

MINUTES
ADVISORY BOARD FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES (ABID)
BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 19, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Toby Gordon, Chair, via Zoom
Jorge Ibacache, Vice Chair, via Zoom
Elizabeth Granucci-Espinoza
Mary Kinirons
John Neff
Michelle Jones, via Zoom
Mona Malbranche, via Zoom
Tracy Stafford
Michelle Bitter-Oakley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Roslyn Greenberg
Sharon Ragoonan

ALSO PRESENT:

Carol L. Powell-Phillips, Professional Standards/Human Rights

Section

Kristin McIntosh, Broward County Attorney's Office, via Zoom

Cynthia Dorobiala, The Laws Group

A meeting of the Advisory Board for Individuals with Disabilities (ABID) was held on Thursday, January 19, 2023.

(The following is a near-verbatim transcript of the meeting.)

AGENDA ITEM 1 - CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

CHAIR GORDON: Okay, the first order of business will be the roll call, Carol.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Yes, ma'am.

Elizabeth Espinoza.

Toby Gordon.

CHAIR GORDON: Yes. I'm here.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Roslyn Greenberg.

Jorge Ibacache.

Mary Kinirons.

DR. KINIRONS: Kinirons. Here.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Mona Malbranche.

MS. MALBRANCHE: Here.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: John Neff.

MR. NEFF: Here.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Michelle Jones.

I saw her come in.

MR. NEFF: Thought I heard her.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: That's what I thought.

MS. JONES: Yes.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: All right. Sharon --

MS. JONES: Hello.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Yes, ma'am. I -- I received it.

MS. JONES: Thank you.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: You're welcome.

Sharon Ragoonan.

Stacy Stafford.

MR. STAFFORD: Here.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Michelle Bitter-Oakley.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: Here.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: All righty. We have four members present and we have three members virtual.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. So we have seven altogether that are attending.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Oh, five members present now. Elizabeth just walked in.

MS. ESPINOZA: Sorry for being late.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: That's okay.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. Good.

AGENDA ITEM 2 - ADOPTION OF AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM 3 - APPROVE AGENDA (1/19/2023)

CHAIR GORDON: The next order, according to the agenda, is the acceptance of the agenda for today.

Does anyone have an objection?

MR. STAFFORD: I **move** we accept.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: It was moved to accept, we need a second.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: Second.

AGENDA ITEM 4 - CHAIR'S REPORT

CHAIR GORDON: Basically there's no Chair's Report per se. I do have a few things I'd like to go over with everyone.

AGENDA ITEM 5 - COMMITTEE REPORTS

A Emergency management

B Transportation

C Education and Awareness

D Planning

E Legislation

F Employment

CHAIR GORDON: Are there any committee reports for today's meeting?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: No.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. I would like to go down each committee and see if the chair people want to stay as chair people of the subcommittee and see who's on those committees.

I'd like to see a little more diligence in the subcommittees so that we can get our report out a little more timely than we did last year.

I'll start with Emergency Management.

Who's the Chair of that?

DR. KINIRONS: I think I am. Yeah.

CHAIR GORDON: I didn't hear it. I'm sorry.

DR. KINIRONS: Mary. Me.

MR. NEFF: And Dennis is no longer with us.

CHAIR GORDON: Carol, have you got a list of who's on that committee?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Yes, everyone has a copy of it.

Right now, it's only Dennis, and he's no longer with us.

We have someone --

CHAIR GORDON: That's correct.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- entering the meeting.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. Is there anyone that would like to work on that committee?

DR. KINIRONS: I guess not.

(Laughter.)

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. The next --

MR. NEFF: One glutton for punishment.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I don't think --

CHAIR GORDON: is --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- pardon me, Ms. -- Ms. Gordon. I think --

CHAIR GORDON: Yeah.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- someone just came in the meeting.

Did they leave out? Yes, they did.

I just wanted to identify that person.

I don't know if the Michelles are -- you guys are familiar with the committee process.

Yeah, I don't think that two of our members are familiar with the -- the committee process. If you would like to explain that?

CHAIR GORDON: The best I can, and correct me if I'm wrong, somebody.

We're divided up into the subcommittees and the subcommittees investigate their particular problems or problems relating to the particular subcommittee, I should say, and report back to the meeting with the problem and what they feel can be done to solve the problem.

At the end of the year, when we present our recommendations to the Commissioners, if there's something in that particular subcommittee's work that we feel should be included, we include it.

Does anybody else have a better explanation?

MR. NEFF: They are listed in the bylaws as these six committees, so we didn't make them up.

(Laughter.)

DR. KINIRONS: Noted.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Well, for Michelle and Michelle, they're listed in the bylaws. There are six committees that the board discuss throughout the year, and we create a recommendation and report for the Commissioners.

First, the -- you guys can meet with either staff or the County

regarding those committees.

Throughout the year, you formulate recommendations for that particular committee that you choose to sit on.

And we all bring it together on a report. We send it out to the divisions. They answer the questions, or they give their -- they give their comment regarding that recommendation.

And then we put it together as a package, and that's the -- the annual recommendation that we submit to the board every year.

MR. NEFF: And one other thing. As --

MS. JONES: I -- I --

MR. NEFF: -- when two of us meet --

MS. JONES: -- this is Michelle.

MR. NEFF: -- it's got to be noted.

MS. JONES: I do know of my time on other boards, and I know, but I find that personal -- in my personal experience, that whenever we have these boards and I find it that we never get anything really done, some people don't show up, they cancel the board.

I just find it -- that it is -- it's not effective for -- for -- from my experience.

And so that's one of the reason why I choose not to be a part of them, because --

CHAIR GORDON: That's one of the reasons I'm trying to reorganize the subcommittees --

THE COURT REPORTER: Oh --

MS. JONES: I just never -- I just - I just never seem to get anything out of them.

Thank you.

MS. ESPINOZA: Who -- who's that speaking?

DR. KINIRONS: The other Michelle?

CHAIR GORDON: Okay.

MS. ESPINOZA: Who was speaking?

DR. KINIRONS: Who's speaking?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: The other Michelle.

MS. ESPINOZA: Oh.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Her name is Michelle Jones. That was --

MS. ESPINOZA: Oh.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- Michelle Jones.

MS. ESPINOZA: -- Michelle, right?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Yes.

MS. ESPINOZA: Okay.

CHAIR GORDON: Do we have --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I think -- I think that Mr. --

CHAIR GORDON: -- there's no one chairing the Emergency Management at the moment.

I think, if I remember correctly, it was the fellow that moved to Miami.

I'm trying to remember his name.

MR. NEFF: Dennis.

DR. KINIRONS: It was Dennis.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Yeah, it was Dennis. But I think Mr. --

DR. KINIRONS: He left.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- Mr. Neff is trying to say something. And then --

MR. NEFF: Yeah, I was --

CHAIR GORDON: Go ahead.

MR. NEFF: -- going to say, when we had more people, we had like 14 people on ABID, and we had committees, they were a lot more effective.

We're down to such a small group now, when we break up into six committees, it's --

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah.

MR. NEFF: -- it's just difficult.

But the -- the bylaws say we have to do it. there is a process and it's supposed to go through the committee.

We have to do a sunshine notification that we're going to meet whenever two of -- even if it's just a phone call, and allow the public to be in it, or Carol can get you a room, either out west or over here.

And that was always difficult, trying to get somebody to go -- the people from the west want to go to the west, the people from the east want to go east.

And now that we're doing Teams calls, it might be more possible to do.

But the idea was that committee would come up with a couple recommendations. They would then meet with the point of contact with the County, try to get something. Meet with the County reps, talk to them, and then come back to the complete board and say that we had this recommendation, we talked to this County person, we talked to this County person, and this is what we're recommending.

Then the whole board would get involved.

MS. ESPINOZA: Uh-huh.

MR. NEFF: It's never worked that way in the last two or three years.

MS. ESPINOZA: It's hard.

MR. NEFF: Regretfully.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah, but is anybody interested in Emergency Management?

DR. KINIRONS: I'm on that one right now, and I don't -- I don't mind staying off it. I remember when I first started --

MR. NEFF: Well, it's one of the most important ones.

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah. And I actually have a friend whose profession is emergency management, so she's somebody I could always ask questions to. But she could put me in with some good contacts she made here before she moved to Georgia --

MS. ESPINOZA: Oh.

DR. KINIRONS: -- but she knows so many people in our County, so.

MS. ESPINOZA: Well --

MR. NEFF: We will say that --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- can I nominate?

MR. NEFF: -- that the County --

MS. ESPINOZA: I'm kidding.

MR. NEFF: -- doesn't really like us that much.

CHAIR GORDON: What kind of Emergency Management is involved
in --

MR. NEFF: We asked if we could have a member on the board --

CHAIR GORDON: -- transportation.

MR. NEFF: -- Emergency Management, and they won't even let us
entertain it.

CHAIR GORDON: I know Roz --

MS. ESPINOZA: Are these on? Can she hear us?

CHAIR GORDON: -- was Chair of the Transportation.

DR. KINIRONS: I don't know.

CHAIR GORDON: Who else worked on it with her?

MS. MALBRANCHE: I did. Mona.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. Mona.

Anybody else at the moment want to work on Transportation with
Mona and Roz?

MR. STAFFORD: Yeah, this is Tracy Stafford. I will.

CHAIR GORDON: No? No takers?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Yes.

