

NYC Civic Engagement Commission
Tuesday, July 25, 2023
10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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» Good morning!

»» Good morning, everybody!

»» I think we may be waiting for one more person, or are we good to start quorum.

»» Let me see (counting) right now, I think we have 7. If my math is mathing but yeah. Should be joining.

»» Looks like we have quorum, so I think we can start.

»» Yes.

»» Do you want me to handle the PowerPoint?

»» Yes, please.

»» Cool. Thank you so much.

»» Sarah Sayeed: We're going get started. I will call this public meeting to order. And we are live streaming as part of open meeting guidelines. So, I would like to welcome everybody. Anyone also people who might be participating live stream as well as on the call today, thanks so much for taking the time today to be with us and also to the whole team, for helping organize everything I'm hearing today a lot of people were involved for today we have a lot of updates to share with the Commissioner so truly grateful for everybody working

together. So diligently. So, I'm going to as usual go over technical assistance information. Just in case there is anybody who is new on the call. So, for Commissioners your audio is enabled please mute yourself if you're not speaking. And please do keep your video cameras on, if possible. And to everybody this session will be recorded and we welcome you to turn your camera on and if you are really not comfortable with that, that's fine too you can have your camera off as well. All participants who are not Commissioners, are muted on entry. And when we get to the public comment period at the end, we'll allow you to speak, if you're interested to speak during this meeting. And we'll be calling on people in order that they have registered for public comment prior to the meeting then if you haven't signed up and you would like to speak in the public comment section at the end, you can sign up until 12 and you can do that in two ways. One you type your name and affiliation into the chat. To offer public comment or, if you're dialing in not on a computer if you prefer you can also text your name and affiliation to 9175879103.

To offer the public comment. And we'll call on you in the order that we received your name. So, those are just the overview of how we are conducting the meeting. And we do have captioning today, so you can enable closed captioning on your computer. And for members of the public who are with us today, if you haven't already signed up for the news letter, I'm going to, here actually — let me find my chat. There we go. I will drop a link where you can sign up to be on the

news letter list and stay up-to-date with our activities. And then, if you're here as I member of the press please share your information through the chat we would love to connect with you. Our director of communication Intergov will reach out to you to connect. So, without further ado I will go through the attendance to make sure that we have a quorum and just to see who else is here. I'm going to call your name, just say here. Murad Awewdeh?

»» Here.

» Eve Baron?

»» Here.

» Holly Bonner?

»» Amy Breedlove?

»» Here.

» Natalie DeVito.

»» Here.

» Mark Diller.

»» Here.

» Donna Veronica Gill.

»» Here.

» Anthony Harmon.

»» Here.

» — Fernandez?

»» Here.

» Lilliam Perez?

»» Annetta Seecherran?

»» I think Annetta said she couldn't make it today.

»» Anastasia Somoza.

»» Here.

» Mitch Woo.

» Great. Just for everyone again who doesn't know me already my name is Sarah Sayeed. I'm one of the 15 Commissioners appointed to lead the commission and I'm also the Chair Executive Director. I think all the Commissioners have the agenda, the resolution text that we're voting on today. So, we're going to start off just by discussion of our minutes. The minutes should have received the minutes in the email we sent you, does everyone have the minutes, is there anyone who doesn't have the minutes? Okay. Are there any additions or corrections to the minutes that were presented?, if there are no additions or corrections, could I hear a motion to approve the minutes?

»» So moved.

»» Motion to approve the minutes.

» Amazing. (LAUGHTER).

Okay. And is there seconds?

»» Second.

» Okay. All in favor of — should we start to do a roll call vote for all —

»» Not for the minutes.

» Not for the minutes. Okay. (LAUGHTER) .

Yeah, that's true. All right. Anyone all in favor of approving the minutes from June.

»» Aye.

» Any opposed? Say nay okay. The minutes are now approved.

Okay so next we're going to turn to the CEC resolution. And we haven't seen this resolution in some time and for some people, it may actually be your first time that you are seeing it. This resolution was first presented during our very, very first meeting of the commission and that was in May of 2019. And what we discussed in this resolution was how to delegate responsibilities and authority to the Executive Director of the commission. And today we're circling back on this to add additional responsibilities to the Executive Director role. Obviously, this happens to be me now, but we're making these decisions for the future as well in terms of how the commission wants to work with the Executive Director in terms of these functions. So, the law department is also suggesting we remove some language that refers to past actions that were taken. So, that's another point of discussion. And I wondered as a matter of process and maybe people are a lot more familiar with this than me we're look at several different topics in so you can see in the changes to this resolution. I'm wondering for the voting should we discuss on each things separately. (And vote) we'll discuss each item as going through it, but I'm wondering if we want to vote on every item separately. Mark

you have your hand up I cannot see everyone's hand on my screen. So maybe we can just use the chat as like to stack if you have your hand up so I can see both ways. Mark?

»» Mark Diller: Thanks my representation would be to discuss the proposals seriatim, but all in one traunch. Then to inquire if there is anyone that wants to vote other than as a block. If folks — if someone does want to vote differently on one thing than another then we can take separate votes but for efficiency sake let's not assume that conclusion and see what happens after we have the discussion.

» Sarah Sayeed: Okay, so, we're deciding that we will discuss and then take make a decision on how to vote separate or together. If I'm understanding correctly. Okay. Amy?

»» Amy Breedlove: Yeah, Mark thank you for that. I was thinking a little bit differently in terms of how we've run discussions before. If we wait till the end, we might be discussing over again things that we've already discussed going into the vote. So, I was thinking it might be more efficient to have the discussion and vote on each item. So, now we've got a decision because two Commissioners have given two different thoughts.

» Exactly.

»» Either approach if that seems — to others let's do that is.

» Should we take a vote on this, we need to make a motion on vote on how we're going to do this or? Just move forward?

»» My personal view this — how we vote and how we call a vote is

in the discretion of the Chair.

» Okay.

»» But yeah.

» Okay. Great. So, we're going to move forward and we'll just take a vote for each section. Personally, I think that the topics are kind of different, they are sort of different from each other, so, let's see how this goes. Okay. So, the first part we're discussing is the work around the democracy NYC initiative. This addition is calling for reporting to the body of Commissioners about the democracy of the NYC program. Which you know was merged into the commission executive order. This resolution is asking the Executive Director to act on behalf of the commission and to coordinate with the chief democracy officer on programming and implementation of democracy NYC and to report to the commission regularly and respond to comments from Commissioners.

So, would like to ask if there are any questions or comments about this addition? And again, Amy is your hand up from before?

»» Yeah. I just have a question and that is, is the chief democracy office, is that position in the Charter?

» Sarah Sayeed: It is not.

»» Amy Breedlove: Each Mayor forms their own administration, so having the position of chief democracy officer might not be in the next administration. Is my only thought.

» Okay, are there other, is there a response to that or other

considerations on this?

»» Murad Awewdeh: I think the contention is, like the chief democracy officer is a discretionary appointment position. I would just say or relevant — leadership position within the commission. Whoever is like staffing.

»» I would agree with that except I think I would use the word equivalent rather than relevant.

»» I agree with that, I would call that equivalent.

»» Yeah, that makes sense.

» So, the proposal is to add coordinate the chief democracy officer or equivalent. To develop and implement initiatives? Yes? Okay.

»» Yes.

» And then are there any other comments on the remainder of it report to the commission regularly on such initiatives respond to the commission's comments then if any in response to such reports. I think we've been just sharing out program reports as we go along. So, — okay. So, we're proposing that this section, section 8, add language it should say coordinate with the chief democracy officer or equivalent develop and implement initiatives to be undertaken to the end. And so, just to go along with what I was saying before, could I have a motion to approve this section to the resolution?

