



**NEVADA COMMISSION ON  
AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS MEETING  
Friday, June 20, 2014  
9:30 – 11:00 am**

**MINUTES**

**MEETING LOCATIONS**

CONFERENCE CALL FROM  
Department of Health and Human Services  
4126 Technology Way, Suite 100  
Carson City, Nevada 99706

*Agenda items may be taken out of the order listed on the agenda. The items maybe combined for consideration. Items may be delayed or removed at any time.*

**1. Roll call of Commission Members**

Jan Crandy called the meeting to order at 9:38 am.  
Commissioners Mary Liveratti, Jan Crandy and Keri Altig were present.  
Ralph Toddre and Scott Reynolds were absent.  
A quorum was present.

**2. Public Comment**

Jan Crandy asked that Mary Liveratti give an update on the IFC meeting on June 19, 2014. Mary stated that the autism item was passed - \$113K will go toward the strategic plan which includes a facilitator, assistance with logistics and minutes, and travel to bring people together. It was suggested that Tina Gerber-Winn provide us the budget and list of companies that do facilitation at the next meeting. Laura Valentine will follow-up with Tina.

Jan Crandy gave everyone the opportunity to speak about being on a subcommittee:

- Dosheen Cook would like to be on the Rural subcommittee
- Ruth Sainsbury would like to be on the Youth & Transition subcommittee
- Thomas Kapp would like to be on the birth to 3-5 years subcommittee
- Julie Kotchevar would like to be on the birth to 5 years subcommittee
- Denise Robinson would like to be on the Adult subcommittee
- Marilee Green would like to be on the Adult subcommittee. Mark Olson will contact Marilee regarding the subcommittee
- A number of people would like to be on the Early Childhood subcommittee

Jan Crandy asked for other comments. The next meeting will be held – July 1, 2014.  
Comments were closed.

### **3. Make Recommendations following discussion related to the appointment of Subcommittee Voting Members**

Jan Crandy encouraged the Chairs to have a statewide balance when entertaining nominations. She brought up state agencies, school districts and providers and said that there are amazing people and valuable assets in those groups, but was unsure if they should be voting. It was discussed that these groups not have a vote, but be on the committees for discussion and resource experts. Also discussed was having an alternate or proxy for committee members who would vote for appointed members when that person wasn't able to attend a meeting. The alternate would not be able to vote if the appointed member was in attendance. The majority of the voting members should be parents or self-advocates. Chairs need to manage the number of members and determine who will be on the subcommittees.

Jan Crandy asked each co-chair to discuss and nominate members of their subcommittees.

Mark Olson, Chair Adults & Aging, nominated the following:

- Steven Cohen – self-advocate, parent, advocate from southern Nevada
- Korri Ward – self-advocate, parent, advocate from northern Nevada
- Vanessa Fessenden, professional/provider from southern Nevada (proxy Lena Sankovich, also with Southwest Autism)
- Professional/provider from northern Nevada – TBD. He will have candidates for the July 1, 2014 meeting

Jan Crandy suggested Brian Feeney and Scott Harrington for the fifth member.

Mary Liveratti moved to appoint Steven Cohen, Korri Ward and Vanessa Fessenden to Mark Olson's subcommittee, Keri Altig seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.

Korri Ward, Chair Rural and Adult, nominated the following:

- Dosheen Cook, professional, psychologist
- Kristin Merwin, parent
- Sylvia Ruiz, parent
- Daren Ward, self-advocate
- Kristen Byra

Discussion about Daren Ward being a family member of Korri Ward. It was suggested that Daren be Korri's proxy.

Mary Liveratti motioned to appoint Dosheen Cook, Kristin Merwin, Sylvia Ruiz, Daren Ward and Kristen Byra to Korri Ward's subcommittee, Keri Altig seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.

Julie Obstrovsky, Chair Youth & Transition, nominated the following:

- Maria Martin, parent
- Steven Michelman, parent
- Eric Lovaas, professional
- Scott Harrington, professional

Julie stated that her subcommittee will be meeting to discuss proxies and she will have that information at the next meeting.

Discussion:

Ingrid Reisman would like to be on the subcommittee

Keri Altig motioned to appoint Maria Martin, Steven Michelman, Eric Lovaas and Scott Harrington to Julie Obstrovsky's subcommittee, Mary Liveratti seconded the motion.

No discussion. All in favor.

Michele Tombari, Chair Early Childhood, nominated the following:

- Nicole Kalkowski, parent
- Adryon Ketcham, service provider
- Jon Paul Saunders, family member with autism

Michele asked for more time to pick additional members and will have that information for the next meeting.

Discussion:

Mark Olson brought up that Adryon Ketcham is not a resident of Nevada. It was discussed by Michele and Jan that she is accessible via the phone for the meetings and she brings a lot of expertise to the table. It was recommended that Adryon should be a non-voting member. Mary Liveratti and Jan Crandy recommended that the vote wait until the July meeting when Michele Tombari has her entire slate put together.

Jan discussed getting the list of potential facilitators for the Commission. She asked that if anyone knows of a person for the part-time position to let her Brook Adie know.

Comments:

- Denise Robinson would like the position. She asked for a job description so that she can contact Brook Adie.
- Laura Valentine indicated that Brook Adie is in the process of filling several positions, she wasn't sure she has started looking for this position.

#### **4. Public Comments**

Jan wanted to follow-up on the teacher licensure. She met with Dr. Tom Pierce, some people from Clark County School District licensing and Nevada Pep. The goal is to make one license for intellectual disabilities and children with autism combined. There could be some issues with this. It was supposed to go before the board, but was pulled from the agenda.

There was a discussion of Open Meeting Law rules and clarification was given about how calls and e-mails are handled.

#### **5. Adjournment**

Keri Altig motioned to adjourn the meeting, Mary Liveratti seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 am.