



# City of Somerville, Massachusetts

## Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations Committee

### Meeting Minutes Dispositions

---

**Monday, December 11, 2023**

**7:00 PM**

**Virtual**

---

(Posted online: 11/27/23 at 9:30 AM)

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting of a City Council Committee will be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audio-video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website and local cable access government channels.

Copy & paste the following link into your internet browser to view this meeting live:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Cmb-CewJSkqPGwJONKRw2w](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Cmb-CewJSkqPGwJONKRw2w)

Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication (i.e. CART, ASL), written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Somerville or to attend meetings, should contact Adrienne Pomeroy in advance, at 617-625-6600 x2059 or [ada@somervillema.gov](mailto:ada@somervillema.gov).

#### Roll Call

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations Committee Meeting of February 28, 2023. [23-0337](#)  
Accepted
2. That the Director of Parks and Recreation report on enrollment processes, communications, matriculation data, staffing and programs offered in the past five years. [22-0671](#)  
Recommended to be marked work completed
3. That the Director of SomerViva provide the Committee on Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations with an update on translation services. [22-0966](#)  
Recommended to be marked work completed
4. That the ADA Coordinator deliver a list of ADA complaints received from members of the public in FY 2021 and FY 2022. [22-1272](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

5. That the ADA Coordinator provide a status on requests for Braille transcription of materials. [22-1277](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

6. That the Director of Health and Human services discuss the potential effects of the recent Supreme Court ruling on Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health on Somerville women, pregnant women, pregnant people and reproductive health. [22-1298](#)

Kept in committee

7. That the ADA Coordinator coordinate with the City of Cambridge or another nearby entity that can provide Braille translations in less than 3 to 4 weeks until the City can procure a Brailer. [22-1306](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

8. That the Administration update this Council on the timeline and process for identifying a permanent Teen Center. [22-1458](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

9. That this Council's Committee on Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations hold a public hearing to discuss the feasibility of conducting CORI and SORI checks for Crisis Pregnancy Centers. [22-1571](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

10. That the Director of the Office of Racial and Social Justice, the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management and the Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development document compliance with Code of Massachusetts Regulations (CMR) 521, Sections 3.3 and 3.5. [22-2120](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

11. That the Administration and School Department prioritize fully meeting Somerville Public Schools families' demand for after school and vacation programming in the 2023-24 school year, including expanding the offerings of after-school enrichment clubs. [23-0073](#)

Kept in committee

12. That the Director of Procurement and Contracting Services update this Council on the status of the citywide disparity study. [23-0080](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

13. That the Director of Parks and Recreation consider giving enrollment priority to low-income families in Parks and Recreation Programs, including but not limited to pre-registration priority. [23-0484](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

14. That the Director of the SomerViva Office of Immigrant Affairs (SOIA) provide data on the process to connect immigrant families with legal services and the waitlist to receive those services vs. the waitlist for follow-up from government immigrant agencies. [23-0485](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

15. That this City Council consider options for Committee meetings like allowing schedule changes to the daytime or fixing presentation times in the evenings to facilitate flexibility for staff and Councilors who are new parents or facing childcare challenges. [23-0486](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

16. That this Council and the Administration, resolve to support all programs to ensure that all youth reach their full potential and to eliminate all academic gaps between our white students and our students of color, starting at the early stages of development. [23-1185](#)

Kept in committee

17. That the Administration designate a small children's section in City Hall between the Council Chamber and the Subcommittee Room for parents and caregivers. [23-1295](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

18. That the Director of Sustainability and Environment discuss the plan for outreach for the online Climate Survey and how residents without computers are brought into the conversation. [23-1366](#)

Kept in committee

19. That the Chief of Police report on the training, education and policies established for officers to address violence against LGBTQ and gender non-conforming individuals. [23-1438](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

20. Conveying the FY 2023 report of SomerViva: Office of Immigrant Affairs. [23-1557](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

21. That the Director of Engineering provide this Council with an update on the 2013 Pedestrian Accessibility Study and the progress made in the 10 years since its release. [23-1621](#)

Kept in committee

22. That the Director of the Office of Racial and Social Justice update this Council on the implementation of the FileVine system that was procured to track Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) complaints. [23-1622](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

23. That the Director of the Office of Racial and Social Justice update this Council on the status of the procurement of a Braille embosser to accommodate requests for materials in Braille. [23-1623](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

24. That the Administration increase the \$55,000 allotted to support food access to \$100,000, in accordance with its promise to pledge \$1 million for participatory budgeting. [23-1626](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

Referenced Documents:

- Equity - 2023-12-11 OSE memo (with 23-1366)
- Equity - 2023-12-11 ADA Report (with 22-1272)
- Equity - 2023-12-11 PB Implementation Memo (with 23-1626)
- Equity - 2023-12-11 Memo (with 22-1272, 22-1273, 22-1306, 23-1622, 23-1623)