

Steve Sisolak
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

Name of Organization: Nevada Commission on Aging

Date and Time of Meeting: Thursday February 18, 2021 | 9:00 am

Note: Some members of the Commission may be attending the meeting through a teleconference/videoconference conducted at the following location:

Pursuant to Governor Steve Sisolak's [Emergency Directive 006](#), there will be no physical location for this meeting.

The meeting can be listened to or viewed via TEAMS.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Dena Schmidt called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

Members Present:

Dena Schmidt
Jeff Klein
Barry Gold
Mary Liveratti
Leilani Kimmel Dagostino
Lisa Erquiaga
Natalie Mazzullo

Members Absent:

Daniel Corona
Stan Lau
Niki Rubarth
Senator Chris Brooks
Assemblywoman Susan Martinez
(2) vacant positions – Governing Body of a County

Staff:

Miles Terrasas, Executive Assistant, ADSD

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

3. **Discussion and Approval of Letter of Support to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health to develop a website that families can access to learn about visitation restrictions.**

The Commission reviewed the Letter of Support. (See Attachment A)

Barry Gold stated the letter is fabulous. It has all the components and talks about what's going on in the facilities, the information people need to find out, and why they need to find it. Its very complete and he is impressed with the letter. He noticed in the signature's sections, Senator Chris Brooks is not on it and asked if that was because we do not add legislators during the session and wanted clarification. Ms. Schmidt responded it was an oversight and both Senator Chris Brooks and Assemblywoman Susan Martinez will be added.

Mr. Klein asked is it appropriate to copy Richard Whitley or is that problematic? Ms. Schmidt responded we can copy Director Richard Whitley.

Barry Gold moved to approve the letter with edits to add Senator Chris Brooks and Assemblywoman Susan Martinez and send the letter to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) along with copying Director Richard Whitley. Natalie Mazzullo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Mr. Gold asked about Assembly Bill (AB) 135, and stated after reading the bill, he found it increases the eligibility to more people by loosening the requirements. Ms. Schmidt concurred, and added it reduces the duplication and removed the restrictive measures in the NRS that was prohibiting to serve the population like they needed to.

5. **NEXT TENTATIVE MEETING DATE – May 11, 2021**

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jeff Klein asked whether they had additional feedback about changing the rules in the vaccination program or any update she is aware of. Ms. Schmidt responded there is no new updates from her other than the Governor's Office new policy person that has been working with the division to get social workers to get and help as many people as they can. Our social workers can make the appointment for our clients which is a huge help. Also help with organizing transportation. Jeff Klein stated Nevada Senior Services is not getting as many doses as they'd like and are using their own funds and own staff. Going to run a clinic the first week of March. It will be targeted and invitational. 200 doses will be available, 100 of the first and 100 of the second. Continuing to try and push it to constituents who will not come out to the big centers or pharmacracies. He hopes that they are making progress and that it might get addressed higher within the state. Dena Schmidt added the challenges have been the logistics. The logistical challenge is trying to reach as many people as you can, vaccination and storage issues, along with time frames. Mary Liveratti asked about the transportation. Nevada Caregiver Coalition is trying to reach out to caregivers who are taking care of a loved one. When you say transportation, would it be for whoever needs a ride to the center, so that people could accompany somebody? Ms. Schmidt replied for Medicaid recipients MTM is offering the transportation. She's not sure if they allow the caregivers to accompany them but can follow up. Ms. Liveratti stated if she can let Jeff Duncan know and he can pass the information along to her. Leilani Kimmel Dagostino stated Sisolak's conference released information regarding lowering the age to 65 for vaccines and that will start on Monday. It will only be at pharmacy partners that are enrolled in the pharmacy program. She continued he mentioned will not have enough vaccines for that age group so it will most likely be first come, first serve. Barry Gold added that

was his same question and doesn't think it is all the pharmacy programs just Walmart but that was his understanding. Nevada only decided to go with the Walmart. Ms. Kimmel Dagostino added that its Walgreens also. Lisa Erquiaga reported their public health Nurse has gone out to their meals and wheels individuals who could not get out of their house. Something they advocated for and still have a few more to do and knows it can happen other places. If that's something you can do in your community, do it and please push for it. Ms. Erquiaga continued about Governor's Sisolak's statement regarding loosening measures and is concerned she is going to get pushed to open her center and earlier than she believes and wants to. She would like to know what everyone thinks and get everyone together to discuss what that looks like. She continued not everyone has been vaccinated and it's okay for everyone not to be together. Ms. Schmidt clarified if the emergency declaration is in place, any of the congregate or home delivered meals funds remain flexible and will continue with it if its needed and as long the declaration is in place. If you happen to be an ADSD grantee, the funding will remain flexible so that everyone can adjust to the new needs in their community. Ms. Erquiaga continued if anyone disagrees with her, she'd be happy to discuss that offline. She concluded her heart is broken because of losing so many people and does not want to lose anymore. Mr. Klein asked that Ms. Erquiaga frame the issues she spoke of and to send it to him to get attention at the national level.

7. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 9:24AM.

Note: We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Miles Terrasas in writing at 3416 Goni Rd, Suite D-132 Carson City, Nevada 89706, email milesterrasas@adsd.nv.gov or call at (775) 687-0501 as soon as possible.

Notice of this meeting was posted in the following N/A. Notice of this meeting was faxed, e-mailed, or hand delivered for posting to the following Carson City and Las Vegas, Nevada, locations N/A Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division website at adsd.nv.gov. and Nevada Public Notices website at www.notice.nv.gov. Supporting public material provided to Commission members for this meeting may be requested from Miles Terrasas, Commission Secretary, ADSD at (775) 687-0501 and is/will be available at the meeting locations and ADSD website at adsd.nv.gov.

Attachments:

A. [DPBH - Letter of Support](#)