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## MINUTES

Name of Organization: Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders

Date and Time of Meeting: May 25, 2021 3:30 p.m.

**Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, Commission members will be attending telephonically and via Microsoft TEAMS. Members of the public will also participate via teleconference**

### **Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting for the Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders was called to order at 3:32 pm.

Members Present: Trisha Lozano, Lenise Kryk, Ritzie Gratrix, James Howells, Julie Ostrovsky, Korri Ward, Antonina Capurro

A quorum was declared.

### **Public Comment**

Ms. Chalupnik reminded everyone that the emergency directive that does not require a physical location is set to expire on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Starting June 1, 2021, public meetings will have to provide at least one physical location for the meeting and in the upcoming months they will be transitioning to that.

### **Approval of the Minutes from the May 11, 2021 (For Possible Action)**

Ms. Kryk made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Ostrovsky seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Discussion Related to Budget Closing and Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP) Updates**

Ms. Jayme does not have anything new from the past two weeks as they are waiting for legislation to close before presenting any of that information.

Ms. Jayme did meet with her Management Analyst team to work on the data from the last couple fiscal years and waitlist reductions. ATAP is also working on some things with DFS and DCFS and will present at the next meeting so that the commission is aware of some ways ATAP is looking to support the foster care community.

**Legislative Updates to Include Discussion of the Following Bills and approval of letter of support: (For Possible Action):**

Ms. Ostrovsky updated all with the following:

- **Senate Bill 96** – Passed out of the senate. Amended from the \$48 rate to a \$62 rate, which makes this rate competitive.
- **Senate Bill 217** – Passed and it is on its way to the governor's desk.
- **Senate Bill 234** – Not yet had a hearing.

Ms. Ostrovsky stated that they are currently in the assembly and headed to Ways and Means and she asked for everyone on the call to please write the members of the assembly of Ways and Means and assembly leadership, as it would help immensely. Ms. Ostrovsky stated that they are not done yet, as they still have six days to make it happen.

Ms. Kryk said it was huge for the community reaching out to the legislators and how someone had shared that the community support was a big part and made a big difference. This is the first time they have made it out of Senate and from a BCBA perspective, they are putting things up on the Facebook groups, emailing providers, reaching out to Medicaid providers and just a lot of outreach in general. Ms. Kryk continued, having parents from organizations, like Azul Blue, and having them put emails out trying to hone people in on what to focus on.

Ms. Kryk suggested for the commission to put together a letter to the legislators and asked the commission if this is something they would be willing to do.

Ms. Ostrovsky thinks that this would be helpful and stated that they already have a letter, and it just needs to be updated with current numbers and information.

Ms. Ostrovsky mentioned that Senator Brooks commented on the passion of the Autism Community. She also followed up and he received a lot of thank you notes, which is also incredibly important.

The commission members agreed to update the letter live in this meeting.

The commission members worked together to make live edits and updates to the letter to send to legislators. This letter can be found on the ADSD website.

Ms. Kryk made a motion to add commissioner to all commission members titles on any documentation that is submitted to the public. Mr. Howells seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Ostrovsky made a motion to accept the letter as edited today, with each commissioner receiving a copy and having a copy sent to the legislator. Ms. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Ostrovsky made a motion to accept the letter as edited with the appropriate formatting. Ms. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Lozano stated that she will sign the letter.

Ms. Ostrovsky stated that she does not want this letter mailed. She prefers it being emailed to Chair Carlton and to Assembly Ways and Means.

Ms. Capurro stated that the bill is going to Ways and Means so when it is heard, she suggested to submit it as an attachment in support, to give it more visibility.

Ms. Kryk suggested to do both, attach and email.

Ms. Ostrovsky made a motion to submit the letter via email to Assembly Ways and Means and to the chair. Also, that each member of the commission be given the authority to submit the letter as well. Ms. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Review of the Current Community Strategic Report, to Include Discussion of Resources, and Finances in Preparation for Upcoming Strategic Report**

Ms. Ostrovsky made a motion to move this agenda item to the next meeting agenda for information and possible action. Ms. Capurro seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Subcommittee Updates Addressing the Lifespan of People Diagnosed with Autism**

- **Workforce Development** – No updates at this time.
- **Funding and Insurance** – No updates at this time.

### **Discuss and Approve Agenda Items for Future Commission Meeting Dates (For Possible Action)**

Ms. Capurro made a motion to have the following on the next meeting agenda for June 15, 2021:

- Review of the Current Community Strategic Report, to Include Discussion of Resources, and Finances in Preparation for Upcoming Strategic Report
- Legislative Updates to Include Discussion of the Following Bills and approval of letter of support SB96, SB217, SB234.

And for July 20, 2021, agenda:

- Nevada Department of Education

Ms. Ostrovsky seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Sacrison thanked everyone for their involvement in SB96.

Ms. Ostrovsky gave a special thank you to Ms. Chalupnik and Ms. Jayme for all their assistance and notes from the meetings. A big thank you to the public for getting us this far and we have one week to go.

Ms. Kryk thanked Mr. Sacrison for being a part of the meeting a participating.

### **Adjourn**

Ms. Ostrovsky motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Kryk seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Lozano adjourned the meeting at 4:44 pm.

DRAFT