MS. ESPINOZA: I don't think she can hear us.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I don't think she can.

THE COURT REPORTER: The one in front of you, is that on?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: The -- what -- hold on one second.

MS. ESPINOZA: I don't see any --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: The --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- lights.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- I don't think that you can hear the board.

THE COURT REPORTER: Oh, it was off.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Hold on one second. Let me -- I took it out because they said they were unable to hear me. So let's see what happens now. I would have to --

MS. ESPINOZA: Are you able to hear me?

CHAIR GORDON: Yes.

MS. ESPINOZA: All right. Try speaking, Carol.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Are you able to hear me?

CHAIR GORDON: Yes.

MS. ESPINOZA: How about you, John?

MR. NEFF: Can you hear me?

DR. KINIRONS: Barely.

MS. ESPINOZA: All right. John's the one farther away from me, so --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I'll do that.

DR. KINIRONS: But that explains why you didn't hear me before.

MR. STAFFORD: Well, let's see --

DR. KINIRONS: Tracy said he would go on the Transportation.

MR. STAFFORD: This is Tracy. Can you hear me? I volunteer.

CHAIR GORDON: Yes, I can, Tracy.

MR. STAFFORD: Okay. I volunteer for the Transportation.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Thank you, Tracy.

CHAIR GORDON: Going on to Education and Awareness. Who is the Chair?

DR. KINIRONS: Currently Toby.

MR. NEFF: That would be you.

DR. KINIRONS: Currently you.

CHAIR GORDON: That would be me?

DR. KINIRONS: No, that's who it is currently based on the list we were given for 2021.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. Who else is working on that committee?

DR. KINIRONS: I was on there with you. I'm trying to limit -- if I'm going to Chair more seriously the Emergency Management this year, I want to try and focus on that. So --

CHAIR GORDON: Okay.

DR. KINIRONS: -- so anyone else for Education and Awareness --

MS. ESPINOZA: I think --

DR. KINIRONS: -- Committee?

MS. ESPINOZA: -- I think I was on there.

DR. KINIRONS: I see you here for Legislation and Employment.

MS. ESPINOZA: I was on two of them, I think. So --

DR. KINIRONS: You're -- on here it's Legislation and --

MS. ESPINOZA: Oh.

DR. KINIRONS: -- Employment.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. I will have to, at some point, meet with Carol and figure out who is on which committee.

At this particular point, how about Planning? I believe that was Jorge, but I don't remember.

DR. KINIRONS: It's John and Jorge.

MR. NEFF: Jorge was on there, but poor Jorge hadn't been here --

MR. IBACACHE: I'm still here.

MR. NEFF: Oh, Jorge, you're here.

MS. ESPINOZA: You're here.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Great.

DR. KINIRONS: Hi, Jorge.

MR. NEFF: Good to hear from you.

MS. ESPINOZA: Stranger.

MR. NEFF: Jorge always ran that.

MR. IBACACHE: It would be assumed because I don't drive up there.

But, I'm here.

MS. ESPINOZA: Oh, okay.

CHAIR GORDON: You're there. Okay. Good.

You, if I remember correctly, were chairing that committee?

MR. IBACACHE: What was the committee again? I didn't hear that part.

CHAIR GORDON: Planning.

MR. IBACACHE: Oh, yes. Definitely. You can leave me on that one.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. And John was working with you?

MR. IBACACHE: Yes. And I don't remember who else was part of it.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. We're going to have to, at some point, get the names of everybody and get everybody assigned to a subcommittee.

Legislation.

MR. NEFF: That's me, John Neff.

DR. KINIRONS: And Elizabeth, you used to be on it?

MR. NEFF: And Tracy used to be on it.

MR. STAFFORD: Yeah, that is --

MS. ESPINOZA: Excuse me?

CHAIR GORDON: Yeah.

MS. JONES: Can I say something?

CHAIR GORDON: Yes.

MS. JONES: Education and Awareness, what exactly is -- is Education and Awareness? I mean, what -- what does --

CHAIR GORDON: As far --

MS. JONES: -- it mean?

CHAIR GORDON: As far as I understand it, it's trying to get information out to the public in the sense of in an emergency what they should do, educating them as to what should be done in an emergency such as a hurricane or a flood.

I don't really know what the awareness is. Making -- I would assume, it's making them aware of their options as to where they should go if their building loses electricity and water, et cetera.

DR. KINIRONS: I mean, it can --

MS. JONES: Okay. So this is only about hurricane? It's not about awareness of people with --

DR. KINIRONS: No, it's how to --

MS. KINIRONS: -- disability or --

CHAIR GORDON: It's also awareness about --

DR. KINIRONS: You see --

CHAIR GORDON: -- facilities and teachings that are -- are available to people in Broward County.

DR. KINIRONS: It -- it's how the County communicates with its citizens about anything related to disability, like programs --

MS. ESPINOZA: Services --

DR. KINIRONS: -- services --

MS. JONES: Okay. Got you.

MS. ESPINOZA: Jobs.

DR. KINIRONS: -- yeah. That is County-specific.

MS. JONES: Well, I assumed that, but I just want to know a clear, you know, definition about what this is when it comes to the board.

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah.

MS. JONES: But we spoke a while back, I think sometime last year, about the sunflower law and making it aware of -- that part of it is something that I have been working on as, again, that is right now I want to find out -- I was so happy that they were having the meeting, the representative of that particular program.

And I know that it's in the airport. So right now I'm working on getting it in Publix, because I fell in Publix last year, and the embarrassment that I went through with that.

So right now, I am not settling with Publix on anything because I don't want anything from them except to put the sunflower law in place where people with hidden disability can be known.

That is my thing of making awareness in each, my war with the world today is to make sure that is in every County, every city office, that sunflower that there is people with hidden disability.

It is detrimental that we make sure that that is around, because so much people are being affected by hidden disability, and no one seems to understand that, how important it is.

This is why we have a prison full of people with anger issue is hidden disabilities.

Hidden disabilities is what's driving mental health. And we seem to

hop over that so easily all the time.

So if there is going to be a committee that will be full forced on understanding and leaving that out there that people with hidden disabilities are here and we also need to be seen, then I am a part of that.

MS. ESPINOZA: That might be Education and Awareness, and maybe Legislation? What do you guys --

MR. NEFF: I know the airport --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- think?

MR. NEFF: -- has a lot of ADA issues, primarily in case of emergency.

They don't have ramps, so it's stairs or nothing to get out. And that's a big deal for people with mobility issues.

MR. STAFFORD: Yeah.

MS. JONES: Uh-huh.

DR. KINIRONS: So I guess the question is, though, is the purpose of our committees is forming what we want the County do to about it, so which committee would be most appropriate to make that recommendation to the County and to be that voice, I guess is the core, so she knows which committee to be on.

MS. ESPINOZA: Maybe Education and Awareness.

DR. KINIRONS: So, yeah, I think that might be a good one for you, Michelle. It's Education/Awareness.

MS. ESPINOZA: Uh-huh.

MS. JONES: Just letting them know that it's going to be my focus,

because I like to get something done. When I'm on a board, I want to achieve something.

You know, when I was on the individual -- when I was on the School Board, I achieved them tearing down parkways, because I constantly was relentless on them understanding that.

I get on these boards, and it just seems like we never get anything done, we never get anything effective out of it.

And for me, my passion is going to be that these -- this is something that's being known to the community. I'm going to continue with this, and I -- I'm going to be relentless.

So if anybody's going to be on the board and go, oh, she's always talking about that, it's because I want something to be done.

DR. KINIRONS: Michelle --

CHAIR GORDON: Michelle, do you want to Chair the Education and Awareness Committee?

DR. KINIRONS: I think --

MR. NEFF: Yeah, I just want to make sure she understands there's -- there's ABID board, only people we do is recommendations to the Commission.

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah.

MR. NEFF: But as individuals, you can meet with your Commissioner, you can meet with any Commissioner, and you can mention to you that I'm on the ABID -- ABID board, but you can't represent the board. Only the Chair

can.

DR. KINIRONS: So, yeah, just as a -- as a note to what you're looking for, Michelle, understand that this board does have its limits.

The most we can do is make the document we've been working on of recommendations and submit it to the County.

You will have much more power as an individual than probably what with the restrictions of this particular board will be.

So just to set expectations, that is really what's in our power as this board.

MS. ESPINOZA: And to go off what Mary Kinirons just said -- this is Beth -- we are also limited by where our suggestions can be applied to.

So we can't -- you know, you cited Publix as an example. I'm sorry that you went through what you went through.

But we as a board can't make recommendations for those types of businesses.

We can only sort of make recommendations that apply to County employees --

CHAIR GORDON: Recommendations.

MS. ESPINOZA: -- things like that.

MS. JONES: That was only an example. That's my war. That was only an example.

MS. ESPINOZA: No, I understand. I just want, you know, make sure it's clear, because I had to understand it myself, and it took me a while. So --

DR. KINIRONS: Same here.

MS. ESPINOZA: -- yeah. So what we do only applies to, for example, maybe TOPS transportation --

MR. NEFF: Yes.

MS. ESPINOZA: -- the airport --

MR. NEFF: The unincorporated --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- the --

MR. NEFF: -- Broward County.

MS. ESPINOZA: Right.

MR. NEFF: But if it's a city --

CHAIR GORDON: Michelle, I sympathize with you in the sense of I also would like to get something accomplished.

