



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES  
3416 Goni Road, Suite D-132  
Carson City, NV, 89706  
Telephone (775) 687-4210 • Fax (775) 687-0574  
<http://adsd.nv.gov>

**MINUTES**

Name of Organization: Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders

Date and Time of Meeting: August 16, 2018  
4:00 p.m.

Las Vegas: Aging and Disability Service Division  
1161 S. Valley View Blvd.  
Las Vegas, NV 89102

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**

Dr. Mario Gaspar de Alba called the meeting for the Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders to order at 4:04 p.m.

**Members Present:** Dr. Mario Gaspar de Alba, Gwynne Partos, Julie Ostrovsky, Korri Ward

A quorum was declared.

2. **Public Comment** (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item)

Ms. Lynda Tache updated the Commission group that the Funding and Insurance Sub-Committee reorganized and she is honored to act as the Co-chair along with voting members Gwynne Partos, Diane Thorkildson, Shirly Gaw and Stephanie Christensen. Ms. Tache advised that they do have a meeting scheduled for August 23<sup>rd</sup> and they look forward to giving an update at the next Commission meeting.

3. **Approval of the Minutes from the July 19, 2018 Meeting (For Possible Action)**

Ms. Ostrovsky commented that her name was spelled incorrectly, but other than that the minutes look good.

Ms. Ostrovsky made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction of the spelling of her name. Ms. Partos seconded the motion. The motion passed.

4. **Report on the progress in moving Commission into Statue**

Ms. Partos did not have an update on moving to Statue, but there is a draft letter that was posted to the website, requesting that the Governor reauthorize the Executive order.

Ms. Ostrovsky stated that they will have to wait for the election and the Legislator going in to session and then go from there.

Ms. Ostrovsky thanked Ms. Partos for writing the letter that states clearly what the Commission is after so that moving forward the Commission does not have to make the request yearly.

Ms. Partos advised that there was incredible input by Ms. Ostrovsky as well and thanked her for that.

5. **Make Recommendations for the Letter to Governor to extend Commission (For Possible Action)**

The Commission members reviewed the letter that was posted to the website.

Ms. Ward commented that her name was spelled incorrectly on the letter, but other than that it looks good.

Ms. Ostrovsky made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction of the spelling of Ms., Korri Ward's name. Ms. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed.

6. **Discuss Subcommittee Rebuilds**

Dr. Gaspar de Alba advised that Tiffany Ellis sent out emails to all the subcommittees asking who would like to remain members and who would no longer be interested. He mentioned that we just heard from Ms. Tache and the Funding and Insurance Sub-Committee looks good to go. Dr. Gaspar de Alba mentioned that the other two Sub-Committee's the Commission wanted to focus on and re-develop was the Workforce Development and Adult Services Sub-Committees. The Workforce Development looks like they have four members including Dr. Gaspar de Alba; Rebecca Avans-Feeny, Eric Kessler and Patrick Leytham. Dr. Gaspar de Alba asked the Commission members is they had any other people in mind to reach out to for this Sub-Committee.

Ms. Ostrovsky mentioned maybe reaching out to some providers to join because they know what their efforts are, and she believes this will help.

Dr. Gaspar de Alba asked Ms. Ward if she knew of a good Rural Provider.

Ms. Ward mentioned in Elko they have Michelle Canning with Crossroads and Robert Johnson. Ms. Ward agreed to reach out to them.

Dr. Gaspar de Alba went over the members on the Adult Services Subcommittee; Renee Portnell, Korri Ward and Ralph Sacrison.

Ms. Ward believes there should be more representation from the South.

Ms. Renee Portnell stated that she will reach out to a couple of people she knows who might be interested.

Ms. Ostrovsky advised that she would like to be a part of the Adult Services Subcommittee.

Ms. Ward stated how Adult Serves need a lot of help.

7. **Confirm Dates for Future Commission Meetings** (for possible Action)

The Committee decided their next meeting would be on September 27, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. Ms. Ostrovsky made a motion to accept the date and time of the next meeting. Ms. Partos seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Dr. Gaspar asked members to email Tiffany with any Agenda items they would like to discuss for the next meeting.

10. **Public Comment** (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item)

Ms. Ward asked if anyone knew when the BDR's will be available for review.

Ms. Ostrovsky advised that she did not but will be happy to investigate that.

Dr. Gaspar de Alba suggests there be a Legislative update for every meeting. He feels this is important. Dr. Gaspar de Alba asked if there were any volunteers.

Ms. Renee Portnell advised that she is always looking at the bills and Legislative updates for a Committee that she is currently on and volunteered to keep an eye out for the Committee Members. She will now report with an update to the Commission members at every meeting to keep everyone in the loop.

11. **Adjournment**

Dr. Gaspar de Alba adjourned the meeting at 4:28 p.m.