedures?

NICOLE LEARSON: That's a great question, Jill, and you're absolutely right. That was my recommendation.

JILL HANO: Okay. Because I'm so glad you're here today because I am understanding so much more than I understood at the committee meeting last week.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So just moving right along. Unless due to extraordinary reasons a majority of the Executive Committee determines a meeting must be held in a different month or date. So it was just the staff's recommendation to put or date. And that's okay?

NICOLE LEARSON: Yeah, that's fine.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. So again, we created an article specifically for the parliamentary authority so that's why section four is gone. The new section four addresses attendance. If a member is absent from two consecutive meetings or three nonconsecutive meetings of the four quarterly council and/or committee meetings in a 12-month period the Executive Committee will discuss the reasons for the absence with the member and may ask for that member's resignation in writing. If the member continues to not attend council and/or committee meetings after the initial meeting with the Executive Committee for reasons other than extraordinary circumstances, whether that be 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 Officer of Boards and Commissions for consideration of removal if the member has not resigned. So are we all good with that? I know you guys discussed this a lot at the last meeting. So I think we're okay with that one to keep moving.

Section five, again, that's technical. We just took out the developmental disabilities part and we added the virtual protocol based on the parliamentarian's advice.

This article seven will be moved to the policies and procedures so that will no longer be in the bylaws based on the recommendations from our parliamentarian. And then the new article seven will be the Executive Committee. Again, we just moved that information from a different article down to this one. Or we created a new article I think for this one.

And section one, where we're discussing what the Executive Committees duties are. For number five we just said that the Executive Committee will review financial statements quarterly instead of monthly.

Article number nine is committees. And remember

we just basically spelled out what the committees are. The standing committees and then the Act 378 Subcommittee and other such committees including but not limited to the Nominating and Membership Committee will meet as required to address the goals. We just took out that last part to make the language clear.

Section two is in a different section now. And the new section two is addressing the council shall elect committee chairpersons and the chairpersons shall appoint members to committees taking into consideration their preferences and willingness to serve. So that's something we just did here today.

All the rest of the items I don't have to go through them unless you guys want me to because these are the items that we changed today. So if anybody has any other questions I can go through, but if not these are the changes that you guys made today so I think you all were in agreement. So Jill, I don't know if you want to ask for a motion?

JILL HANO: Okay. So now that we've gone through these changes and made them we are now ready for a motion to set these recommended changes. Can I get a motion?

ERICK TAYLOR: I motion that the recommended changes be done.

JILL HANO: Okay.

TONY PIONTEK: I'll second that.

JILL HANO: Okay. Thank you. Y'all, while we're waiting I wanted to, and I forgot at the beginning of the meeting, but as we all know we have a new deputy director of our council and I think we should give Brenton a round of applause to congratulate him on his well-deserved promotion.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Thank you.

LAUREN WOMACK: We are very blessed to have you.

JILL HANO: We are very blessed to have you, Brenton. And I think y'all have a strong team and we're going places.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. Thank you, Jill, but we have a motion on the floor.

JILL HANO: Sorry.

EBONY HAVEN: But we can definitely congratulate Brenton. Definitely he deserves that position. But I just want to make sure we take the vote. I don't know

if we have public comment, but yeah, kind of go through the steps.

JILL HANO: So we have a motion on the floor.

Motion made and motion seconded. Before we vote do I have any public comment? Okay. Seeing none.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay. I can do the roll call vote.

JILL HANO: Do we have a quorum?

BRENTON ANDRUS: No, you do. You do have a quorum.

EBONY HAVEN: So we're going to do a roll call vote. A yes is to accept the recommended changes to the council's bylaws and send those recommendations to the full council. A no would be not to accept the recommended changes. So once I call your name say yes or no. Ms. Nicole Banks. Mr. Michael Billings. Ms. Christi Gonzales. You're muted, Christi, if you're talking we didn't hear your vote.

CHRISTI GONZALES: Yes, I'm good. I approve.

EBONY HAVEN: Ms. Angela Harmon.

ANGELA HARMON: Yes.

EBONY HAVEN: Mr. Tony Piontek.

TONY PIONTEK: Yes.

EBONY HAVEN: Ms. Brooke Stewart. Mr. Erick Taylor.

ERICK TAYLOR: Yes.

EBONY HAVEN: Ms. Vivienne Webb.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Yes.

EBONY HAVEN: And Ms. Lauren Womack.

LAUREN WOMACK: Yes.

EBONY HAVEN: That's six yeas.

JILL HANO: So it was six yeas to zero nays so the motion passes.

EBONY HAVEN: So Jill, you can proceed with your congratulations to Brenton.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Not necessary. Y'all did it. It's fine.

LAUREN WOMACK: I think he just wants to go home.

BRENTON ANDRUS: I'm just not a fan of the spotlight, Lauren.

JILL HANO: I'm sorry, Brenton.

BRENTON ANDRUS: That's okay. I appreciate the kind words. Thank you.

EBONY HAVEN: Okay, Jill, so if you want to take any public comment that's the last thing on the agenda.

JILL HANO: All right. So do we have any public

comment?

EBONY HAVEN: Christi, I know you wanted to make an announcement. I don't know if you want to now?

TONY PIONTEK: I know Piontek is spelled correctly but it's still underlined.

EBONY HAVEN: I'll add it to my dictionary.
Christi, I don't know if you still wanted to make your announcement? I'm not sure if she's there anymore. The only announcement that I have is that the July council meeting is approaching very quickly. It's the 17th and 18th of this month. So the links are on the website so if you guys are attending virtually just make sure you register. But if not I will see you guys in person on the 17th and 18th.

JILL HANO: The meeting's adjourned.

BRENTON ANDRUS: 3:32.