But we do have our limitations, and we have to abide by them very strictly.

MR. NEFF: Yeah, and if you -- if you're new to this, Broward County has ADA provision in their ordinances. Every city has one.

Some are pathetic. Some are great.

How they manage them is the extremes as well.

We cannot impact cities. We can only look at the Broward County, which actually has an excellent one. I wish every city would adopt it. But they never did.

Same thing with Emergency Management. Broward County is like a overseer of it, but the individual cities handle their parts.

DR. KINIRONS: And I think -- I'm just going to produce some feedback for the concern about our impact.

I think one of the big focuses we need to do this year is just to try to run a little more efficiently in what we're doing, because it took us almost three meetings, maybe four meetings, to even just confirm standards, even after we had all of our committee meetings, which delayed even getting it to the County.

So I think for us to have the most meaningful impact, we need to just do what was successful before, but in a more efficient manner, so that way, we can get these recommendations more quickly into the -- the -- the County Commissioners for them to see.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: I want to say something. As somebody who is -- this is Michelle Bitter speaking.

Someone who is new -- I'm new to all of this. So what role can I play, like, or what role can I take on?

MS. ESPINOZA: You can take --

MR. NEFF: You will be frustrated.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: I am new.

MR. NEFF: Okay.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: I am like brand new, so I'm learning --

DR. KINIRONS: So, the point of the committees -- what the committees like do, why -- why do they meet separately.

MR. NEFF: Yeah, and -- and there's --

DR. KINIRONS: Because you chair them.

MR. NEFF: -- misunderstandings. Because when Jorge and I came in, we both come from the consultant side.

And so many things the board wanted to do, we had to tell them, that's not something the County does, that's not something the board does. That's Board of Rules and Appeals, it's a separate organization. It's the Sheriff. The Sheriff is a separate organization. He's not, quote, unquote, Broward County. He's his own.

The School Board is a separate organization. Commissioners can't tell the School Board what to do.

That was very frustrating for us.

But we have had some successes.

MS. ESPINOZA: Uh-huh.

MR. NEFF: And the successes are not plentiful, but they're rewarding.

One of the big ones I remember is the board got buses to go to FAU to take handicapped individuals. And that was a -- a really tough nut to crack, and -- and the board managed to get that one.

But other than that, there's not a whole lot.

They -- they did make improvements in the website based on some recommendations we did.

And a lot of board members will have service animals is their thing. We can't get a peep out of anybody. We can service animal recommendations to death. We've never been successful on any of them.

So when you've been here long enough --

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: Uh-huh.

MR. NEFF: -- your recommendations have to be -- almost have data backing them up, with a very specific what you can do to fix it.

Because if you say it's a problem, it goes in File 13. Nobody will solve the problem.

It's got to have a -- a solution from us.

MS. ESPINOZA: Michelle, what you can do is, after listening to us describe what each committee does, sort of figure out where your strengths might be and what your interests would be, and then you can join the committee, and you can even chair a committee if you want.

But if you're just more comfortable joining, being new, then you can look at --

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: So --

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: -- will I be given -- or is this -- am I taking the reins or am I sharing responsibility?

MR. NEFF: Chair takes the reins.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: Okay. I'm okay with that.

DR. KINIRONS: And take the reins kinds of means making -- picking the meeting date, arranging that meeting date, because you -- what you do is

you meet with a specific individual from the County for that area. So like Emergency Management Department would meet with someone from the County that would be representative of the emergency management side at the County, and just kind of organizing the meeting dates and meeting people --

CHAIR GORDON: Oh.

MR. NEFF: And sort of the rules of the road --

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: Uh-huh.

MR. NEFF: -- is we formulate questions we want to take to that --

CHAIR GORDON: Yeah, I --

MR. NEFF: -- government person, right, because they don't want to be blindsided.

DR. KINIRONS: You have to submit questions and --

CHAIR GORDON: -- will call you back, I'm in the middle of a meeting.

A Zoom meeting.

Okay. Thanks.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: What happened?

DR. KINIRONS: She took a phone call.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: Oh, okay.

MR. NEFF: In a perfect world, if it's transportation, Transportation Committee gets together, they sort of brainstorm.

This is what we really do in December as a whole group.

But coming out of there, we pick like eight or ten focus areas.

The committees then will work on those eight or ten things we came out with.

And then they will formulate some questions that will go to the leader in the County over that area, whether it's transportation director.

You give them to him in advance. He talks to his staff. He brings in the ones he wants. They will do their best to answer your questions. They'll tell you, we tried that, it didn't work, or this was a problem. We wanted to use these credit cards, we couldn't get a company that would work with us for it.

They'll give you information.

As a committee, you digest that, and then you come to the whole one and then -- and when we have these committee reports, you'll say, we met with so-and-so, this is what they told us.

And it's basically a summary of what you've gone through.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: Yeah.

MR. NEFF: And it could take months to get to that point.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: Okay.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I -- I just want to -- our meeting is short today. It's to 2:00 o'clock.

DR. KINIRONS: Okay.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: So it sounds like just a -- just from me being the -- the coordinator, it's -- from administration, it sounds like we need to solidify the committee, solidify our meeting dates, because this is still a draft, solidify the board priority list, and then you guys -- and also solidify -- you

know the process, Mr. Neff, from when it comes from you -- when you guys meet with staff, putting it on paper, that whole timeline. I think your timeline also.

MS. ESPINOZA: Actually, did we submit our recommendations? I don't remember.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Remember, you guys stopped it and we -- we canceled the meeting for December.

MR. NEFF: Well, we cancelled the planning meeting because we had -- we never got --

MS. ESPINOZA: They were done, though.

MR. NEFF: -- the first meeting.

MS. ESPINOZA: The recommendations --

MR. NEFF: Yeah, those --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- were complete.

MR. NEFF: -- and -- and those went in -- in.

DR. KINIRONS: That's what she was asking, is were they submitted.

MR. NEFF: Yes --

MS. ESPINOZA: Were they submitted --

MR. NEFF: -- they were submitted --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- and have --

MR. NEFF: -- theoretically.

MS. ESPINOZA: -- we heard anything?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: No, they were not submitted.

MR. NEFF: Okay. They weren't submitted?

MS. ESPINOZA: They were --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: No, because they were stopped in the last meeting.

CHAIR GORDON: They were submitted.

MS. ESPINOZA: They should have been.

CHAIR GORDON: They should have been submitted.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

CHAIR GORDON: At our last meeting, we voted to submit them.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah, because they were complete.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Okay. I'll look at the meeting --

MR. NEFF: That was in November.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- notes. That was November.

MR. NEFF: Yeah.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I'll look at the meeting notes, because I got something else out of those meeting notes.

I'll -- I'll look over the meeting notes from November.

MR. NEFF: Because we really need to get some feedback --

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah, that's part of --

MR. NEFF: -- from those to --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- the issue --

MR. NEFF: -- advance.

MS. ESPINOZA: -- too. We had no sense -- there was no sense in --

MR. NEFF: Where we were.

MS. ESPINOZA: -- where we were. We're so -- we're so behind that we needed to just start fresh and submit what we had to the interested parties.

And -- but we now need to hear feedback on those items. Then --

CHAIR GORDON: Well, it takes so long --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- the committees can work with the information --

CHAIR GORDON: -- I mean this is a difficult --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- we receive.

CHAIR GORDON: -- process. You can't possibly imagine how slow it is.

But the thing is, we can't answer the committee until we get their feedback, and it takes, sometimes, months.

MR. NEFF: It will take months. I will go to staff --

CHAIR GORDON: But I'd like to finish going through these committees, and I'd like people to let me know which committee they'd like to work on so that everybody in the main group is in a committee, working, so that when I call for committee reports at a meeting, something is accomplished from the last meeting.

MR. NEFF: And I'll just throw in like the reason, selfishly, I picked Legislation is that Tracy and I -- well, he's been in public office. I've run for it. But it's basically two months out of the year is when Legislature meets.

And then for the rest of the year, we're just looking for what we might

can present --

MS. ESPINOZA: Uh-huh.

MR. NEFF: -- back in October or something that our Broward County legislators can take to Tallahassee.

So it -- it's a -- it's sort of a targeted time period. The other ones can be any time.

Emergency Management is usually right before hurricane season becomes on everybody's minds.

MS. ESPINOZA: So what's the time period for Legislation and --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: January.

MR. NEFF: It starts the end of January and goes into March.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

MR. NEFF: So all the bills are listed right now on the internet.

MS. ESPINOZA: Right.

MR. NEFF: There's like 2,000 bills. They'll hear a hundred of them.

MS. ESPINOZA: Uh-huh.

MR. NEFF: What's the opening date for the Legislature this year, Tracy?

MR. STAFFORD: I thought it was March. I thought they were up there March and April, but I'm not sure. It changed. It changed one year --

MR. NEFF: When -- when they actually meet.

MR. STAFFORD: -- because of reapportionment.

MR. NEFF: I think the bills show up on the docket the end of January.

When they actually meet in Tallahassee, you'll see all these great bills --

MR. STAFFORD: They -- they'll start having committee meetings now but the -- the actual legislative session I think opens early March.

MR. NEFF: Lasts about six weeks?

MR. STAFFORD: No, 60 days.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay, who's going to chair that, Legislation?

