

What: **Special Meeting to Revise Bylaws for Wards 4 and 7 NPAs**

Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2024

Place: Community Room at The Miller Center

Time: 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

How: In Person and Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85494151752>

Agenda for Bylaws Meeting (in person and online)

I. Introductions –

- State name and ward

II. Assignment of Roles (facilitator, note taker, timekeeper, etc.)

III. File Setup & Organization

- Assisting digital access to original and available revised drafts of Wards 4 & 7 Bylaws
- Assisting CEDO with accessing relevant digital content for broadcasting

IV. Bylaws Discussion

1. Read and discuss Point 1 of attorney feedback below:

(1) P.2, opening paragraph of Article II: On the point of accessibility (which I'm glad to see raised), the NPAs might want to consider adding language letting members of the public know how to request an accommodation for a disability. If you look at the end of any City Council agenda, you can see an example. A statement like this doesn't need to find its place in the bylaws, but technically it should appear in agenda. As such, since the NPA wants to find ways to be more inclusive and accessible, it's not a bad idea to have some text in the bylaws as a model.

2. Vote on adding the following statement at the end of the opening paragraph of Article II (or anywhere else the Bylaws Working Group deems appropriate): "This agenda is available in alternative formats upon request. For more information on access, call Lori Olberg, Licensing, Voting and Records Coordinator (802-865-7136)(TTY 802-865-7142). Persons with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate are encouraged to contact 802-865-7000 (voice) or 802-865-7142 (TTY) at least 72 hours in advance so that proper arrangements can be made."

3. Read and discuss Point 2 of attorney feedback below:

(2) Page 3, Section III.4 (Agenda), in addition to posting agenda online, they should also be posted three places in the City (one of which is technically supposed to be at or near City Hall). Whether the bylaws state that, it's good to remember. Our office has noticed that several NPAs post lawn signs to remind neighbors a meeting is coming up. Maybe include a web address or QR code to find the agenda online, and that works!

4. Vote on the resolution of Point 2 related to attorney feedback

5. Read and discuss Point 3 of attorney feedback below:

(3) Page 4, Section IV.4 (Removal): The City Attorney's Office is fine with the language as is, but if someone is going to be removed for discriminatory conduct, it might be best to consult this office first. Speech and debate during a public meeting has a special status constitutionally. Censuring someone for their speech and debate is perfectly constitutional, but more severe consequences often are not. I read "conduct" as something different than "speech and debate," but the potential for overlap is there.

6. Vote on the resolution of Point 3 related to attorney feedback

7. Read and discuss Point 4 of attorney feedback below:

(4) Page 4, Section IV.7 (Ineligible to Serve): This is perfectly fine as written, but if the NPA wants to use the technical legal term for the concept here, it's the doctrine of "incompatible offices". The offices listed in the section are "incompatible" with serving as steering committee member.

8. Vote on the resolution of Point 4 related to attorney feedback – keep the language "Ineligible to Serve" or change this to "Incompatible with Serving" (or another variation of any or all of the aforementioned)

V. Open Discussion

VI. Adjournment