DVRPC

Virtual Meeting Best Practices



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Transition to Work-From-Home

- Work-from-home structure was in place
- Many staff already telecommute
- Pre-COVID tech tools included: Remote
 Access licenses, Google Suite, Zoom software
 for conference calls, webinars, and virtual
 meetings
- DVRPC's upgraded bandwidth has allowed all staff to continue their work remotely



Pivot to Virtual Board Meeting

- Our building closed March 20
- March 26th scheduled Board Meeting
- Need for very quick learning curve and Zoom training and practice
- 3 years prior, Board amended by-laws for remote voting (in case of emergency)
- Tried to follow DVRPC's Board meeting format as closely as possible, for Board members, staff and the public, using the Zoom platform



The DVRPC Board

4/23/2020 10:00 a.m.

Join Virtual Meeting

Call in number: 1-346-248-7799 Meeting ID: 779 551 125 Password: 716566

AGENDA

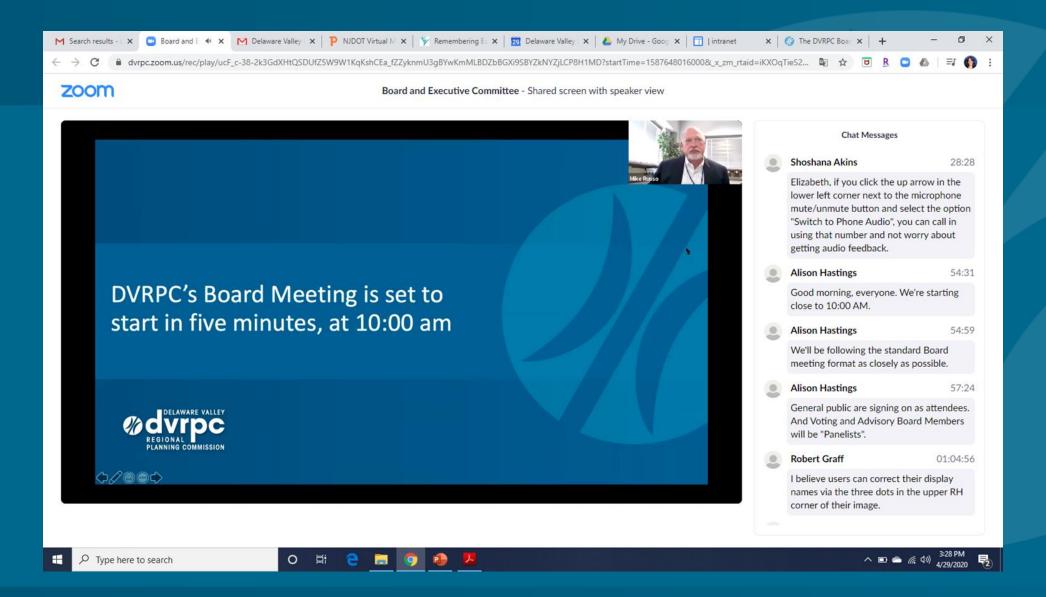
CALL TO ORDER and CHAIR'S COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA and NON-AGENDA ITEMS

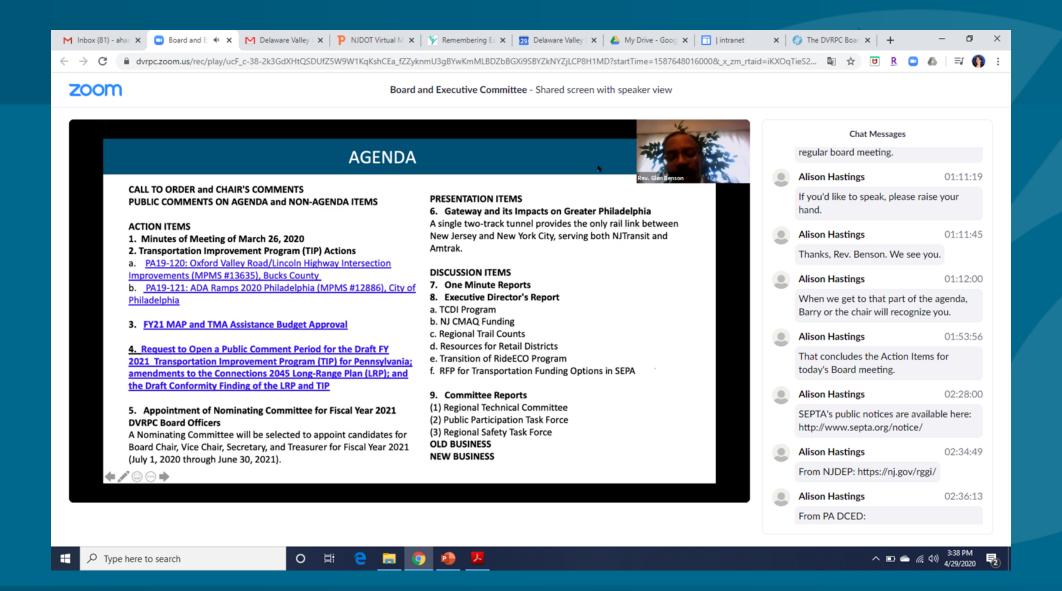
ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Minutes of Meeting of March 26, 2020
- 2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Actions
- a. PA19-120: Oxford Valley Road/Lincoln Highway Intersection Improvements (MPMS #13635), Bucks County
- b. PA19-121: ADA Ramps 2020 Philadelphia (MPMS #12886), City of Philadelphia