MR. NEFF: That's me, Toby. And -- and Tracy's helped me --

CHAIR GORDON: That's John?

MR. NEFF: -- in the past. Yeah.

And then --

MR. STAFFORD: And then, you know, I'm willing to continue to be on that committee as well, so.

MS. ESPINOZA: I --

CHAIR GORDON: Okay.

MS. ESPINOZA: -- I'd like to be on the committee, too.

MS. MALBRANCHE: May I ask a question?

CHAIR GORDON: Go ahead.

MS. MALBRANCHE: Does Legislative Committee work with Planning Committee?

MR. NEFF: Planning -- Jorge, why don't you explain it? It -- it's been sort of single-subject in the past.

MR. IBACACHE: Yeah, Planning is basically anything that we think will improve the way homes and sidewalks and anything that we use gets

built. So it's mostly how can you safely navigate through a building or through a park or through a sidewalk.

Lately, we've been focusing on how to inform a person with limited visual -- you know, a blind person, how to navigate the sidewalk and through a building.

I know there's a lot of rules and requirements when it comes to navigating through a building or a structure on a wheelchair, but there isn't much qualified for a blind person.

So that's what we've been working on lately.

The word planning was a word that was selected to encompass everything that deals with building requirements. The word planning meaning how you plan to develop a community or a park or a building.

We're welcome to change the name of the committee, but it's basically anything that we learn from the public that's affecting Broward County residents and we would like to see if anything can be done to -- to better their lives in the future.

MS. MALBRANCHE: Thank you.

CHAIR GORDON: Thanks, Jorge.

MR. STAFFORD: And we have some people on the board who have some particular expertise in planning.

If -- if you're talking about city planning, what was a little confusing about the name to me is I didn't know what we were planning. I -- I didn't know if it was, you know, the same type of things a city planner does, which,

now that you've explained it, is -- or whether it was sort of a planning our board activities.

MR. IBACACHE: Oh, I see.

MS. MALBRANCHE: Yeah.

MR. IBACACHE: Well --

MR. NEFF: We don't know what it was.

MR. IBACACHE: -- I think --

MR. NEFF: That's what it became.

MS. MALBRANCHE: That was my understanding, too.

(Laughter.)

CHAIR GORDON: Thanks, Jorge. I think you straightened us all out.

MR. NEFF: Yeah, Jorge started with a list of, what was that, a thousand items, or 2,000 items? When he finally got it down to --

MR. IBACACHE: Yeah.

MR. NEFF: -- next to nothing, we just congratulated Jorge and --

MR. IBACACHE: Yeah.

MR. NEFF: -- went on.

MR. IBACACHE: Yeah, we -- we keep on getting our list shorter and shorter, but we -- we have seen some accomplishment, and, you know, I'm -- I'm glad that -- what is that, Lighthouse for the Blind? Is that what it's called?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Uh-huh.

MR. IBACACHE: Is assisting building in -- in Broward County with some decision-making so that at least they're cutting out the middleman,

right, going straight to the source.

And they're -- they're making improvements.

However, I do feel that there's room for more improvement.

I've been traveling through Gate 3 out of the airport, and each time I deplane, I have a hard time finding the exit, you know. And maybe I'm jet lagged, but, you know, imagine if you're -- you can't see, how will you be able to know how to find your way back to the car.

MR. NEFF: Yeah, you go get your ticketing, Terminal 4, and your plane leaves at Terminal 3.

MR. IBACACHE: Oh -- oh, that, too, right.

CHAIR GORDON: That's -- that happens all the time. I've had that happen also.

The last committee is Education --

MS. ESPINOZA: Employment.

CHAIR GORDON: -- I believe. Employment. I'm sorry.

Who chairs that?

MS. ESPINOZA: I have. I could stay with that.

MR. NEFF: It's an important -- we used to have more people here that were tied into that, and they sort of all drifted away.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah. Yeah.

MR. NEFF: You're the sole survivor.

MS. ESPINOZA: I know.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: If they would take me under their wing.

CHAIR GORDON: Carol, when you -- Carol?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Yes, I'm here.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. When you get a chance, would you please send me a list of the chair people and the number of people that are on these committees, and I will put together an email and send it back to you, and people can let us know which committee they want to work on.

Because I feel that everyone on the major committee should work on one of the subcommittees.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Normally all -- all the chair -- we have a chair for each committee.

I don't think it was clear for Education and Awareness. I think that you were asking Michelle Jones if she wanted to take the lead on that.

And also Michelle Bitter-Oakley is asking does anyone wants to take her under their wings.

And then we have everyone in a slot.

DR. KINIRONS: How about a management role?

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: I will. I will do it. I'm diving in.

MR. IBACACHE: Madam Chair, another suggestion on the --

(Laughter.)

MR. IBACACHE: -- date --

CHAIR GORDON: Yes.

MR. IBACACHE: -- if you ask to confirm the date that we're planning for the committee to meet, which is typically the months that we don't meet in

person for our regular meeting, and also if they can annotate a few targets or a few items that they want to discuss or work this year, I think sort of --

CHAIR GORDON: That's a good suggestion. I'd have to get the dates then from the chairs, dates and discussion.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: We --

CHAIR GORDON: No problem.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- I already have that. That's what I was talking about, the board priority. We list it in -- in the -- we do it every year.

February is Legislative. I think they get that out of the way, they meet in February.

April, Emergency Management, because they don't want to meet during the hurricane season.

July, Transportation.

August, Employment.

October, Education and Awareness, and Planning Committee.

So the -- I will -- I think that we're doing them Zoom, or you guys want to do them in person? So the Chair would have to tell me how they would like the meeting, and then we can go ahead and set those meetings ASAP.

DR. KINIRONS: Zoom is fine.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah, that's fine.

MR. IBACACHE: And the meeting --

DR. KINIRONS: Right.

MR. IBACACHE: -- and the meeting, and the type of meeting, will be

hosting will also depend on who we're meeting, right?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Say that one more time.

CHAIR GORDON: Make sure on dates.

MR. IBACACHE: The dates, for how we meet, may depend on who we're meeting. So if we're meeting with a -- a department of the County, you know, they may want to meet on -- at their office --

DR. KINIRONS: Like the contact.

MR. IBACACHE: -- at whatever time they choose.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Correct. They can go --

CHAIR GORDON: Well, that's usually, I would assume, how it works. I mean, most of the County offices that we meet with, last year, anyway, if my memory serves me correctly, they wanted to meet to their convenience.

So once I have the listing of who's on what committee, et cetera, we can then -- the chair people can contact the County people that they have to meet with.

And I would suggest that they meet at least --

MR. NEFF: That's not the Chair.

CHAIR GORDON: -- once before the meeting with the County people

--

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Ms. --

CHAIR GORDON: -- to discuss what they want to bring up --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- Ms. Gordon --

CHAIR GORDON: -- to the County people --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- that's not --

CHAIR GORDON: -- so that --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- that's not the Chair.

CHAIR GORDON: -- whatever problems they know of can be brought up and discussed.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Pardon me, Ms. Gordon. That's not the Chair. Normally, our office, Carol, does -- I do all the scheduling. I try to do it all at one time, because that -- that -- that helps me.

It's already like listed. I contact the -- the director over that division, and we set a date.

And then I -- I notify you guys.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. So you set the date. That's fine.

But when -- my point was before the subcommittee meets with the County people, they should meet separately and figure out what they want to bring up so that the meeting is --

DR. KINIRONS: So they know what questions to ask.

CHAIR GORDON: -- productive, as opposed to non-productive.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Correct. Normally, when Jen scheduled all the meetings, she did it at one time, and the committee has a -- a certain date to get all their questions to the -- to me to forward them to the County, like two weeks before the meeting.

DR. KINIRONS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR GORDON: Yeah, but what I'm saying is the subcommittee has

to meet in order to form their questions and form their --

DR. KINIRONS: So we need to have two meetings. Meeting to make the questions --

CHAIR GORDON: -- subjects that they --

DR. KINIRONS: -- and meeting with the --

CHAIR GORDON: -- want to bring up to the County people.

MR. NEFF: And generally the -- only the Chair meets with the person.

The committee meets, formulates the questions, and then they get with Carol, they get a meeting. The Chair meets with that, so they don't take questions from three or four different people. They take them all from the Chair.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. The full committee -- the full subcommittee does not meet with the County people?

MR. NEFF: The County didn't want to meet with groups of people is what we were told. It doesn't have to be --

CHAIR GORDON: It --

MR. NEFF: -- the Chair. It could be a Chair's designate, but it was one person.

MS. MALBRANCHE: And --

CHAIR GORDON: It would see to me that there are two or three -- one moment, Mona -- there are two or three people on the subcommittee and, I mean, we're not asking them to meet with 50 people.

Carol, can you check that out, please?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Last year, you're right, we -- the board was able to meet with the staff. Again, you're -- you are correct.

However the board is -- I think that's what's going to slow us down.

However the committees are meeting to formulate those questions, you know, they have to do so quickly --

CHAIR GORDON: In advance.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Yeah. Because the questions are sent to me, and then I forward it to the director, these are the following items that will be discussed during the meeting, two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

CHAIR GORDON: Right.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: And, yes, that board --

CHAIR GORDON: All right.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- can come.

CHAIR GORDON: Just two or three people on a subcommittee, I don't see why the County can't meet with two or three people at a time.

