
PRESENT

Councilmember Sidney Katz, President  Councilmember Tom Hucker, Vice President
Councilmember Gabe Albornoz  Councilmember Andrew Friedson
Councilmember Evan Glass  Councilmember Will Jawando
Councilmember Nancy Navarro, President  Councilmember Craig Rice
Councilmember Hans Riemer

The President in the Chair.

SUBJECT: Council Retreat

Discussed various administrative issues, including the Council calendar for 2020. Examined, in light of COVID-19, certain models to continue core constituent and legislative Council work but limit physical public interaction. Considered whether to close some or part of the Council Office Building to the public; contemplated in-person scenarios and alternative methods to in-person Council sessions – including Skype, phone, and live internet streaming; deliberated approaches to limit presence, not participation, including ways to submit electronic and hard copies of testimony, to listen to public hearings by phone, and/or to receive proclamations by mail; reflected on how to determine what, in addition to budget-related items, are deemed essential Council session agenda items; discussed appropriate agency participation during sessions; considered possible Department of Health Human Services (DHHS) and emergency management briefings, and press access; and considered telework guidance and options.

Discussed the ability of nonprofits and government agencies to provide services, including mental health services. Suggested convening a meeting to discuss various ramifications. Considered possible systems to address community safety net concerns including meals, especially for those students who are eligible for free and reduced meals. Noted websites/organizations where the community may obtain assistance.

The meeting adjourned at 3:02 P.M.

County Executive staff:  Dale Tibbits, Mary Beck, David Gottesman
Bethesda Beat:       Briana Adhikusuma

This is an accurate account of the meeting:

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.
Clerk of the Council