»» Motion to approve this section with the addition.

» With the edit.

»» Yeah.

»» Second.

»» Second, yeah.

» Sarah Sayeed: All in favor?

»» Aye.

» Any opposed? Okay. So, that this particular section 8 is approved.

Now we're going move into section 9. So, this section —

»» Point of order madam chair.

» Yes.

»» When we take a vote we probably should follow the protocol calling for abstentions and refusals I know it's a pain.

» Thank you are for that remainder. Any absentions going back? Okay. We will report no abstentions.

Abby is making a note for that in the meeting as well. Yeah, thank you.

Okay. So, in the next section, we're going to be discussing the PB projects. So, again I wanted to just contextualize this little bit more for people who maybe weren't on the last public hearing. We're talking about how the commission will decide the final projects and in this next section, we're looking at delegating the authority of this decision to the Executive Director. So, — sorry let me just check. What we're seeing here is making a final selection among recommended local projects, subject to the participatory budgeting process. Where specifically the commission is authorized by the Mayor to make these selections and to report to the Commissioner,

commission on which local projects were selected to receive funding. So, to discuss this little bit more Abby with you go to the next slide? I just wanted to remind everyone about where we left off with the public hearing. In the public hearing we approved a rule that decides overall how we're running the PB process in that rule it talks about how we're going to tabulate total number of votes cast for each local project.

Then the commission retains final authority to select which projects will receive funding from the commission.

And in making the selection we have to consider which projects receive the largest number of votes. And we also need to keep in mind things like, how this project, like what kind of resources it might require, and where it requires participation of city agencies. We need to obtain the agreement of the agencies in making a final determination to select these local projects. And where local projects relates to area of expertise the city agency the commission will inform the agency of such project selection. And of course, we have to ensure in selecting these projects that the aggregate cost of all of these projects combined cannot exceed the total amount allocated or appropriated in the budget for these projects. So, going back, Abby if you go back to the previous slide. So, here we are just discussing whether or not to delegate the authority to the Executive Director and staff for selecting the final list of projects.

So, are there comments or questions about this addition? Is there

something in the chat.

»» Sarah point of clarification.

» Yeah.

»» So what I'm hearing is, it was a vote by the commission to approve and now, you're suggesting that it is the Chair that makes the final list of approval, is that correct?

» Yeah. So, if you go back Abby you can flip again. In the bigger rule for how this process is run, it says, part of the reason why we landed here is because if you recall, the authority to select projects as it is written in the Charter, belongs to the Mayor. And that authority is described in our chapter of the Charter as well as section 225(a). Which is like the budgetary duties of the Mayor. And because I think the writers of this section assumed that most of the projects we would be voting on the job capital projects and capital appropriations are decided by the Mayor. So our process isn't like that. The process we're running now currently anyway has a set side amount of expense money. And so, rather than having the Mayor decide every single project, though we got a letter from the Mayor delegating the authority to the commission. So, you all remember this. Right? So just make this decision. And in today's amendment to the resolution, what we are deliberating is whether this body of Commissioners wants to delegate the responsibility to tabulate the total number of votes and decide the final projects to the Executive Director. Does that work, does that explanation help? Okay. Mark?

You put your name in the chat?

»» No we're good, thanks.

» Okay. Abby you can go back to the other one again. Yeah. So, does anyone have any considerations about this amendment? That we can discuss now?

»» Sarah I didn't raise my hand this is Don, I'm sorry.

» Donna please.

»» Donna Veronica Gill: My question with that particular section it says for the Executive Director, but should it also include the staff? Your staff? Because it seems that it becomes a Herculean action where you are the one making the total decision and no one is assisting you and then that leaves you open to scrutiny, because they are like oh, this is all what Sarah wants.

That's what it appears to be, to me.

»» Mark Diller: If I may.

» Sorry yes, please Mark.

»» Donna I completely understand where you are coming from I was actually thinking about whether we should cross-reference to the other resolution. And at end of the day, there needs to be one person making decisions. I have every confidence that the Executive Director will employ the staff in order to reach those conclusions. So, the first part of it is does all of this fall on the shoulders of one person. No, of course that person can delegate, and I don't think the rules is anything differently the second part who will get on the hot seat

if they approve selling off Staten Island or some kind of crazy controversial thing and the answer to that is yeah. Being an Executive Director of an agency, brings with it the possibility that there will be controversy over decisions made. So, I don't think there is any avoiding that. Other than not to do this and to drag the poor Mayor into make the PB decisions which I don't think is efficient. So I think we're — you've raised good points but I think that, I think that the rule covers them to the extent that they can be covered.

» Sarah Sayeed: Thank you Mark, Donna I put into the chat there's before we don't have it on the screen today, but at the beginning of this resolution, it does talk about well the Chair is serving as the Executive Director and has, as a responsibility to employ a sign and supervise to these, the employees that are needed to carry out the commission's mission. So, I think that I certainly — do not have the ability to, I don't have the — yeah, I would definitely need staff to help with this, cannot do it on my own at the end of the day as the ED I'm going to be responsible, for sure. Eve?

»» Eve Baron: Thanks. I'm just wondering if anybody is feeling like this needs a little bit more explanation about why there would be, why, we would need to have the Executive Director make the decisions if it's not just based on plurality of votes. If we need just to have a little bit more explanatory portion to it. Or if it speaks for itself maybe there is introduction or preamble that explains that further. But, just in and of itself is why do we need to do this when we know

the projects will be selected because they got the most votes. 2.

»» I need that question to respond to eve.

»» Well I had a comment and it does kind of dove tail off of Eve.

So, as I understand it, it is not just the votes, but it's the ability of the agency or the organization to execute what has been voted in.

So, there is a layer other than just the straight winning of the most votes, it is feasibility issue. So, I wanted to bring that forward,

I guess my question surrounds the body of the commission and the

Commissioners who represent different boroughs and borough

presidents and city council as well as the Mayor and should we not

have some sort of reflective say in this deciding of feasibility

should that discussion come up. I guess that's my question is, where

the commission and the Commissioners play in this role.

»» Sarah Sayeed: Thank you for that Mark?

»» I guess my interpretation of this is that we've already passed

a resolution that speaks to how the decision on what projects get

funded is made. And we had a good debate about what elements should

go into that and indeed it is not simply counting votes, because there

were feasibility, and mission appropriateness considerations that

went into that. Whatever thoughts we may have had going into that

discussion we've now had that discussion and we've passed that

resolution I'm not inclined to revisit it. As I understand this

resolution, it is simply to, simply a mechanism by which we implement

the other resolution. So, the deal is that CEC has figured out how

it is that we should make the funding decisions, but the glitch is, that it's the Mayor, not us who should be doing so. So, this, the purpose of this resolution is simply to delegate from the Mayor to the CEC that responsibility. Which in turn then invokes the previous resolution that we've been talking about and how that all works. So, while it might be one stop shopping if we were to incorporate the two resolutions into one document so that there's one place to look, that hardly ever is the result in rulemaking. In part because it gets cumbersome. In part because like this, they are done seriatim instead of all at once. So I'm not troubled by the sort of 35,000 feet approach to this tax because there is already adopted the other protocols and considerations. I will shut up now.

»» Sarah Sayeed: That is helpful, yeah, I mean, I think in the other, Abby you can toggle back to the other screen in the other screen, it doesn't really lay out like you're saying, Mark, how exactly we'll go about implementing this. Right. And there isn't a person here in this approved PB rule that says that it charged with just making sure this happens. So that's one thing. And we could have added the Executive Director like that could have been one way to do it, just make it part of the rule. I think that this other way, I don't personally I don't think there is in this other way, feels like it's a little more coherent with the duties of the ED, if that makes sense. So, these are my own thoughts on it. Does anyone have other feedback?