But, I agree that the questions or topics have to be put together in advance, so the subcommittee has to meet once or maybe twice in advance in order to form their questions or their topics.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Yes. So I guess my question would be organizing these meetings with staff, how -- what's the timeline. Like what's the timeline so I can start developing those meetings.

Because you guys don't meet with me until March again.

MS. ESPINOZA: Oh, we just gave us the timeline, didn't you?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I did --

CHAIR GORDON: Right, but the thing is, if you could set up the --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- but she told me not to schedule them --

CHAIR GORDON: -- meetings --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- because you guys have to meet first.

CHAIR GORDON: -- the --

MS. ESPINOZA: Just schedule them, and then we'll --

CHAIR GORDON: -- the items that we're not meeting as a group, then once the subcommittees know when their meetings are, they can set their subcommittee meetings to form their questions and their topics.

DR. KINIRONS: Could we not just, like, for example, for my committee, Michelle submit questions to Carol, I submit question to Carol? We just both have questions. We don't necessarily need to review.

MS. ESPINOZA: You know, I've done that in the past.

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

DR. KINIRONS: Because then we're not meeting, so it's not a Sunshine thing, but we're getting the questions together, so that way, we have them in time for the -- the meeting with the rep.

And then it stops the need for two. Does that make sense?

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah, we've done that before, because it can't always work out to meet ahead of time. So whatever your questions are --

CHAIR GORDON: No, you can --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- submit them with Carol and then she'll pass them along.

But I guess in an ideal world --

DR. KINIRONS: We should meet, but it's not --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- we should meet. But if you can't --

DR. KINIRONS: -- but when we have so many board meetings on top of these individual --

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

DR. KINIRONS: -- committee meetings, to then schedule individual meetings on top of all that is also going to be very difficult.

MS. ESPINOZA: Exactly.

MR. NEFF: And it depends on the committee, because I know Legislation, to submit a bill, you need to be a legislator.

DR. KINIRONS: Uh-huh.

MR. NEFF: I don't meet with legislators.

DR. KINIRONS: Right.

MR. NEFF: I met with an attorney who told us how the process works.

The County does not per se -- they do have a lobbyist. They push bills, but there's not a person in the County I would meet with on legislation.

So we basically review what the Legislature bills have been put forward, we see those we like, then we ask the Commission, try to put your weight behind these bills.

DR. KINIRONS: Uh-huh.

MR. NEFF: For the next year. Because this year will be already too late before our recommendations which come out in September or something.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

MR. NEFF: So we're basically recommending this bill was submitted it didn't go through, but it's a great bill.

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah.

MR. NEFF: Please get your lobbyist and try to support this legislation.

MS. ESPINOZA: Exactly.

MR. NEFF: And the Miami and Broward legislatures -- legislators appear to be the only ones interested in disabilities.

There used to be a guy in -- in Tampa, and he's moved on.

But it's -- it's finding the right person to talk to. We're just not in a position --

CHAIR GORDON: Yeah, this is the best part.

MR. NEFF: -- to talk to them.

CHAIR GORDON: I believe it was Mona that wanted to ask a question, and I said I'd get back to her.

MS. MALBRANCHE: Thank you so much.

What I wanted to say, in the Transportation Committee the last time --

CHAIR GORDON: Yes.

MS. MALBRANCHE: -- it was myself and Roz. We met with --

CHAIR GORDON: Yeah.

MS. MALBRANCHE: -- we were schedule to meet with the County. We had our -- our questions already prepared. We asked the question, and then we came to the board and told the board what was discussed and how we plan to go about it.

And that's how we went through it.

It didn't take two or three meetings. It just basically took one meeting, to be frank with you, with them.

CHAIR GORDON: Well, when I say have two or three meetings, it depends upon how many people are on the committee and what your questions are.

If you met once with Roz and came up with your questions, that's great.

But if there's three or four people on the committee, it's going to take more than one meeting to come up with your questions.

I don't care how many times you meet. I don't care if you meet in person, on the phone, or how you meet, as long as you can form your questions and go to the meeting with the County people with your questions and try and get some answers.

That's all I'm interested in, is the answers.

MS. MALBRANCHE: Okay. I was -- I guess I was guessing that if you're having a committee with four people, all four people, you would -- you would -- you would have a time that all four people could be there and you'd do whatever you need to do in a two-hour or three-hour block, and then

afterwards, you meet with the County.

I just didn't see that you need two or three meetings just to formulate questions if you -- if you have four people.

I -- I guess I don't see it, but it's okay.

DR. KINIRONS: Well, speaking on behalf of Emergency Management, Carol, you can at least go ahead and --

CHAIR GORDON: Yes.

DR. KINIRONS: -- scheduled ours.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Perfect.

DR. KINIRONS: I give you permission to schedule ours.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Okay.

DR. KINIRONS: Michelle and I will just send you our questions individually to just put together so we don't have to have a special meeting.

MS. ESPINOZA: I mean, I think we should do that for all of them --

CHAIR GORDON: That's fine.

MS. ESPINOZA: -- and then --

CHAIR GORDON: If you could --

DR. KINIRONS: I'm just speaking for mine, since I'm Chair.

MS. ESPINOZA: And I'll speak for mine, too, Employment. I --

CHAIR GORDON: -- this meeting with the County has the questions, and Carol -- and has given them to Carol for submission, that's all I'm interested in.

I don't care if you meet once, don't meet at all, or meet ten times. It's

immaterial, as long as you come up with the questions and we can get some concrete answers --

MS. ESPINOZA: That makes sense.

CHAIR GORDON: -- as soon as possible.

MR. NEFF: Yeah, and I will say --

CHAIR GORDON: That's the only point I'm trying to make.

MR. NEFF: -- a lot of questions don't even have to go to them.

CHAIR GORDON: I'm sorry, say that again, please.

MR. NEFF: A lot of the questions you may come up with, if it has to do with transportation, say, as a group, we may have the internal knowledge to answer those questions before you even go to the County.

DR. KINIRONS: Uh-huh.

MR. NEFF: Like what it takes to get a bus stop permitted, why buses roll by and don't stop and pick up a handicapped person.

They have rules for that. If all the wheelchair space is occupied, they don't stop to pick up another wheelchair. And it's just the bus can't accommodate it. And it -- it sucks if you're --

CHAIR GORDON: That's true.

MR. NEFF: -- the one waiting.

But we could tell them we want more handicap spots on the bus. Ain't going to happen.

MR. STAFFORD: Well, we could tell them that the bus ought to at least stop and tell the poor guy that's --

MR. NEFF: Yes.

MR. STAFFORD: -- on the curb waiting why the bus just passed him by and never said a word.

MS. ESPINOZA: True.

MS. MALBRANCHE: I believe we --

CHAIR GORDON: That would be helpful, Tracy, but --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Okay, so what --

CHAIR GORDON: -- how many bus drivers want to be helpful, is the question.

MR. STAFFORD: Well, you put it in their job description.

MS. MALBRANCHE: I believe --

CHAIR GORDON: I don't think you or I or the entire committee have that power.

MR. STAFFORD: No.

CHAIR GORDON: I wish I did --

MR. NEFF: But --

CHAIR GORDON: -- in some cases, but --

MR. NEFF: -- that --

CHAIR GORDON: -- I don't.

MR. NEFF: -- that's the thing you can -- you can talk with the director.

Their contracts come up every three years. You can plead with the County that the next contract, they put that in there.

A lot of times, you can't change things that are already in the contract,

but you can make sure it's in the next contract.

CHAIR GORDON: Oh, yeah.

DR. KINIRONS: Uh-huh.

MS. MALBRANCHE: May I say something?

CHAIR GORDON: Sure. Go ahead.

MS. MALBRANCHE: As part of the Transportation Committee, we made recommendations that we don't have answers to --

MS. ESPINOZA: Right.

MS. MALBRANCHE: -- as yet.

MR. NEFF: Yeah.

MS. MALBRANCHE: So therefore, I don't think we -- we can just say we're going to make these recommendation or that recommendation.

Some of the recommendation the gentleman just mentioned was part of the last one we just made.

So I think we need to wait for the answers to those before we decide what --

CHAIR GORDON: Well, that's in all cases, because all of the subcommittees had recommendations and we don't have any answers back yet at -- on anything.

Let's move on, if we can.

AGENDA ITEM 6 - BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

AGENDA ITEM 7 - NON-AGENDA/PUBLIC COMMENT/REQUEST FOR

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

CHAIR GORDON: As a board, do any of you, as the members, have anything that it would like to bring up or have allotted time in the future for discussion?

MR. NEFF: In November, we discussed something in general. I don't know if, Carol, you checked on it, but we used to have the -- sort of a seminar or a conference thing on individuals with disabilities. And the County had hosted it for years, and it just quit.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Correct.

MR. NEFF: If we know, what happened?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I am working with someone at the Convention Center to help get an answer for that.

MR. NEFF: Okay.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Yeah. I don't -- I don't think that you guys --

CHAIR GORDON: It is my understanding that there was also some kind of a fair a few years ago. I did not know about it, but there was a fair for individuals with disabilities where all of the County departments were represented and there were, from what I gathered from the person that told me about it, discussions about how the individual with disabilities could go about getting help from the County for whatever their disability was.

I don't know who sponsored that or who put it on, but I would like to find out, and I will try and find out before our next meeting.

I think it's something that should continue.

