

Joe Lombardo
Governor

Richard Whitley, MS
Director



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION
Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Dena Schmidt
Administrator

MEETING MINUTES

of the Nevada Commission on Aging

The Commission held a public meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 1:00PM at the following location: Virtual

1. ROLL CALL

Dena Schmidt called the meeting to order at 1:03PM.

Members Present:

Dena Schmidt
Assemblywoman Clara Thomas
Chris Vito
Wendy Simons
Dorothy Edwards
Deanne O'Rear-Cameron

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Tony Arcadipane, a doctoral student in Public Policy at UNLV commented on the research on the impact of long term care costs on the forgotten middle class in Nevada. The federal government has yet to identify a solution to this problem, and approximately 354,000 seniors in Nevada will need some type of long-term care. To help Nevadans prepare for these costs, an ongoing statewide awareness program like Own Your Future should be implemented. Tony urged the Commission for their support and consideration in addressing this crisis.

Barry Gold, Director of Government Relations, AARP announced his retirement after 18 years.

3. Approval of the November 29, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Wendy Simons moved to approve the minutes. Chris Vito seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Welcome and Introduction of New Members and Recognition

Chair Schmidt welcomed new member Deanne O'Rear-Cameron to the Commission.

Ms. O'Rear-Cameron chairs the Las Vegas Senior Citizen Advisory Board and serves on the National Aging in Place Council. She has been advocating for seniors in their homes for over a decade and a half.

5. Review and Approve Letter of Support for Nevada HAND Assisted Living Communities

Mr. Vito moved to approve the letter of support from the Commission with the edit Ms. O'Rear-Cameron stated. Ms. O'Rear-Cameron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. COA Legislative & Policy Subcommittee. Discussion and Approval of Possible Recommendations

Chuck Duarte, Chair of the COA Legislative & Policy Subcommittee provided a [presentation](#) on bill recommendations for the full commission to review and possibly support.

Mr. Vito moved to approve the letters of support discussed in Chuck’s presentation including Assemblywoman Thomas’s bill on the Dementia Care Specialist Program. Ms. O’Rear Cameron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Designate COA representation to support legislation during the 2023 Legislative Session Administrator’s Report

Mr. Vito moved to approve that Dena Schmidt represent the Commission on Aging during the 2023 legislative session. Ms. O’Rear-Cameron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Administrator’s Report

Dena Schmidt, Administrator of the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) announced staff changes including Nikki Haag returning to ADSD. She will oversee boards and commissions and will focus on collaboration and aligning priorities. Miles Terrasas will become the new Legislative Liaison and Public Information Officer. Kevin Horigan will be stepping into Miles's position as Executive Assistant.

9. PROGRAM UPDATES AND INFORMATION

A. Adult Protective Services (APS) Update and Caseload Information

Tammy Sever stated that the APS online reporting is active and provided [APS Statistics](#) via online attachment.

B. Ombudsman Report

Marie Coe, Manager of the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program provided the [LTCOP program update](#) via online attachment.

10. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- COVID-19 Vaccination updates

11. NEXT TENTATIVE MEETING DATE – April 2023

12. PUBLIC COMMENT – No Public Comment.

13. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 4:11PM.