

On Fri, Oct 13, 2023 at 1:03 PM Joan McDermott <joankmcdermott@icloud.com> wrote:

Foia Council Members —

A benefit of the pandemic was the introduction of electronic or virtual meetings for local advisory boards and commissions. Zoom or Microsoft Teams or other electronic formats made it possible for groups to meet and carry on their business in spite of the pandemic.

I support unlimited public access to virtual meetings for all local advisory boards and commissions with no restrictions on the number of meetings per year. I also support counting virtual attendees in reaching a quorum when the meeting is hybrid, both in-person and virtual.

As a person involved in aging issues, virtual meetings make it possible for older persons to attend and keep up with the issues more readily than if one has to attend in person. Both greater attendance and transparency are achieved with electronic meetings.

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