MR. NEFF: It was called a expo. And the last one we had, I know

Board of Rules and Appeals came in and gave a -- a presentation on how they train their reviewers to look for building accommodations.

And there was other seminar-type meetings. There were little stands outside, you could go talk to people. and that's --

CHAIR GORDON: Right.

MR. NEFF: -- what we're talking about.

What brought it up was Miami just had one a few months ago. It was a great one. And --

MS. MALBRANCHE: In October.

MR. NEFF: -- while -- while we stopped.

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah, that was part of this recommendation packet, I believe, if I remember --

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah, so --

MR. IBACACHE: And what I heard from the organizers from the one in Miami is that 211 was planning on doing something similar in Broward.

DR. KINIRONS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR GORDON: I can find out, because I know the fellow that runs 211. I will try and find that out.

DR. KINIRONS: All right. And what we still have --

CHAIR GORDON: Because I think something like that could be very beneficial to those individuals that need assistance.

MS. ESPINOZA: Okay. So I think we just -- Carol, you're going to submit our recommendations, because that's something --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I am going to --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- we really need --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- read the November 17th meeting --

MR. NEFF: What we talked about.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- because I don't -- I'm not sure if the board is concrete on what was decided.

Because I'm looking through this summary meeting, and we canceled the planning meeting --

MR. NEFF: Yeah, but --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- to --

MR. NEFF: -- I think we --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- reschedule.

MR. NEFF: -- we talked about those, we finalized it and said --

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

MR. NEFF: -- this is it.

DR. KINIRONS: Because I was on a vote --

MR. NEFF: This is it.

DR. KINIRONS: -- before I hopped off. So, I asked, before I hopped -

-

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

DR. KINIRONS: -- off, what vote do we need to do, because I had to go to another meeting.

And I believe it was that vote.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Okay.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah, we --

MR. NEFF: I thought --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I'm just going to -- I'm going to just read over -- I need to, because that's a 86-page document. I'm not sure if you guys read it, because that -- the -- I was going to say the minutes needs to be approved for November 17th.

The dates for this year calendar needs to be approved for 2023.

Those are the -- the events that you guys --

CHAIR GORDON: Yeah --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- need to vote on.

CHAIR GORDON: -- when we get to that, Carol.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Okay.

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah, because we have --

CHAIR GORDON: The -- Carol sent out the dates for 2023 for the meetings.

The next meeting will be March 16th.

Did everybody look over the dates? And I'd like a vote on them, please.

MR. NEFF: Yeah, did -- did we change the starting time? I thought we used to start later?

DR. KINIRONS: We did.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah, we changed it.

MR. NEFF: We did?

DR. KINIRONS: We did.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah, I asked about that.

CHAIR GORDON: We did. At the June meeting, Carol could not get Room 302, so we have to use 301, and we're starting at 12:30 instead of 1:30.

MR. NEFF: Okay. 12:30's better for me, too. I'm glad we did it.

MS. ESPINOZA: Well, yeah. I was reluctant to bring it up, but --

MR. NEFF: I was afraid I was going to show up at 12:30 and everybody was going to tell me, you're an hour early.

MR. IBACACHE: Madam Chair, I have a question.

CHAIR GORDON: Yes, Jorge.

MR. IBACACHE: The annual meeting which was supposed to be held in December, did that get --

CHAIR GORDON: Right.

MR. IBACACHE: -- cancelled altogether or it's going to be made up at a later time?

MS. ESPINOZA: No, it was just cancelled.

DR. KINIRONS: That was cancelled.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Jorge --

MS. ESPINOZA: Oh, you weren't there for the discussion and --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: It was cancelled, but, per the notes, because I'm reading the -- the soft summary version of the minutes, Chair

Gordon recommended cancelling the December meeting and resume this discussion once the 2023 meeting schedule has been finalized. So --

MR. IBACACHE: Let's resume the --

DR. KINIRONS: We need to clarify what "this discussion" means.

MR. IBACACHE: -- recommendations have not been --

DR. KINIRONS: Because there's probably a lot of discussions.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

MR. NEFF: We need the answers --

MR. IBACACHE: -- finalized --

MR. NEFF: -- from last year.

MR. IBACACHE: -- can we use the February for that? Add an additional meeting.

MR. NEFF: What happened, Jorge, since we don't have any feedback on the recommendations from the last two years that we sort of thought we approved in November, that not having those answers back, what were we going to brainstorm.

So --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I think that you guys --

MR. NEFF: -- we just cancelled it and said we'd do it -- we'd get back on track --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- yeah --

MR. NEFF: -- the next year.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- I think that you guys had said that the --

the -- the recommendations could be outdated and you was going to revisit --

MS. ESPINOZA: No.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- that's why I want to read the notes.

MS. ESPINOZA: No, ma'am. I think --

MR. IBACACHE: Also, --

MR. NEFF: It's for planning what will be the next year.

MR. IBACACHE: -- it would be a recommendation for the board --

MR. NEFF: We were just --

DR. KINIRONS: It sounds like the goal was they were going to cancel

--

CHAIR GORDON: Wait a minute --

DR. KINIRONS: -- because we already approved and they were going to take up on that.

CHAIR GORDON: -- I can't understand what's going on.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

CHAIR GORDON: I'm sorry. Please, one at a time.

MR. IBACACHE: Madam Chair, this would be just --

CHAIR GORDON: Go ahead.

MR. IBACACHE: -- a recommendation to the board, since we know that historically your recommendations have sound similar, and the departments feel that we're rehashing the same recommendation, I would recommend to leave the old recommendations as is and this year focus on something new.

MS. ESPINOZA: No.

CHAIR GORDON: I agree with you. We -- have we heard anything back from last year's --

MS. ESPINOZA: No, because --

MR. NEFF: We didn't do them --

CHAIR GORDON: -- recommendations --

MR. NEFF: -- last year.

MS. ESPINOZA: That's what --

CHAIR GORDON: I don't think it was in '21.

Have we heard anything back at all?

MS. ESPINOZA: May I speak to that? I -- I was under the impression when I came to this meeting --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I'm going to go get the minutes.

MS. ESPINOZA: -- that we would -- Carol would have said, yes, I submitted the recommendations and we heard from this person, we didn't hear from this person.

But apparently that's not what happened.

Because at the last meeting, to my understanding, we decided, okay, we were behind -- we got behind due to X, Y, and Z, so we submitted what we had -- or cancelled the December planning meeting because really we didn't have much to plan. We had what our recommendations were, and we need to just move forward and see what kind of feedback we get from the different departments.

So now --

CHAIR GORDON: My question was --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- there's been some miscommunication --

CHAIR GORDON: -- as to I guess Jorge, who was Chair at the time, Carol, or anybody else that knows the answer, did we get any feedback at all from --

MS. ESPINOZA: No, ma'am, because --

CHAIR GORDON: -- the last set of --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- they were not --

CHAIR GORDON: -- recommendations --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- submitted.

CHAIR GORDON: -- that Jorge submitted?

DR. KINIRONS: No, because they were not submitted.

MS. ESPINOZA: They were not submitted. Carol said they were not submitted --

CHAIR GORDON: You don't understand what I'm asking --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- she misunderstood.

CHAIR GORDON: -- and you weren't there, and I'd appreciate if you'd let Jorge answer.

MS. ESPINOZA: Jorge didn't submit anything.

MR. IBACACHE: Madam Chair, --

MS. ESPINOZA: What did he submit?

CHAIR GORDON: Yeah?

MR. IBACACHE: -- what happened in, say, 2000 and -- right before the virus, of course, was that --

CHAIR GORDON: I guess it's ready?

MR. IBACACHE: -- right -- recommendations were submitted, and the response back was that there were -- I'm sorry, by submitting meaning I prepared a cover letter with my signature.

And the response was that the recommendations looked similar, so they were not -- they did not move forward.

MS. ESPINOZA: I'm not sure what he's referring to.

MR. NEFF: '21.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay.

MS. ESPINOZA: '21?

CHAIR GORDON: So we did get a response. That's what I was trying to find out.

MR. NEFF: We had one we submitted, and they threw them back at us.

CHAIR GORDON: Then I strongly --

MR. NEFF: And, again --

CHAIR GORDON: -- would suggest that this year --

MS. ESPINOZA: No, no, we have --

CHAIR GORDON: -- the subcommittees --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- new one --

CHAIR GORDON: -- focus on other things --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- the new, we submitted --

CHAIR GORDON: -- besides --

MR. NEFF: Supposed to submit.

MS. ESPINOZA: But they didn't --

MR. NEFF: They didn't submit it.

CHAIR GORDON: -- the things that were in --

MS. ESPINOZA: We had a plan it was --

CHAIR GORDON: -- the last two sets of recommendations.

MR. NEFF: Well, it's just a --

MS. ESPINOZA: There wasn't really any --

CHAIR GORDON: You have to come up with some --

MR. NEFF: Yeah, same thing with Legislation, we never met.

CHAIR GORDON: -- thing --

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah, exactly. But, we had new ones.

CHAIR GORDON: -- new.

MS. ESPINOZA: I mean, we had --

MR. NEFF: Yeah.

MS. ESPINOZA: -- I think this might have been the only one, but any
ways.

MR. NEFF: We agreed on the wording in November.

DR. KINIRONS: Carol went to go get the --

CHAIR GORDON: But this is off --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- documents.

