



1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

The following are summary minutes for the meeting of the **City of Las Cruces – COVID-19 Task Force Committee** on March 16, 2022. At 3:30 p.m. at City Hall, 700 S. Main Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Members Present:

- Tessa Abeyta-Stuve, City Councilor, District 2
- Kasandra Gandara, City Councilor, District 1
- Yvonne Flores, City Councilor, District 6

Members Absent:

- Kathryn Olszowy, Ex-Officio member
- Adrian Larson, MountainView, Member

Others Present:

- Marina Montoya, Administration, Parks & Rec
- Audrey Barela, Parks & Recreation
- Becky Baum, Recording Secretary, RC Creations, LLC

- I. Call to Order:** Councilor Abeyta-Stuve called the meeting to order.
- II. Conflict of Interest:** There was no conflict of interest.
- III. Acceptance of the Agenda:** Councilor Flores motioned, Councilor Gandara seconded. The agenda was accepted.
- IV. Approval of the Minutes - January 19, 2022:** Councilor Abeyta-Stuve announced that Dawn Sanchez and Steven Lopez were unable to attend. Steven did provide slides to view. Councilor Flores motioned, Councilor Gandara seconded. The minutes were approved. Councilor Abeyta-Stuve abstained.

V. Discussion Items:

A. COVID-19 Vaccination Task Force

- i. Department of Health - Dawn Sanchez:**
- ii. Office of Emergency Management - Stephen Lopez:**

Slides were shown; they will be attached. The local numbers continue to look good. The U.S. may see an increase in the northeast and Midwest

1 based on wastewater testing results. The seven day positivity rate in
2 Doña Ana County is 4.05%; 2.77% in New Mexico; 1.21% in the U.S.;
3 1.31% in the world. Councilor Abeyta-Stuve stated that within the last
4 week they're changing how they're tracking certain items; she will send
5 out a question for follow-up. The cases per day are continuing to go
6 down.

7
8 Councilor Gandara would like to know where test sites are; it will no
9 longer be sent regularly but perhaps Mr. Lopez can look at maybe once a
10 week how the Board integrate the information. She also recommended
11 that the Board doesn't meet anymore unless there is a rise in numbers.
12 Councilor Flores agreed. Councilor Flores asked if there are any
13 changes in the U.S. with travel in terms of testing prior and other
14 requirements. There was discussion on Mr. Lopez's comment in the
15 previous meeting of changing this from a pandemic to an endemic; notify
16 if it changes the way things are handled.

17
18 Councilor Gandara is concerned with the new variant in Europe and
19 China. There is a possible surge in positivity and spread in late April and
20 early May. Councilor Abeyta-Stuve stated they will include that in the
21 questions for Mr. Lopez; how the Board can engage and if this task force
22 is meaningful in the engagement or if there are other avenues to pursue.
23 Councilor Flores asked if they will have a tentative meeting placeholder
24 or stop meeting unless something earth shattering happens. Councilor
25 Abeyta-Stuve will inquire as to the process of how they would deactivate
26 the Board if they decide to do so. Christine Rivera stated that if they feel
27 that they will meet in the future it would be better being in the
28 background. If it's disbanded a resolution would need to be done to bring
29 it back. The next meeting will be tentative; if things are running smooth
30 they will only send an e-mail to all those on the Task Force. Councilor
31 Abeyta-Stuve will report to Council on Monday.

32
33 **iii. City of Las Cruces Staff Update:** There was none.

34
35 **iv. Community Messaging:** There was none.

36
37 **v. Discussion:** Councilor Gandara thanked everyone for their hard work to
38 getting to this point. Councilor Abeyta-Stuve gave a special thank you to
39 all City staff that helped and filled in where help was needed.

40
41 **vii. Next Steps:** Councilor Abeyta-Stuve will send an e-mail to Dawn
42 Sanchez and Stephen Lopez with the questions.

43
44 **VI. Future Discussion/Task Listing:**

45
46 **VII. Next Meeting Date:** Next month, April, if needed.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

VIII. Adjournment:

Chairperson