»» I think given Mark's clarification and also what you provided,

I would call, what is it called, question now, Mark, or can I make a motion? Call the question —

» I think we can consider the entirety not this screen but the other screen.

»» Oh, you can go back, Abby, sorry.

»» So I think we can consider that to be a motion already made before us, and we're taking it piece by piece but it is still a motion before us, therefore procedurally, we've decided or the chair decided to vote independently on each of the items therefore calling the procedure a correct procedural step, you don't need a second to call a question but I endorse that thought.

» Okay.

» Sarah Sayeed: Okay, what is that, are we then voting I'm sorry.

»» Mark Diller. Now it would fall to the Chair to call the vote.

» Okay. I was telling myself I really need to sit through more parliamentary procedure meetings for giving our community board members.

»» Are you having trouble sleeting at night is there some insomnia issue we should be curious —

» Yeah this explains why I've been having trouble sleeping, all the memorizing Robert's rules of order. (LAUGHTER).

Okay. So, let's vote on the addition of section 9 to this resolution. Could I please hear a motion.

»» I think you can just call the vote.

»» You can call the vote, it doesn't need a motion. We called the question so if anyone wanted to question it they could, no one is questioning it so you can go ahead with the vote.

» Okay, may I hear — a motion to approve?

»» I think what you want is votes to approve.

» Okay, all in favor of approving this section?

»» Aye.

» Any opposed? There's no — no nay, are there any abstentions? Okay. No abstentions so we will approve this section. And then the final section is actually there's another thing after that. So section 10, implement and report to the commission on any additional functions or mandates that may be assigned to the commission and are not otherwise set forth in this resolution. So, this would cover any other things that the commission is like for example, a good example of this is our assignment to run the tree Neighborhood initiative with a 33 coalitions across the city. Another example is that there are for example, chief efficiency office is running an initiative, we are tasked with many could go up with projects around improving our efficiency, so things like that, they would report out to you. Any discussion on this?

»» Seems pretty straightforward I would call to question, if that's all right with Commissioners.

»» Sure.

» So, since I'm not seeing any chats, anything in the chat about that,

so we will just move to vote then. All in favor of adding item 10, say aye.

»» Aye.

» Any opposed? Any abstentions? Okay, great. So we are, good for number 10.

In the last red highlighted text we're deleting something that was added before. And this revolves around the recruitment appointment of members to the participatory budgeting and language assistance advisory committee, that was established in the Charter. Those two committees are required in the Charter and to, we have added to this resolution language that says that the Chair, sorry the Executive Director is delegated to recruit an appointments. So, what this is doing is the law department said we can delete this, it is just ratification of past actions it doesn't need to be here. Does anyone have comments on this?

»» Question.

» Yeah.

»» Did we vote on the red language to adopt it at some other time?

» Yes. And the reason why that happened is because, I'm going to pull up, sorry just going to — it was because what happened was, we were so focused on just moving some of the deadlines that we had, and we ended up appointing members of the PB advisory and the language and access advisory. And we did that as an office, and we didn't get, we didn't consult with you on that. So, you had to like ratify the

actions that the staff took and that's why that is in there. But then, to address this issue of it's again like how do we implement the stuff we're charged to do. Right. So, to address this problem of like okay, we have lots of applications for each advisory committee we need to develop a review process and approve people and appoint people. We added to here I put it into the chat something that comes before this highlighted section that just says, the Executive Director can recruit any members of the BP and language assistance, the advisory committee establish established pursuant to the Charter. So, to this, this would be —

»» Mark Diller: To summarize, if I can repeat back to summarize and understand. We previously did two things. One is we appropriately delegated to the staff to the Executive Director and the staff, the power to do these things that are required by the Charter. And then we retroactively approved previous decisions taken prior to that authorization.

» Correct.

»» So, why are we rescinding that now, why are we rescinding the ratification.

» It was just law's recommendation I don't know what others think?

»» So, is it simply that it wasn't required?

»» I think it's not needed is what I'm understanding.

» Yeah.

»» Okay. So, here's — now I'm going offer a comment please. If we

did something more than was required, but it is not inconsistent with our understanding of the rule and of the enabling statute above it, I would leave the devil alone because I would be concerned that by rescinding the ratification, we are expressing that we have, we, the commission, or the Commissioners have a different view now than we did whenever we approved this. Of that ratification. It suggests that we now disagree with one or more of the actions that were ratified back in the day. So, I would leave it alone, rather than vote to remove it. That would be my preference. If it is the will of the commission to actively rescind this ratification, then the way that that would work is this would become item 11. And it would have to say, that the Commissioners today hereby rescind the clause X of the resolution adopted on whatever date it was, which provided, then you put this. That would be the way in which to eliminate this. But my first thought is leave it alone. There is no harm in approving something that doesn't require our approval. And I fear harm in taking an unnecessary step for, because it may connote something we don't intend to say. It makes less work for everybody. Connote.

»» Amy Breedlove: I would go with my fellow Commissioner, Mark over the legal department on this one. And take his lead on how to handle this.

»» So would I.

» Sorry I didn't hear that?

»» No I said I agree with Mark on this issue. Because like he said,

if we ratify, if we did more than we were supposed to, and now we want to take out something that we've already done, it looks fishy. I mean, for the law department, it is more efficient if it's taken out, but for our purposes, if it remains, and we've done more than we should have, that's fine, that means that we're working in conjunction with the Executive Director and his staff. So I don't see removing language which, was at the point of when it was, it was ratified was necessary.

» Sarah Sayeed: Okay. Yeah, I mean it actually, I guess it also points to like the historical note that we did amend it, and I can't recall if this particular ratification, it must have been December 2019. Trying to recall what we amended. What was the third amendment. Can't remember now. So, it sounds like.

»» Sarah as I remember, we were, it was all about deadlines, so you had mentioned that previously. So I think, — we were changing things because of deadlines that the commission needed to meet, that was my memory of why we were making those changes.

» Sarah Sayeed: Yeah, I think that the third thing, now that I'm remembering is, yeah, the submission of plans initiatives, it was like reports, right. We were concerned about the reports that we had to submit.

»» Right.

» Okay. So, trying to move forward on this. Should we just — should I call for a motion to approve this particular section? Or —

»» No, because first of all this is not phrased as an actionable item.

» Like a deletion, okay.

»» Well no, if there were a point 11, that says — we're following resolution is hereby rescinded, then there would be something you could vote on. But if it would help you, I can offer a motion to, not to rescind the prior the problem is I don't know where this came from, when it was I would move that we not adopt the representation that we rescind the language represented in red and some someone can fill in the date and time is that helpful.

»» Yes I think it would help.

»» I hereby move that we decline to rescind the ratification expressed in the red language on this page. And someone please fill in the date and section number of the prior regulation that did so. And I would ask for a second.

»» Seconded.

»» Second.

»» Unless there is debate we can call to question.

»» Call to question.

» Sorry I just need to be clear, in this you're asking that we add the date that this happened? And the section it's referring to.

»» So, what you want to do is cite the place where this language occurred so that somebody reading the resolutions that were voted upon today's meeting will know exactly what language it is, that I'm pointing to. Because future generations are not going to say oh, the

red language. Which is what made my resolution to, because I don't have the resolution in front of me.

»» Mark is pointing out, this is just lifted from somewhere. We don't know where it is lifted from. So, it needs to be cited where this occurred and that needs to be cited.

» Well it is actually it's not in the way that it is written it's currently just there as it is at the end.

»» What — it's there at end of what, that's the thing.