CHAIR GORDON: -- the subject of what I started. I'm trying to get approval for the calendar as submitted by Carol.

DR. KINIRONS: The only thing I was going to recommend is the December meeting for 2023 is really late in the month, and a lot of people may have potential --

MS. MALBRANCHE: Yeah.

DR. KINIRONS: -- traveling plans. So the -- I was going to recommend potentially trying to move that up, even if it's just a week.

MS. MALBRANCHE: Uh-huh.

DR. KINIRONS: But I -- I know -- know Carol needs to be here to fix -- also put her feedback.

MS. ESPINOZA: I would -- I would want that, too. That week is -- yeah.

DR. KINIRONS: Because that's --

MS. ESPINOZA: It's very difficult --

CHAIR GORDON: If we move it up a week --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- right before Christmas.

DR. KINIRONS: That would be the --

CHAIR GORDON: -- actually, we'll be gone from the 1st until the 12th. I don't have a calendar in front of me. I don't know --

MS. ESPINOZA: You mean the 14th?

DR. KINIRONS: The Thursday the 14th is the week before.

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah, that would be good.

MR. IBACACHE: And so you understand, Hanukkah starts on the 8th, so that may affect some people on the 14th.

CHAIR GORDON: Yes, it will.

MS. ESPINOZA: Wow. Hanukkah starts on the 8th?

DR. KINIRONS: I -- I know all of my friends that are Jewish --

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

DR. KINIRONS: -- that they don't really do a whole lot for Hanukkah when it comes to it.

MS. ESPINOZA: Maybe the first night but not like --

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah, the first couple nights.

MS. ESPINOZA: -- I don't know if that last night is the most --

MR. NEFF: When they blow the horn.

CHAIR GORDON: We can --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- no, it's a different holiday.

CHAIR GORDON: -- and we can discuss --

MR. NEFF: Oh, it is?

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

CHAIR GORDON: -- the December date --

MS. ESPINOZA: Not sure which one, but --

CHAIR GORDON: -- and -- at the next meeting. But --

MR. NEFF: Because --

CHAIR GORDON: The rest of the meetings, through November, are they okay?

DR. KINIRONS: It looked like it.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Yeah.

MS. ESPINOZA: I think it's Rosh Hashanah, can't remember.

MR. IBACACHE: I'm okay.

CHAIR GORDON: Does anybody have an objection --

MS. ESPINOZA: I'm sorry --

CHAIR GORDON: -- to the calendar --

MS. ESPINOZA: -- what was it?

CHAIR GORDON: -- as it stands --

DR. KINIRONS: As it stands and we'll reevaluate December next meeting.

MS. ESPINOZA: Oh. Okay.

CHAIR GORDON: I said through November.

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIR GORDON: We'll discuss December.

MR. NEFF: So I think the way it's supposed to work, our recommendations are done before the September 21st meeting. We vote to send them to Commission in September.

Hopefully then the responses are back in December as we do our planning.

MS. ESPINOZA: Right.

MR. NEFF: We've just never been able to get that done.

MS. ESPINOZA: It's so hard. Yeah.

DR. KINIRONS: I make a **motion** to approve the dates through November.

MS. ESPINOZA: So moved.

CHAIR GORDON: Are there any objections?

Then through November, it is set as Carol has sent it out, and we'll bring up December at the meet- -- the next meeting.

MR. NEFF: Okay.

DR. KINIRONS: Okay.

CHAIR GORDON: Does anybody have anything else that they wish to bring up at this meeting?

DR. KINIRONS: I know she wanted to vote on the minutes, but I think we should not vote on the minutes because they may need to be amended to clarify what happened at the last meeting.

MR. NEFF: And I was going to say --

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

MR. NEFF: -- on Thursday, June 13th, historically, we've gone to the Commission meeting.

MS. ESPINOZA: Uh-huh.

MR. NEFF: They -- they put us at the very front of the calendar after the present -- the little Proclamation. We go up and meet. So it's a lot earlier than 12:30.

DR. KINIRONS: Oh, yeah.

MR. NEFF: It's like --

CHAIR GORDON: I was --

MS. ESPINOZA: Yeah.

CHAIR GORDON: -- yeah, we do. We meet right after that. It's usually closer to 11:30.

MR. NEFF: Yeah, it's usually once we -- we get our pictures taken, we --

CHAIR GORDON: Excuse me, guys.

MR. NEFF: -- we come up here.

CHAIR GORDON: Last year, if I remember correctly, last year -- yeah, we met in the library across the street.

But that meeting was --

MS. ESPINOZA: June --

CHAIR GORDON: -- the June meeting will just proceed --

MS. ESPINOZA: Because it's a Commission meeting.

CHAIR GORDON: -- the Proclamation.

MR. NEFF: They gave us a little thing saying we're good people.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: Yeah, but on here it says Thursday, June 13th.

MR. NEFF: Tentative.

MS. ESPINOZA: Oh, Thursday, tentative?

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: But June 13th is a Tuesday.

MS. MALBRANCHE: June 13 is a --

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: It's a Tuesday.

MS. MALBRANCHE: -- is a Tuesday.

DR. KINIRONS: That might be a typo.

MR. NEFF: Maybe that's why it says --

MR. STAFFORD: That's when the Commission meeting is.

MR. NEFF: -- it a regular Commission meeting.

CHAIR GORDON: That's the meeting with the --

DR. KINIRONS: So it should say Tuesday.

CHAIR GORDON: -- and that's on a date that they set, not us.

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah, it should say Tuesday, June 13th, not Thursday. She probably just had it because Thursdays were all the others.

MS. BITTER-OAKLEY: Okay. Tuesday --

CHAIR GORDON: But that's a date that is set by the Commissioners, not us.

DR. KINIRONS: Yeah.

CHAIR GORDON: So it could be any day of the week that they choose.

MS. ESPINOZA: Okay.

MS. MALBRANCHE: As their Commission meeting date.

MS. ESPINOZA: And Carol's back. Carol, the date for June 13th should be a Tuesday.

DR. KINIRONS: This is how it's written.

MS. ESPINOZA: And then also isn't it more like 11:30 for the Commission meeting?

MR. NEFF: It -- it's Tuesday, the very beginning of the Commission meeting.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Normally, I don't count --

CHAIR GORDON: It's usually -- the meeting itself with the Commissioners in the chambers is 10:30. That's what it's been the last few years. But --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: So that's a Tuesday. Absolutely.

CHAIR GORDON: -- as we get closer to June we can narrow down the time. I don't think that that's even worthy of a discussion now, because it'll change ten times before June.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: And then I -- I did submit the Proclamation request, because last year it was difficult to get on because of the pandemic.

So I did submit it on this morning. So they have to verify the date anyway. That's why I put tentative there.

DR. KINIRONS: And we -- we approved, while you were away, the -- the other dates through the November date.

We want to maybe discuss the December date at the next meeting, just because we're worried of how late in the month, that there could be vacations and stuff.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Great. Uncertain for that. Okay. We'll discuss at the next meeting.

CHAIR GORDON: Anything -- are there any items that any people want to bring up at future meetings, or things that they feel are worthy of

discussion at future meetings?

MR. IBACACHE: Madam Chair --

CHAIR GORDON: Any of the members --

MR. IBACACHE: -- if you're preparing --

CHAIR GORDON: -- have anything?

MR. IBACACHE: -- Madam Chair? If you're preparing --

CHAIR GORDON: Yeah.

MR. IBACACHE: -- an email asking for committee updates and objectives and dates, can we also ask if they would like someone to be invited for the meeting? I would like to hear from the Sunflower Lanyard people again, see how effective that had been. So that would be my recommendation, to see if they can come to one of our meetings and do a presentation again, just to give us updates.

CHAIR GORDON: What was the name of that group, Jorge? I got Sunflower, but I didn't get anything else.

MR. IBACACHE: Well, that -- that it did started with the word Lanyard --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: It's at the top of --

CHAIR GORDON: Oh, Lanyard.

MS. JONES: Excuse me. I thought we had -- may I say something?

CHAIR GORDON: Go ahead.

MS. JONES: I thought we had a -- a contact person for the Sunshine -- for the Sunflower. I thought we had a contact person.

CHAIR GORDON: I have no idea. I was not on the committee when they came the first time, so --

MR. NEFF: We -- we do have a --

CHAIR GORDON: -- I don't know. But I'll speak to Carol and try and find out.

MR. NEFF: -- an airport representative.

MS. JONES: Oh, yeah. I think Carol will probably have it better, because I know she was the one that was trying to talk about it.

Thank you, Jorge, for that. It really needs to be something that we work on. And that's something that I would work on, because that has a -- a big impact on, you know, a large group of people with disability.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: And I do have -- I do have the meeting notes, if you guys want me to read what we talked about about the recommendations.

MR. NEFF: Okay.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: On -- starting on page 32 -- you guys should have them in your email. You can read over them. I'll try to skim through it.

Mr. Neff said, we hope it's going to the Commissioners and then we start -- we know now these are recommended. Then we start on new recommendations for next year, because until we know what happens on these, it may just take some rewording. We want to address it differently way because there was a misunderstanding.

I think -- and I can tell you once that 12 years ago that I made -- I got -
- Ms. Powell said, the same recommendations for like eight years cycle, so I -
- so I think if we know the deadlines, as you suggested, we'll start over and
we can get it ready for that entire year to present in October.

