


From: [Kris](#) 
To: [-- City Clerk](#)
Subject: Public comment: item 4 (consent calendar) on Council Agenda for March 6, 2023
Date: Sunday, March 5, 2023 2:15:58 PM

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Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I am among those GPAC members who would like some relaxation of the Zoom-only policy for GPAC meetings. I am not sure of an ultimate solution - but some things to consider:

Alternate in-person/Zoom meetings. Perhaps the Zoom meetings could be focused on “delivering” info to the GPAC (which is what they've mostly been) and the in-person meetings would be more focused on GPAC discussions. I like the idea of beefing up the GPAC working groups with folks from the community and letting GPAC members run with them. I think we need to revisit the whole notion of working groups; they could add a richness to the overall process.

With summer coming it would be great if we could have some outdoor meetings - similar to the one that was held at the Fairgrounds for the AIA effort.

I do think we need to provide some Zoom options – one of our members just had a baby; it would be hardship to demand that she attend in person. I am also thinking of myself at the end of a killer day at the office, I’m not wild about getting my rear end across town at 6:30...especially if the meeting is going to be mostly “informational.”

I think we need to be sensitive to COVID concerns. I am still focused on doing as much as I can not to get the bug, so I will likely be wearing a mask at in-person meetings, taking it off when it's time to talk. I wouldn't demand that others follow my protocol but would ask for sensitivity when it comes to respecting my needs.

Question: If we opt out of the Brown Act and are "volunteers" - do the meetings still need to be recorded and put out on Zoom?? Maybe we do that for the informational gatherings and let that go for the 'working' sessions?

Thanks for your consideration. I think the GPAC process would be greatly enhanced by some in-person meetings. Back-and-forth discussions are really difficult over Zoom. It's takes extra courage to ask “stupid” (but often valuable) questions when the meetings are so tightly formatted. It's nearly impossible to collaborate/follow up on shared interests on Zoom. Personally I enjoy the give-and-take that happens during in-person meetings. It's the most rewarding part of the process.

That said, no matter what is decided, I remain “all in” when it comes to the GPAC.

Regards,

Kris Rebillot