

CITY OF SAN MATEO

Special Meeting Minutes

City Council

Monday, March 15, 2021
Remote 5:30 PM
Special Meeting

CALL TO ORDER This meeting is being held under the provisions of State of California Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20; in which Brown Act regulations are relaxed to allow members to remote in due to the Coronavirus Covid-19 health emergency.

Roll Call

Remote: Mayor Rodriguez, Deputy Mayor Bonilla, Council Members: Papan, Lee and Goethals

STUDY SESSION

1. Small Business Recovery and Diversity and Equity Taskforces – Composition and Work Plans

City Manager Drew Corbett provided a presentation on the possible composition of a Small Business Recovery Taskforce and a Diversity and Equity Taskforce that were proposed by Council during the annual goal setting session. Council asked questions of staff. Public Comment – Lisa Diaz Nash commented on the need to support all businesses. Karyl Eldridge, One San Mateo, proposed a deeper and more meaningful mission for the Diversity and Equity Taskforce.

Council confirmed the direction of a staff driven stakeholder group for the Small Business Recovery Taskforce comprised of local entities working on efforts to support businesses with a Council subcommittee comprised of Mayor Rodriguez and Council Member Papan as a liaisons to the taskforce.

Discussion ensued on Diversity and Equity Taskforce format. Council was strongly supportive of the need for an open, transparent, and robust reciprocal relationship with the community, with a broad base of partners, around the issues of diversity, equity and inclusion. The need for bona fide conversations with the public and clear guidance on goals and objectives needs to be undertaken. Council directed staff to bring back a study session item on a staff driven, under the already formed staff-led Diversity, Equity & Inclusivity committee (DEI), to undertake the community conversations and to winnow in on the objectives.

2. City Council Strategic Plan – Draft Review

Management Analyst Denise Garcia reviewed staff feedback on the proposed work plans and resource requirements to address the City Council's priorities for fiscal year 2021-22. Council asked questions of staff. Public Comment – Lisa Diaz Nash encouraged communication across all of quality of life initiatives; dredge marina; general plan needs more community outreach. Council by consensus agreed to the proposed wording changes on certain strategic priorities and discussion ensued on both financial and staff resource allocation impacts from the proposed objectives. It was noted the strategic plan, as amended would be brought forward for adoption at the April 5, 2021 City Council Regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

Eric Rodriguez, Mayor

SUBMITTED BY:

Patrice M. Olds, City Clerk