»» Right in a deposition transcript at trial you have to have a reference a written reference, you know — this is what if, if I'm not mistaken mark, this is what mark is requesting at the moment we're all able to see on the screen some red language and 45 years from now, when the future generations look at this meeting, they may not be able to read this red language so the ask is, that this transcript reflect this actual red language reference. Assuming there is no such thing as a video screen in the future, correct Mark.

»» Exactly right.

»» What I'm hearing from Sarah is that, Sarah is this correct, after number 10, it appeared and be it further resolved without an 11?

» I'm actually just going to look at, what is on our website if you just give me a moment and then.

»» That's smart.

» Yeah. I don't even — okay I don't even I don't think I have the right document up. This may be a problem with our website update.

»» Why don't we try and — a motion.

» Oh, wait I found it. Yes, I found it. Okay let me put the link into the chat so you can all see. It is genuinely like right at the end.

»» So, Mark it appeared exactly like this. So, after 10, it said and be it further resolved. Without any marking.

» So, do you want me to share my screen on this, would that be helpful?

»» Yeah we saw it for a second when you had it up.

» Oh, okay. Let's just Abby can you give me screen sharing privilege.

»» Hi you should be able to share screens.

» Can you all see this? So this is the one from —

»» I mean like see it but I can't read it, it's never going to be big enough for me to read.

» Oh, sorry.

»» If the language can be pasted into a chat.

» I can.

» So where it left off the last section on here, before today was submit prepare and submit reports. And you are going to have to see this again.

»» I'm writing in the chat what I think the motion should read.

» Okay. Thank you.

»» Thank you Mark I think it needs to be a new motion, a different phrasing.

»» I'm going to stop sharing.

»» Leave it up.

»» Natalie if you want to copy and drop it in the chat so she can read it out.

»».

»» I'm noticing also here in number 7, there's a similar action that was taken in reference to the reports. Because we submitted reports and it says the commission hereby ratifies and approves any reports by the can Chair to public officials prior to the date of the —

»» Law department didn't recommend we rescind that, right.

»» I don't think so. May have just missed that.

»» The motion just got simpler, I'll write it again.

»» I would take that as number 7, wouldn't you Mark, why would they have it further resolved out of number 7, shouldn't it just be part of number 7.

»» I think, I can solve it simpler than that. Motion how is this (READING FROM TEXT).

Does that work?

»» Can you say it again, sorry, motion to.

»» It's in the chat motion to — motion to decline, sorry. Motion to decline to rescind provisions of the resolution adopted by the commission on September 30, 2020.

»» Mark that was the only resolution adopted on that date as far as you can tell.

» As far as I can tell, yes. I mean, what I'm doing is, I'm looking at what the chair has put on the screen. And it is dated September

30, 2020, it has several provisions. And as the chair pointed out there are two that actually ratify other actions by the staff or by the Executive Director. And I think it's a little silly to say we're not going to rescind something, but, if it helps the Executive Director to speak to the law department this is the will of the commission is, will of the Commissioners as I'm proposing it we leave that resolution as it is even if it is the case that it does more than was actually legally required to do.

» Yep. Thank you. Now we've exhausted each other if not the subject.

»» Now my camera view moved to the right. You will see my side-view as I'm look at your faces so I'm going to stop sharing —

All right. There we go. I see the motion now it's declined to rescind the provisions for the resolution document. Okay. So, the motion.

»» I would second the motion.

» All in favor?

»» Aye.

» Any opposed? Any abstentions? Okay. So, hearing only approvals we will go ahead and approve, or approve the motion.

»» To decline to rescind, sorry.

»» Sorry Sarah, we voted I just have one question. As Natalie pointed out, it comes at the bottom of 7. What we're talking about, so we're saying the resolution of September 30, whatever do we need to just include Section 7 so that people know exactly where it's coming from. Even though it's not part of Section 7, but it is in that area?

»» As far as we can tell it is the only resolution that was approved on that particular date, so the reference is a fixed reference in time that can be, it can be referred back to, anybody or future generations or what have you.

»» I believe that this is being kicked back to the legal department and since they are the ones that wanted this to be done, they are they'll come back to us with something. So, I think let's leave the motion as it stands and we've approved it and send it into them.

»» Yeah, can probably just be put back where it was, right after 7 seems like continuation of 7, but — I will talk to them about it.

We just got through a really focus discussion on this resolution. Okay. Thank you so much everybody. And now we can turn to, I think, a program updates, right? And for that, it's always great to have the team on the call to update everybody so, Abby, you can start sharing your screen again. And we're going to be going through a bunch of things with you all and the team we'll take turns. Sharing information with you, so, the first update is going to be about where we are with the first our first ever citywide participatory budgeting program.

So, Benjamin.

»» Yeah, you can hear me, right.

»» Ben Solotaire: So, yeah we have finished the first full year, first full cycle of the people's money it was very exciting. We obviously, just talk about the vote phase. Helped us plan for and execute, of

course, this is reminder that ran —

(AUDIO INTERRUPTED) .

»» We can't hear you Benjamin. Still can't hear you. I don't know if it's just me, can anyone else hear.

»» I can't hear him either.

»» No, I can't hear either, he went on mute.

»» Doesn't show like —

»» Now we can hear you.

» You can hear me?

»» Yeah.

» That's weird, I unmuted it before you introduced me, sorry.

»» Ben Solotaire: Sorry, I will start at the beginning again. So, yeah we are here to talk about the voting phase we completed first full cycle of the people's money it is very exciting. As many of you helped with the voting phase. Throughout the process, votes ran from May 10 to June 25, we had digital outreach, you can vote online, paper ballot outreach across the city utilizing community partners, libraries, many partners can get as many people to help to vote in this process high level ballots cast you can see there the borough ballot. We had the tree Neighborhood ballots and borough ballots, total of 25, 339 digital and 85,032 paper ballots for total of 110, 371. For the Neighborhood ,13,584 digital,84,289 paper ballots for total of 97, 873 ballots cast in the Neighborhoods for total ballots, 208,244 congratulations to everyone out on the field, our staff and

staff of all the partners input you all gave into giving that thought. Pretty hefty lift. Are there any questions about that?

But we can go on. That did result in the funding of 48 total programs. Just a reminder that there is 13 programs throughout the borough as you can see the number of programs and their individual funding, then of course each one of the program per our tree Neighborhoods; reviewing winning projects, the ones we'll fund, obviously mental health was a major issue that is, all for youth. For families, job training, was really a higher level of interest, education, both for in school and for older people. Food insecurity, four projects there that is the number of projects that fall into those categories health and well-being through housing assistance. Education and — of course immigrant rights, sanitation, intergenerational programs so. The wide range of it, really heavy emphasis on mental health and education and jobs. So, we'll be rolling out those, will be selecting all of those final organizations to implement these programs over the next couple of days. Under way of contracting, working on fulfilling what exactly the programs will be over the next week or two. Everybody we can actually remember we had over 200 applications, 260 applications for these programs. So, there has been a lot to review we really are happy with some of the organizations that will be implementing these. And then the next.

Just a reminder that we along with our partners we went out our staff went out to these flagship events, picked one in each borough instead

of trying to hold our own event we decided to work with establish institutions across each borough to help get out the vote. These are the five we went to the Bronx. Cultural festival Queens market Staten Island family fun day and museum Mile. That is in Brooklyn. You're all familiar with the people's bus this is Tippy, the people's money monster, an amazing puppet, creation, whatever you want to call it artists and residents. Park had in all of these locations we had the vote tables set up prize wheels we had an amazing turnout really quite the draw. Wherever it went. Tippy was a focus of attention. It did not drive this way, just to remember we would park and get it dressed up. You can't tell here, the eye brows, the mouth the eyes all moved, the eye brows and mouth moved from the puppeteer. People would go in at museum mile there were lines whole time for people to go in and check it out so it was a huge hit.