Mr. Neff said, so we can get on the right schedule.

Ms. Espinoza said, yeah, because right now, we're just trying to play
catch up, and it's not catching up.

Ms. Gordon said, it's not working.

Chair Gordon said, no, it's not, I agree.

Is it that we all have some issue attending, myself, even though as
much as I can, but now in time to move forward, and I think -- so we -- what
would happen right now -- okay -- with -- approve these recommendations,
what -- does it go back to the County, does it go to departments.

I said, yes, we send it to Ms. Dorsett, my manager. She sends it to
the -- the divisions.

And John says, it's like following up with the questions.

All right. I'm almost to the point that we made -- Ms. Gordon said, get
the questions back to us.

Unidentified said, back to us.

Ms. Gordon said, it could be months.

Ms. Espinoza, so -- so honestly, I don't know if we really -- I mean,
we're -- we're in November now, so do we really need that planning meeting.

We all said no, to the planning meeting.

Ms. Gordon said, I will get with Carol and she'll start rolling the ball and send out the schedule meeting 2023, and we'll just start again. We'll form committees. We'll go back and forth with the questions and the things we'd like to see changed and the things we'd like to see done, and we'll fill in the vacancies.

And I'll continue -- not saying it now, but in my understanding, I -- I never got any --

DR. KINIRONS: Well, where's the first -- what was the last thing that was voted on before I popped off? Because I helped to make quorum.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I remember that one, and I saw that in the beginning of this. You left in the middle. If I'm not mistaken, it was a 12:30 meeting, because we changed the time.

DR. KINIRONS: Uh-huh.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: And although -- I don't want you guys to be intimidated by the 83 pages. It's really like --

DR. KINIRONS: It's spaced out a lot.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- eight sentences a page.

If you guys could just go over them so we can all know where we are.

We adopted the meeting. I remember that vote, because I saw Ms. --

MR. NEFF: Yeah, I -- I print them out when I'm at work, and I'm mostly working from home --

DR. KINIRONS: Uh-huh.

MR. NEFF: -- and my little printer's slow as Christmas.

(Laughter.)

MR. NEFF: And I'm --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: See, right here, it says, and before it's going to -- we're going to 2023, we're going to have a new set of recommendations.

Hold on one second. Mr. Kahn -- Mrs. Kahn -- Mr. Kahn and Ms. Gordon was talking in that part.

Where are we at? 1:51? They're going to kick us out soon, at 2:00. I think there's another meeting just after. But I'm looking.

If you guys want to discuss anything else so I can -- before I can get the vote, I'll find the vote, on what page we voted on.

DR. KINIRONS: No, I think we just decided we'd hold off on approving the minutes because we want to make sure whatever was decided is properly reflected in the minutes that we're approving.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Okay. It is on page 24.

Gordon: the last meeting, we -- there -- we had, which was not a voting meeting -- I don't remember. I think it was September, but I'm not going to swear it -- we discussed these -- the recommendations. Does anyone have an object to the recommendations as they were retyped.

Ms. Greenberg said, no.

Ms. Gordon: anyone on the video that has any objection.

Dr. said, no objections.

Mona said, I -- I actually would like to make a motion to accept these.

Please do.

I make motion that we accept the recommendations that were proposed in September on this last meeting as read and typed.

Ms. Gordon: the dates of -- of typing is labeled. It's labeled August 21st, 22nd.

Ms. Mona said, August 31st, I know we've been discussing this since May.

Yeah, and you guys all accepted. I will --

CHAIR GORDON: But, Carol, it was --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR GORDON: -- voted on at that time.

DR. KINIRONS: That's what she's saying.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: That's what I'm saying.

CHAIR GORDON: Yeah. So what's the objection to the minutes?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: They --

CHAIR GORDON: In other words, we're trying to get a vote on the minutes, and we're nearing the end of the meeting.

What is the objection to voting on the minutes of the last meeting?

DR. KINIRONS: Well, is the minutes this 86 or is the minutes that we're voting on the summary? Because there's a summary --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: No, the 86.

DR. KINIRONS: Okay.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: The 86.

DR. KINIRONS: As long as it's showing we approved them, then,

yeah. That's -- that's all I wanted to make sure of.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Okay. We were getting a understanding of them being approved and then, at the end of the meeting, you guys saying starting over. There was not clarity on my end.

DR. KINIRONS: Well, then also said that we can get them submitted, so that we can get them submitted.

(Laughter.)

DR. KINIRONS: So then I make a **motion** to approve the minutes from our last meeting.

MS. ESPINOZA: So moved.

MS. MALBRANCHE: And **second**. Mona.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. Any -- I'm sorry, guys. That's why I'm not there. I'm not -- I don't want to spread my germs.

Any objection to the minutes from the last meeting as they were sent out by Carol?

(No verbal response.)

DR. KINIRONS: No.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. Then I assume, Carol, it's a -- a unanimous acceptance.

DR. KINIRONS: And then Carol --

CHAIR GORDON: Our next meeting is the 16th of March, and it should be -- all should be hearing from me before then via email.

Once I get the information I need from Carol, I will put together an

email and send it out.

Jorge, I will speak to Carol about getting somebody from the Barnyard Sunflower group to come to our meeting to speak. I'll try for March. If not, May.

Anybody have anything else? If not, may I have a motion adjourn the meeting, please.

DR. KINIRONS: I -- I just had one more question.

MS. MALBRANCHE: Before you adjourn -- before you adjourn, I would like to at least have some clarification as to now that we've read the minutes and understand them and all that stuff, are we going to submit the recommendation or are we holding off? Because --

MS. ESPINOZA: Please.

MS. MALBRANCHE: -- that has not been clarified for this whole two hours.

MS. ESPINOZA: We're submitting, right?

CHAIR GORDON: From the discussion that was going on at the meeting today, I -- I personally think we should hold off but come up with --

MS. ESPINOZA: No.

CHAIR GORDON: -- some --

MS. ESPINOZA: No hold.

MR. NEFF: No.

DR. KINIRONS: We approved to submit them. We approved to submit them --

MR. NEFF: No hold.

DR. KINIRONS: -- at the last meeting. They're being submitted.

MS. ESPINOZA: They're being submitted.

DR. KINIRONS: There was only confusion as to what -- whether they should be submitted. That's why they're not submitted yet.

But now that Carol's re-reviewed the minutes, she's going to submit them.

MS. ESPINOZA: Thank you.

MS. MALBRANCHE: Thank you.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay.

MS. ESPINOZA: Thank you.

DR. KINIRONS: And then, Carol, my only question is could -- when you submit them, could you re-send out the final submission to the board? Because for the newer members who are now going to be on committees, it would be good to see what we did, so they know what kind of questions to ask for the --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: They have to -- if I'm not mistaken -- and I know we have five more minutes -- Jorge, once I apply -- apply those recommendations to the report -- do the chairmen still look over -- before we --

MR. IBACACHE: The way we worked it out, you know, many years ago, was that you created a cover letter and then you asked me to affix my signature on that cover letter. That gave me the opportunity to go over the

report one -- one last time.

And from there, it was going to go to the Commissioners.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Ms. -- the -- the -- the division.

MR. IBACACHE: Commissioners. That was after it went through all staff.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Okay. So we're on the step of --

MR. IBACACHE: Going to --

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- it goes --

MR. IBACACHE: -- the division for staff, then once you do that, we should meet again, go over their findings, finalize the report again, and --

MR. NEFF: Yes.

MR. IBACACHE: -- affix the cover letter so it can go to the Commissioners.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: So now it's just at the questions are going to the divisions.

MS. ESPINOZA: The recommendations.

MR. IBACACHE: That hasn't happened yet?

MR. NEFF: The recommendations.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: No, sir. That's where we are.

MR. IBACACHE: Okay.

MS. ESPINOZA: Recommendations go to --

MR. NEFF: Yeah.

MS. ESPINOZA: -- divisions.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Commissions are -- the recommendations are going to the divisions.

MR. IBACACHE: Yeah.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Okay.

CHAIR GORDON: I'm glad you know the rules, Jorge.

MR. IBACACHE: My memory still holds up. Thanks for that.

CHAIR GORDON: Well, you were Chair for a long time, and --

MR. NEFF: Jorge is the oldest member.

(Laughter.)

CHAIR GORDON: The longest member of the committee, but he was Chair for a long time. So I've deferred to him a couple of times for questions.

Anyway, Carol, you'll take care of that, please?

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Questions are being submitted to the divisions. Yes, I will make sure --

CHAIR GORDON: Thank you.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: -- that's clear.

MS. ESPINOZA: The recommendations.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: Recommendations.

MS. ESPINOZA: Recommendations, not questions.

DR. KINIRONS: Not questions.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I got it. I got it.

DR. KINIRONS: Okay.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: I want to say it clear so the minutes can get

it.

AGENDA ITEM 8 - ADJOURNMENT

DR. KINIRONS: I make a **motion** to adjourn the meeting.

(Laughter.)

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: The recommendations are being submitted to the departments.

CHAIR GORDON: Okay. I will see all of you in March. Take care.

(Laughter.)

DR. KINIRONS: Thank you.

MS. POWELL-PHILLIPS: No problem. Thank you for that clarity.

All right. So the schedule, yeah. Committee, yeah.

So these are the big things.

(The meeting concluded at 1:59 p.m.)