Results to Date

- Board meetings held March 26 and April 23
- Board members asked questions, made motions, approved actions, and shared individual reports
- Included both staff and remote guest presentations
- Enabled public access and participation, via phone, online, and even through live camera feed
- Some of our highest attendance at these meetings
- Looking to continue ability for remote access, even when we are back in the office



Remote Meeting Attendance

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3/25 -- All-Staff Meeting: 120+ attendees (nearly all staff and interns)
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3/26 -- March Board Meeting: 88 attendees

3/31 -- Regional Safety Task Force: 100+ attendees

4/7 -- April Regional Technical Committee: 67 attendees

4/13 – Regional Incident Management Task Force: 150+

attendees

4/23 -- April Board Meeting: 87 attendees

5/1 -- All-Staff Meeting: 100+ attendees



Public Participation



- Reaching under-represented communities... Just got harder
- Bridging the Digital Divide (those not connected to the internet, don't have access to devices, or don't have broadband)... Just got harder
- Reaching more people and meeting their special needs... Maybe a little bit easier?
- Remote meeting attendance is higher than in person... so far



Public Participation

Tech Accessibility within Zoom Meeting Platform

- Enable users to use both phone and computer audio
- Publish call-in number with event details/legal notices
- Zoom App for smartphones and tablets
- Enable "join from your browser" in user settings
- Recommend participants turn off video and/or use phone for audio to help with broadband speed



Public Participation

Ability to make accommodations within Zoom:

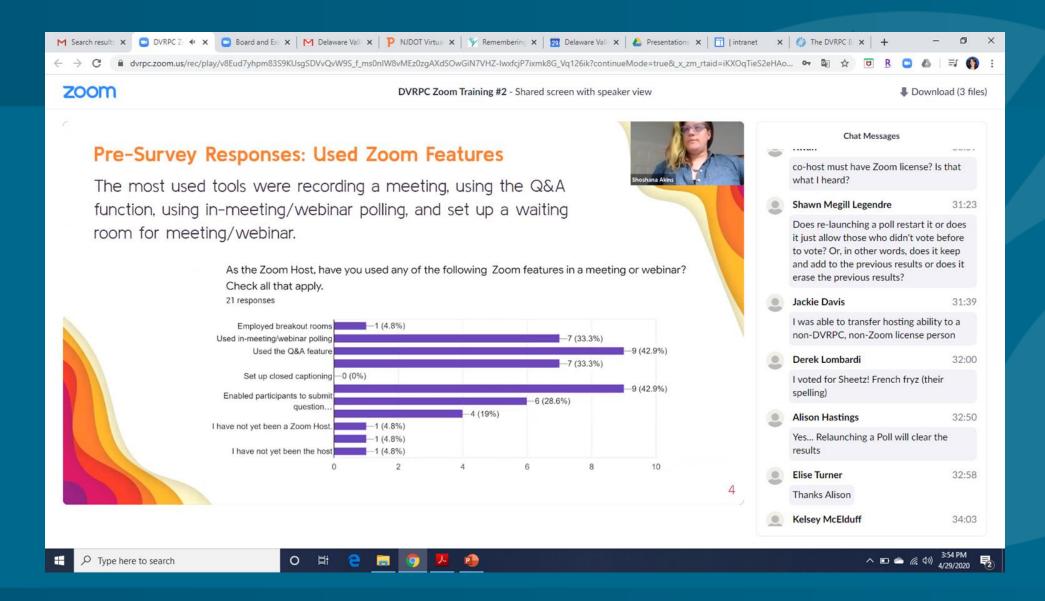
- Disabilities (e.g. Deafness) Closed captioning
- English as a second language (or Limited English Proficiency) - creating "audio" channels with live translators



Staff Trainings for Virtual Meetings

 Rather than a "how-to" for Zoom, we focused on transitioning DVRPC meetings online using the tools we have access to (Zoom and Google Meets)







Staff Trainings for Virtual Meetings

- Advanced features of the tools we have access to:
 - Meeting platforms (Zoom, Google Meets)
 - Surveys (SurveyMonkey, Google Forms, Typeform)
 - Social media (Twitter, FB, IG, LinkedIn, YT)
- Facilitation skills (agenda building, roll calls, getting comfortable being uncomfortable)
- An opportunity to learn & invest in new skills



Thank You!