»» Were there any questions on anything related to the PB program? Good? Awesome. Then we can go next to Kathleen Daniel with Democracy NYC.

»» Good afternoon, everyone. Can everyone hear me.

»» Kathleen Daniel: Okay. Great. My microphone and I don't always get along. So, we were able to secure funding we were funded late in the season. And very grateful for that. In May, approximately late April May we were funded, first ever stop to drop campaign with democracy NYC we launched or June primary election voter and

activation campaign. So, it was multi million dollar campaign, multi lingual multi-media, grass roots focused on stopping drop between voter registration and activation. This was a very strange election cycle it is, it was triggered by redistricting where we had only the council members up for reelection and only those being primaried, so you had less than 50% of the actual council up for reelection and being challenged by someone in their own party. And in addition, to that, we had an anomaly there were no primary races at all on Staten Island. And so, in addition to this being the second ever ranked choice voting race we also then this had other races for a judge of the civil court and in two boroughs challengers, so, produce a primary, for district attorney. This was a confusing race for the electorate. So, I'm really happy that even though, we had very low turnout overall, approximately 5%, of eligible voters came out to vote. But, we got them out to vote. So, what it we do, the campaign focused on single prime voters these are registered voters who only voted in one primary election, since 2019.

And we focused on true rank choice voting races across five different council districts. Two in Brooklyn then one in Manhattan, Bronx and Queens again there were no primaries in Staten Island. We focus on five primary districts in those boroughs and we chose them based on the number of primaries in that district. The areas with more than 2 candidates because even though it was ranked twice, twice voting some only had two candidates. We looked where there were the most

number of candidates then we looked for where there were new districts. For example, council district 43 in Brooklyn newly drawn lines can look for where language communities were where there were language communities or special populations and what we enjoyed this year we were able to really focus on where there were races, primary elections for multiple parties in the same district. So really had an opportunity to enjoy true bipartisan work by having both parties two parties at play at the same time, which gave us a larger swath of voters to communicate with. Also we had secondary districts where we had our limited outreach, where they had ranked choice voting races with two candidates or more.

So what did we do. Here the campaign details we had a campaign about 1.1 million dollars we put into advertising with a focus on ranked choice vetting of course, rank your vote, know your rights, to identify translators, of your own within the confines of the law or avail yourself of free translation provided by the NYC commission we did social media, ads focused on — social media, printed in Spanish and we went direct to voter outreach and funded five different community based organizations to be the validators for us in the communities to the tune of 10,000 dollars each to assist us in voter education and getting out the vote. Then we had a massive paid canvassing operation including 100 students that formed a CUNY democracy core 30 of them multi lingual fellows we had one student spoke 6 languages amazing students, to get out to vote and increase

activation, we had 70 students on the door knocking on doors making phone calls we conducted 6 different citywide days of action we had multi language teach ins each one could reach one and each one could teach one about the importance of voting and ranked She completing then had volunteer program we partnered with New York City's service spread love campaign. Where did we do all of this. So you're seeing two charts here, one where the five primary focus districts. That was council 41 in Bracklin, Council 43 in Brooklyn you see you have Republican and democratic primaries at play, Bronx council 13 both Republican democratic races Manhattan district 9, Queens district 23 then we had the secondary focused districts as well.

And what happened, so, while we're still calling our results, some preliminary numbers, we made over 100,000 phone calls in our phone banks run by some of our paid canvassers and volunteers and our partners. We sent out over half a million text messages and this was peer to peer texting, not a last text where we were using hustle to actually communicate with voters and ask them if they had a voting plan are they going out to vote they minuted back with us. We knocked on over one-hundred thousand dollars and this was very condensed targeted program. We wish we had more time our funding came in so late. But we still made it to over one-hundred thousand doors and our goal was to make people sick of seeing us, so they would go out and vote. Many said okay you're back. Yes, I'm going to vote. No I'm not going to vote and here's why. And so, the door, the diary of what

happened at the doors is very interesting. And it was great fodder for us for future strategizing. We put up over 80,000 dollar hangers when I say we, I mean our paid canvassing operation, I mean our community based partnerships, as well as our tree coalition partners put out door hangers the day before and the day of the election. So there was no escaping the information. And we garnered over 2000 commitment cards, this was New York voters, signing on the dotted line and making a commitment to go out and vote for the primary. We funded 5 different community based organizations strictly do you to electoral — we had one hundred CUNY on the ground and over 6 hundred shifts of 2 to 3 hour apiece of volunteers that was tremendous because New Yorkers came out and said we care about this we're going to help with this effort because New York can't be weak on anything. Since when was that okay. So, what happens next. What we're looking forward to is when more data comes in, for example, the post certification or for the election, the board of elections will update its voter files and what we will do is go through that, we know every voter that we contacted, because remember, we spoke to single prime voters. A traditional campaign will speak to triple prime voters the people that consistently come out and vote. We did the reverse. We wanted to speak to people who dropped from voter registration to activation. Only voted in one primary and in a number of years we wanted to get them to stop the drop literally. And so in the coming months, we're going to be calling through that data every commitment

card, every phone call, text message looking at our list and seeing, of the voters we accounted, of the voters we reached out to, how many of them actually went polls and stopped the drop we're really excited about that. We're looking forward to this year, what may be this was the year maybe 3 elections, because the state may win their bid to move the presidential primary to April we're going to be reaching out to you, and enlist your help as we determine why people have dropped from the roles to the polls and help voters get out to vote.

» Sarah Sayeed: Thank you so much. This work was phenomenal. So, really exciting and Kathleen did an amazing job just managing a lot of things that happened in a very short condensed timeline. So, congratulations and appreciation to you and the team for everyone who was involved in this activity did great work. Anyone, anyone else want to ask any questions about this section before we move to the next program? Have a comment? I see some good comments in the chat.

»» There's a question in the chat by someone who is not a Commissioner so I will ask the question. When will the winners be announced on the website? The PB winners?

» Great question. I think we're looking to get that out this week. Anyone want to comment?

»» Yeah. Thanks Sarah I think we're working through the technical logistics getting it up on the website in a way that is accessible

and visually easy to follow. But we expect hopefully to do that by the end of this week.

» Great. Thank you!

» Thank you! Okay. So, we can move to the next update then. Poll site language assistance.

»» I'm on the call —

» Okay. JP. Introduce yourself as well. Because I think this may be the first time Commissioners are hearing from you.

»» Yes it is so my name is JP Wojcichowski. I'm the language access coordinator the reason you haven't heard of me is because I just started in May. So, it is lovely to meet you all I will talk a little bit about our poll site language assistance program.

So, for this primary, we served one hundred total poll sites in the Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens according to methodology so we served 25 early voting sites. On the 24th. 25th of June we also had Yiddish I believe on the 23rd that is a day not listed. Also provided services for that day as well on election day we provided interpretation services for 75 sites across the three boroughs listed above.

» Here we have the breakdown to language. If you take a look Russian is our top language with 48 sites. We have a lot of sites in southern Brooklyn with Russian interpretation services. So, this is kind of where we're at right now. We're still compiling numbers as to the number of voters we served in this election that is something that

we'll have in the future. If you notice some of these sites may not add up to one hundred because we do offer some sites with multiple languages. That is all according to the CEC methodology.

» Thanks JP anyone have any questions on poll site language assistance? Okay we can go to community boards.

»» Okay with you hear me? Hello.

» Yes we can hear you.

»» Good. Sorry.

