



**State of Nevada Advisory Council on Palliative Care and Quality of Life**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Name of Organization:** Palliative Care and Quality of Life Council

**Date and Time of Meeting:** May 2, 2018, 4:00pm-6:00pm

**Locations:** Aging and Disability Services  
1820 East Sahara Avenue, Suite 201  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89104

Aging and Disability Services  
9670 Gateway Drive, Suite 200  
Reno, Nevada 89502

To Join the Telephone Conference: Call-in Number: 1-888-363-4735  
Access Number: 1672671

**A meeting of the State of Nevada Advisory Council on Palliative Care and Quality of Life was held on Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 4:00PM(PST) in the designated Northern and Southern Nevada locations: The Aging and Disability Services offices.**

**Members present:** Veneta Lepera, RN; Kim Anderson; Tom McCoy; Jill Berntson; Robert Pretzlaff, MD; Marilyn Jeanne Hesterlee, RN; Melissa St. Jean, MSW. Bri Santarsieri was present to take the minutes.

**Members called in:** Tom Hunt, MD; Lucille Walker

**Members absent:** Neville Campbell, MD; Kelly Conright, MD; Cheryl Spollino, APRN; Phyllis Conner, RN; and Senator Joyce Woodhouse

**Member arrived late:** Mary-Ann Brown, RN

**Other attendees:** Linda Anderson, Chief Deputy Attorney General; Robert Thompson, IT support

- I. Opening Remarks – Veneta Lepera
  - a. Introduction to meeting

VI. Open Discussion and Possible Recommendations of Best Practice Activities – Veneta Lepera

- a. Feedback on survey questions
  - i. Reviewed progress with Best Practice activities: letters and surveys mailed to facilities with good response rate.
  - ii. Reviewed survey question answers and comments.
  - iii. Small error on surveys: no space for facility name.
  - iv. 96 surveys sent out, 27 responses returned, and several requests for time extension to complete surveys.
  - v. Request made to share POLST-specific data with POLST board.
- b. Discussion of need for second letter with survey results and education expectations.
  - i. Need a basic minimum requirement for facilities to teach.
  - ii. Mary-Ann Brown: What is intent of education? Educating about advance care planning and the difference between hospice and palliative care is very helpful. Educating facilities about what palliative care does and when to call it, that's not very useful.
  - iii. Jeanne Hesterlee: Education has to be at a nonprofessional lower level, since many of the facilities are nonmedical facilities.
  - iv. Robert Pretzlaff: Type of facility will determine the recommendations for education. Facilities should be divided into two: medical and nonmedical.
  - v. Kim Anderson: SB136 states facilities with 100 beds or more must educate clinical staff on palliative care. In agreement with Dr. Pretzlaff's suggestion.
  - vi. Veneta Lepera: Intention is for all facilities, clinical and nonclinical, to have a global understanding of palliative care. Two separate buckets starting now, or a single thing that everybody has to learn about palliative care?
  - vii. Jeanne Hesterlee: SB136 states that facilities must provide education to clinical staff as well as to patients and residents. We should start with patients and residents first because it goes across the board.
  - viii. Tom McCoy: There can be two buckets, but there's one central theme that the statute and logic tells us; understanding of palliative care, then divided by type facility (medical and nonmedical).
  - ix. Kim Anderson: The website will contain both the consumer route and the clinician route; It has to be both clinical and the public receiving education.
  - x. Questioning whether there is a source which tells clinical and nonclinical facilities what education/resources they must provide. Jeanne Hesterlee tasked to gather more information for council.
  - xi. Linda Anderson: May put in specific requirements that a certain amount of training must be done, in compliance with the Senate Bill.
  - xii. Discussion of trainings.
    1. ADSD has a training on the website, training videos and test.
    2. Council members to watch training video independently before next meeting.

- e. Kim Anderson and Jeanne Hesterlee: Satisfied with simplicity of website and layout.
- f. Mary-Ann Brown: Council does not have a phone number or email to direct website users to – need to reconfigure the contact info.
  - i. Robert Thompson: Website does not need to contain contact info. Can add analytic tracking to site.
- g. Need to obtain legal counsel on steering users toward private entities.
- h. Veneta Lepera: HPNA does not have a chapter in Nevada. They are reaching out with seed money to start one. Perhaps the council can do something similar, the state website could reference back to local chapter of the national organizations.
- i. Next step for website: Robert needs to find out about tech stat for most other state websites from Justin Robinson. Otherwise, can use Robert's technology, which may come at extra fee.

IX. Make Recommendations and Approve Next Steps/Review of Deliverables by Council Members as Required by SB136

- a. Jeanne Hesterlee to provide website examples and determine majority of facilities that surveys were sent to.
- b. Kim Anderson will connect Robert Thompson with Jill Bernston and Justin Robinson.
- c. Tom McCoy: Reference to a bill that would amend Public Health Service Act to increase number of faculty in palliative care of accredited medical, nursing, social work school to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice. Bill is moving forward. Update on federal legislation regarding palliative care.
- d. Veneta Lepera: Will email the group and council members will respond individually.
- e. Can link CAPC website to the PC state website, should not be an issue according to Linda Anderson.

X. Schedule Next Council Meeting

- a. Originally decided on Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - i. Robert Pretzlaff unavailable, but will work with Veneta Lepera.
- b. Council Meeting on June 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm.

XI. Public Comment

- a. None.

XII. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 5:38pm.