»» We did a lot of trainings this last couple of months. This is from January through June. They are listed here we have several disability trainings, working with MOPD. We had association Neighborhood housing and development doing work shops land use and equity. We had HPD doing some really great work shops on their fair housing and affordable housing policies and programs, parliamentarians of New York which Sarah, you're welcome to attend any time. We'll hold some from the office. Also, duty series, we had one special one the Brooklyn's PD office asked us to coordinate for Brooklyn members on program analysis, which was done by Professor mark Johnson from the new school. Very good feedback on them trying to make sure we get as many board members included as possible there is still some district managers that don't send out notices but we've been developing a list to send directly to board members that attend, which has helped, we experimented with different timings holding some of

the work shops at noon. As well as after work, which proves successful. Really they are as well attended as any others we're working now, we've just completed a needs assessment across the boards, we send out a little over 350 board members and staff. Which we're evaluating that we also send out a language access survey to board members to get their thoughts on that. We'll have all the results from that, then begin finding work shops for this fall. I think we have a lot of positive feedback, and continue to reach out to as many board members as we can. Thank you.

» Sarah Sayeed: I think Mark raised his hand.

»» Thanks. With respect to the language access, now that I'm a district manager, couple of things, some of these trainings on screen are not ones that community board Manhattan was comprised of I'm not sure if I'm not an I a list but I would like to be. Secondly, the survey with respect to language access, is was one that I found a bit challenging to respond to. In part because there was an implicit value judgment in the way in which the survey was written that did not take into account the fact that community boards don't have a budget for any of this. And language translation services are expensive. And without that kind of — without that being acknowledged, it is difficult to express the interest in providing those services, we have 11 standing committee meetings a month. Actually 13, if you count more than the executive. And it is frustrating to feel the implicit criticism of the survey. And not

have the means because our budgets other than cost of living our budgets haven't changed, in twenty years. So, if this is a city, the value the city wants to place, then the criticism of the failure to provide these services belongs with the people who make the budgets not the people who are doing the ground on the ground outreach. I was a little bit at 6s and 7s about how to respond to the survey. Because the survey didn't provide an opportunity to express any of what I just did to you.

» Well first of all I think, several months ago we did realize your address your e-mail was not accurate on our list for notifications I think we rectified that. So, hopefully you've been getting all emails from us about notifications recently in the last couple of months. But we'll confirm that.

»» I don't know if that — just hasn't been one I will put it into the chat again.

» Okay I usually use your email as a way to check to make sure I'm using the updated one so I will clarify and make sure that happens. As far as the access survey, thank you for the feedback. Our intention certainly is not to be critical of those who don't use it, just to gather information about how words do that we understand that the funding is not an ad quite across the board for boards, some do use some of their funding for it we wanted to determine what the what people boards did, what their concerns were, what their desires were as far as getting language access, I think some of the information

we gathered which I'm just reading through this morning thanks to JP, who helped compile all of that, will be helpful. I think we want to make an argument and want to understand what is going on in the field out there. Hopefully, we provided an opportunity for people to express their interests or around getting language access. So, sorry we felt that it was had a point of view that we really just trying to do information gathering process. So, we'll be sharing what we've learned soon. I don't know Sarah if you had anything you wanted to add to that?

»» Before you do, let me jump in and simply say, that this isn't just my thoughts, the 12 district managers for man hat meet once a month in borough service cabinets and there's an organization that I think is just a loosely volunteer organization of district managers across the five boroughs. The future of community boards it's called. All of whom without exception, felt, what I just expressed. I thought it was just me. So, some in more vehement terms than I'm sharing now. So, there was a real feeling of criticism and almost indictment that we don't share values of the city. When in fact, we do or at least my interpretation of what those folks were sharing with me, I'm the new guy on that block. It was a little stinging that criticism. And I think misplaced. For whatever that is worth —

»» No, thank you. I will circle back we've talked to Sellis and Susan a lot we met with 9 district managers reviewed survey prior to sending it. So, we made all the changes, I hope that they suggested Celeste

and Susan. I'll go back and review the feedback and we'll go back and review hopefully share it with the entire future of community boards working group.

» I just wanted to say that, my understanding was that we've been doing different kinds of needs assessment trying to understand where both are and this particular desire to kind of measure where boards stand on language access data emerge from a conversation with the future of community boards, unless I'm misunderstanding. I think that for us, as a commission the Charter does ask us to work in the space of strengthening language access at the board level. And I think we just need to Mrs. Where our people, what are the issues that they are facing and is it, I think that it's kind of maybe a little bit of chicken and egg issue with the budget because I definitely have heard about the budget considerations for boards around translations and interpretations from different district managers. And we've actually talked with OB about that particular thing and I think the directive or the response that I have received and I've shared with —with boards that there is an allowance to use funds under OTPS for this purpose. And I think I know that the funds get stretched in different ways and different forms. So, that is one response.

The other thing I wanted to mention also, is say council, has been paying more attention to language access at the board level. I think we'll fully between all of these different voices that are expressing concern, I think data from our survey can help, shore up and

strengthen the city as a whole, pay more attention to this. There is a little bit of a question as well in terms of language access planning. Because city agencies are required to submit it language access plans. So, and there is some level of oversight over the plans that are submitted by agencies. So, to me it's not entirely clear, how we make good on supporting boards, in the space. Given our mandate. Other than through training right now, I hope the survey can help us move in that direction.

»» I don't want to monopolize the conversation I see the time I will say just this. I'm in the process of putting together my fiscal 24 budget now that OMB has finally shared with me what those numbers are although not in detail. I'm happy to walk anybody through the 27 census left over after I pay my staff and pay for the photo copier. And other than letting go of staff member I'm not sure how it is that any board would begin to offer the kinds of translation services that I think would be appropriate and the languages that would be appropriate to each district. My district here in Greenwich Village includes a little bit of China town, so there are more than the usual complement or different mix of languages. Anyway I would be happy to walk nun through the budget demonstrate wherever it is that that support would be needed if we really mean what we say about as a city not just community boards in general. If we really mean what we say about language access, then we have to speak with our wallet as well as our mouths.

» Yeah., we can continue to talk more and met with you as well. Before we go to the next section, I just want to check —

»» Sarah?

»» I had my hand up I'm sorry.

» Sorry, sorry Donna, go ahead.

»» I just wanted to speak to Benjamin to speak on this, this is good work. I see you've connected with a lot of boards. I just wanted to give you a point of information. My district manager, in community board 10 is leaving on Friday. So, if he is your only point of contact, that may be an issue. We have not hired a new district manager are for community board 10. So I just wanted to have you know that, in.

»» Manhattan, right.

» Yeah, that's Manhattan, community board 10. Yes.

»» I will double-check who we have.

» The other thing that I wanted to say was, JP the language.

(AUDIO INTERRUPTED).

»» You're cutting out Donna —

» Bronx and Queens were they not any for man hat only because —

(AUDIO INTERRUPTED) Wasn't any available or needed for man hat, because in Manhattan as Mark said have a wide range of languages that are spoken in Manhattan. I was wondering —

(AUDIO INTERRUPTED).

»» Yeah, so, in terms of the — — oh, sorry I didn't want to cut anyone off.

»» In terms of Manhattan we didn't have any sites in Manhattan. It is my understanding we typically don't based on our prescribed methodology. But the board of elections provides interpretation services in Manhattan. I think that there is the potential in the future, for that to happen that depends on a lot of factors.

»» Yeah just to add to what JP said, I think this, the where we're showing up to provide services will vary by election. And how many election districts are actually participating this was a very odd election in the past we've had services in Manhattan. We didn't do it for this. And it also depends on like the concentration of language communities and going to the places with the highest concentrations. So, between those two things, the actual sites where we are will vary election to election.

»» Thanks for that clarity, Sarah that makes a lot of sense to me. You know I just didn't want to feel like we were left out. (LAUGHTER).

» Yeah, no, you're not left out. And as JP pointed out.

»» I realize I do realize we've had it in the past I understand that this the primary was very strange. So, I understand that, but I was just asking the question just speaking for man hat —

» Yeah.

»» Anthony, did you have a comment.

»» I told you —

»» No that was from before —

»» Okay, Anthony Harmon.

»» Not sure if that was a question. Before we continue with the updates can we Abby can you let had he know if anyone has signed to you comment?

»» No, I don't think we've gotten any sign ups, I just checked the in box.

» No one texted you, right?

»» No.

» Okay. So, we will continue then with this updates. So, after the community boards, we have a bunch of updated I think in from staffing, advertising campaigns and.

»» Yep.

» Other things. So, go for it.

»» Thanks Sarah Abby you can go to the next slide, cool folks I will just talk you through Kathleen mentioned this campaign I will talk you through a few ad campaigns we ran particularly over the last couple of months before May and June we ran a campaign around ranked choice voting for NYC. Part of that allocation went to English/Spanish Chinese, Korean simplified advertising campaign targeted in the districts, targeted to certain types of voters we placed ads across print digital media with high focus on ethnic and community media publications working closely with the Mayor's office of ethnic and community media, you will see a clipping from weekly, Ben Leah we hosted roundtable with office of governmental affairs

Kathleen Sarah participated with NYC service to talk about the spread love campaign alongside civic engagement things happening during the month of June. We placed addresses in radio stations subways, targeted in certain parts of the city of. Obviously social media, we had a PSA that ran on YouTube. In English/Spanish. As well as also ran on, taxi TV and NYCTV ranked choice voting. A mobile truck that drives along a specific path targeted path that you determine the advertisers was a new sort of experiment for us. We have a lot of feedback on the ground anecdotally. Kathleen mentioned door hangers wall boards. We also posted advertisements on a digital screen network at 270 locations across the city, a lot of restaurants, bars barber shops, bodingas whatnot they went we tried to utilize the space as we could. New York City ferry, — gets really busy in the summertime June is a good month for that. Taxi TVNYCTV thanks to the Mayor's office of entertainment.

Similarly we ran a smaller scope of a campaign for PB. Broaden the languages here a little bit. To include more of our service languages. As I said, strong focus for all the advertising we do community media, radio, subway we did a retargeting subway ads little closer to the final vote. Deadline we were seeing certain vote totals we tried to be as thoughtful adapted as we could be to try to keep up with where messages needed to be pushed.

Again social media, — the ferry. I would just encourage we had a lot of great markets, I would encourage you to check out the social

media, we have a lot of great content we tried to accept the messaging, and keep people interested to try to target different audiences. Then as we've done in all of the election cycles since I've been here, running ads about know your rights and right to vote in your language. So, we had specific creative for specific language boundaries. Try to make things seem accessible and feel representative. Obviously here, all of our advertising money was spent in language. Language is what we offer services. Present digital media, when I say that, I mean advertisements on ethnic media websites like banners and language on those websites. Publications in different languages. Radio then social media. Print and digital media.

I think you had seen this talked about it previous public meeting we produced that great voting your language PSA we also ran online was running on taxi TV across the city that is also on our website and YouTube channel.

I just wanted to quickly talk through the people's money artist collective. The artist collective was sort of a new experiment for us the CEC working closely with artists residents weigh want to try to find a way using people's money voting phase to build our creative in sort of unique, different, process. More collaborative, working specifically with individual artists across the five boroughs, typically what city agencies do they have one design firm that will build the creative concepts for the campaign what we want to do is launch an open call in partnership with the department of cultural

affairs. Give artists an opportunity to apply to state why they want to be part of the campaign and why they care why participatory budgeting is important for the communities how does their work reflect their borough. What work have they done in the communities what relationships do they have across the community that we can leverage their voice to be another messenger for the campaign we received over one hundred applications CEC team scored applications, number of huddles to talk about the different candidates. We interviewed the candidates along with myself and artists. To select the five individuals and their deliverables.

Included a number of different things, but the core component of those deliverables was what we call the borough flagship graphic. So this informed all of those advertisements that I outlined in the previous slide. What we wanted to do here was we wanted to highlight iconic parts of each borough. Try to include iconography and art that reflects different projects on the ballots, also utilize the different artistic strengths each of the five members of the collaborative. So that we can build, these pieces that we think look a little bit different than your average Government campaign and feel a little more accessible.

And that is just a quick segue into our agency wide rebranding.

»» Sorry hold on.

»» Just one ask if there is any questions on any of the work? Okay.

Sorry. Go ahead.

»» No worries.

» That is a quick segue into agency ride rebranding. So, over the past year or so we worked with a design firm called time of day media to identify a new brand for the CEC. We went through a number of different discovery sessions with our team. Articulated our values, values that the CEC and mission of the CEC has established. As we think through our audiences and our goal of building trust in CEC how can we have a brand that can lose and feels like the city we're trying to serve and the people we're trying to serve. As you can see on the first slide this is new core graphic of CEC we wanted to keep NYC bubble logos to keep that connection with, no city Government we wanted to go in a direction you will see like a style of street artwork reflects New York City and people we're trying to serve.

We have an alternate level here, you will see the little yellow individuals that pop up through a lot of our creative, what this is trying to represent is the diverse community of New Yorkers that the CEC works with and serves. So, this ask an alternate logo you can keep going.

We have established our four core subjects for the CEC. The people's money. PB process, NYC people's bus, and community boards each of our four core initiatives have their own sort of brand identity that fit within the Civic Engagement Commission's brand.

We have colors, a color palette for this CEC. You can keep going we have fonts for the CEC. So, all, with the goal of building

familiarity and real creative identity for who we are and what we're doing.

»» Thank you so much. Any questions? Comments? Okay. I think we're ready to move to the next section. So this is updates for you on our volunteer program. So Barbara?

»» Thank you so much.

»» So, Barbara Williams: We've been fortunate enough we had volunteer services, move majority to the outreach team. In with this we were able to cover all program lanes and we had a very successful season as you can see. We were able to engage over 1300 volunteers. As well as 15,500 hours. They all participated in like idea generation sessions. We were able to work with the youth where the youth helped to facilitate committees who worked on the PB project as well. And we also did canvassing in texting out to vote, and for the PB vote as well.

Okay. One last mention, before I go any further, I just want to take a moment to recognize Dan who is on the call. As well as Abby, who is on the call. And our volunteer coordinator who is not on the call. Because of the work they contributed to the volunteer work. We surpassed our goal for our New York city service grant. Thank you and great job to the team.

» Thank you Barbara. And team any questions on the volunteer program? Great. Okay. Barbara do you want to talk about this event.

»» Yeah, so we were fortunate to have 3 interns this year from Princeton. It is the school of someone we know and love very dearly on this call. So, Dr. Sarah Sayeed, — these interns they are the faith-based interns during their time with us they not only worked on the out reach for democracy NYC they worked on the PB vote as well. And they got to own a very own project of their own. They got to design a program, and they will be running it as well. And they came up with the Title your faith in action, the golden rule of civics. This is an event that is taking place tomorrow at 3:30 and we would like you all to come and share the event. We're very proud of the work that they have done. They have been working very hard and practicing getting ready for this event this is information for the event coming up tomorrow. And as you can see we do have part in other words as well.

» Thank you, Barbara.

»» Thanks.

» Okay. So, that is, that is the end of the deck I have a couple of things I wanted to mention before we close the meeting. So, yeah, thanks for stopping the screen share, Abby.

So, just before we call it a day, two things I wanted to raise. One is, for your awareness, and also for clarification, I believe that a poll was sent out we were trying to figure out the meeting schedule and then, after it was sent we realized we needed to do this meeting.

And so, to stick to our every other month cadence, we're actually not going to do the meeting in August. And we're going to send you a poll for September. Now, one thing to note about the September meeting is that, we will need to vote on the submission of the annual report to the Mayor and council, which is due on September 30. So, we are going to send you a poll with the idea that that the draft of the annual report will be ready for you to review before the meeting. So I just wanted to flag that all for you if you're holding time on your August calendar we can go ahead and delete that, we won't meet in August. And we'll meet in September instead.

And then, the next thing I wanted to note is that depending on how we figure out, how we decide or start date for the commission, I don't know if we've decided the actual date of voting, which would be 2018. Or, if it's like the date that we announce the appointment of the Commissioners. We are coming up to a 5-year mark. So, I don't know if, I wanted to just ask what people thought of that, do we want to do something special to observe that kind of milestone of 5 years with the commission. Just to get, just a Quick Check-in about that. If anyone has any thoughts on that would love to hear, one the question is, how do we — our starting point. To do we want to make something special at the 5-year mark?

»» Hi this is Amy. I think it is always important to mark these milestones. And to do a tally sheet of the good work that the CEC has done over the five years. When you want to call it the start date,

— you know there are a number of ways of looking at that. But I think that's kind of the least important of it all.

»» Sarah Sayeed: Okay, anyone else?

»» Sarah.

»» Yeah, sorry.

»» Natalie DeVito: Do we have precedent, are there other commissions that are fairly young, that there is sort of a standard that has been adopted when the commission start date got niche stated.

» That is a really good question I do not know. We can ask around. If we use the 2018 start date.

Then our 5 years would be in right after the general election. Because that is when it was voted on. The Charter revision ballot measures were voted on in 2018. If we decided it is in April then it would be April 2024 of next year.

»» Are we go with extra planning time, just out of convenience and you know, to lose — if the general election takes a bit of people's band width and they are either excited about it or very apathetic about it, either way we lose some attention. Out of convenience hopefully there is some precedence and I would say just informally my opinion Bob to look at the prospect if of an April date to celebrate the implementation.

» Okay. We can definitely keep that in mind. Populating the commission seems more likely official start. Yeah. We didn't really discuss this internally with the team I'm just — we can talk about

it some more. I think giving ourselves more planning time is probably wise. So, keep that in mind. Then Mark had a question, you had a question in the chat about the date of the meeting Abby do you have a response.

»» Yeah, —

»» It was on this point.

» Sorry.

»» I was just putting the date in because that's the date that I have. But to your point about the anniversary, if you will, I personally would like to see the focus of any such celebration be on the staff that does the day-to-day work. Rather than the Commissioners who get to take all the credit, for it which I'm glad to do, but, that's something that I think ought— that is the focus of it. My thought was about that, was that the annual report kind of is a summary of the great work that has been done in the past year. Maybe if I understand the way the calendar works. That's our submission that becomes part of the Mayor's management report for part of the next year, is that right.

»».

» Yeah.

»» So maybe April or thereabouts is a good stopping point to look back and say thank you. Then the only other thought I had was, doesn't seem to me from all of these meetings that there is a quote unquote quiet time for the staff. Used to be that August was theoretically

the quiet time but hardly ever works out that way. If we are going to focus on the staff, and the work that you all do, having whatever celebration it is at a time in which as many of the staff as possible can attend, seems to be the protocol that we should follow. Thanks!

» Yeah. It's going to — we will definitely internally discuss all of this further. Because either way, we look at it because of the presidential primary April will also be like the super busy time. So, these are all like really good feedback for us to work with. So, thank you so much for that.

»» May I piggy back off of Mark's comment very briefly please.

»» Yeah, of course.

»» Natalie DeVito: I totally appreciate what mark just said to briefly piggy back off of it if we had adequate planning time let's say, and the focus humble as you all may be about the work you do, if you would take our hopes that the work of the staff from day to day would be the focus of the celebration. If it could be considered that our job as Commissioners the non-daily Commissioners, so, yourself excluded, Dr. Sayeed that we can be sort of quasi-ambassadors for celebrating it let's just say for argument's sake April was the date and we had the opportunity to be ambassadors in our borough to share the spirit of everything that has been built and extend the message that what we're building and what we've been building for the past five years, may be fresh and new. But it is with the mind for the present and the future. So there is more to

come and people still at large should and do have a chance to dig their teeth into it and get involved also.

»» Thank you.

»» Thank you I love that. Anyone else. Would like to comment on this? I don't see any other hands. Abby — sorry I cut you off before about the.

»» It's okay. So, I think mark was referring to a survey I sent much easier in the year to try to get the availability I think it initially put the 19 to the 26 I'm not sure if we want to amend that, maybe more of an internal conversation. Base on like the submission deadline and all of that. So.

» Yeah.

»» So, it could be an option, but we'll have to discuss more, that is my initial thoughts at least.

» Thank you Abby, I think that works I think if you have it held on your calendar just continue to hold it. We'll just work out the dates internally and circle back. The last thing I remembered is also just in the past yesterday — we actually are working on doing some internal strategic planning and thinking about how our different programs work together and hopefully, laying out a longer plan for ourselves. So, I wanted to let you know about that and in the course of that where we're going to be working with community resource exchange as the facilitator for some of those conversations and we are going to be this is just kind of decided we're going to be ready,

I wanted to let you know that we're going to be sending you all some questions it will be not extensive, but just to get your thoughts on how the commission has been working. Challenges, opportunities, for your feedback as well. So, that will be happening in the next couple of weeks, just wanted to let you know. So, I think we are, unless anyone else has any other announcements or issues I think we can love to hear a motion to adjourn the meeting.

»» I would like to thank the staff for everything they have done. Sorry Donna I cut you off. It.

»» It is so great to hear Commissioners appreciation of the team that does all of this work and so thank you so much for that.

»» Motion to adjourn and to wish everybody a happy summer!

»» Here here.

»» Hey.

»» Thank you.

»» Anastasia Somoza had her hand up.

»» Yes I wanted to quickly echo, the previous Commissioner's thanks, on all the hard work that the staff always does. But, in this period of anniversary, I just thought I would announce that tomorrow is the 33rd anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. And the museum of the city of New York has added a section on disability activism and its history in New York to forgive me I will have to look at my phone to remind myself of what exhibition it is a part of. But I was a part of a committee that helped to advise on adding

the section to this exhibition. And submission I believe it is an exhibition on activism in New York and they added a whole section on disability. So I just wanted to announce it, in case anyone is interested in going to check it out or telling folks in the communities that it is up and available. If anyone is interested in going to check it out. I thought you all might enjoy it!

» Thank you so much! Yeah.

»» Thank you.

» We'll have a little blurb and share it.

»» I'm also happy to send an email out or send an email to Abby that she can circulate along with the Commissioners and staff. So that you all can pass it along to those who might be interested.

» That sounds really great! Thank you!

»» Of course!

» So, on the motion to adjourn? I know — Natalie.

»» Yes.

» Sorry.

» Would you like to just, would you like to make the motion again.

»» Yes.

»» Just to be specific it's a motion to adjourn whites wishing everyone a happy reminder of the summer.

»» Second.

»» All in favor?

»» Aye.

»» Any opposed to adjourning?

»» Any abstentions? (LAUGHTER).

Just checking on that. Okay, so, hearing everyone's approval we are now going to pass this motion then call this meeting to adjourn. And we will see everyone in September. So, thank you all so much for being here with us today! Take good care!

»» Bye-bye.

» Thank you, bye-bye!