

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**

Nevada Commission on Aging  
Legislative Subcommittee  
(Nevada Revised Statute [NRS] 427A.034)

**Date and Time of Meeting:**  
October 28, 2020  
10:00 am until adjournment

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

Jeff Klein called the meeting to order at 10:04am

**Subcommittee Members Present:**

Jeff Klein  
Mary Liveratti  
Diane Ross  
Barry Gold  
Larry Weiss

**Subcommittee Members Absent:**

None

**Staff:**

Dena Schmidt, Administrator, ADSD  
Jennifer Richards, Elder Rights Chief, ADSD  
Miles Terrasas, Executive Assistant, ADSD

**Presenters:**

Crystal Wren, Social Services Chief, ADSD  
M. Jeanne Hesterlee, RN, Health Facilities Inspections Manager, DPBH, DHHS  
Patti Swager, M.Ed., Director of Clinical Education, Director of Geriatric Education Center, Sanford Center for Aging, University of Nevada Reno School of Medicine

### **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. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

- Larry Weiss –In the process of doing Elders Count, which is all the data across the state (state, county, and city), This was previously done in 2007, 2009 and 2013. Aging and Disability Services Division, PAC unit are doing a great job. This will help with policy recommendations. Additional information on the 2020 Elders Count Report will be shared at the COA meeting on November 10, 2020.
- Connie McMullen – Responding to agenda items, would like President of Association for Personal Care to be able to respond, Mr. Robert Crockett. Training has been reviewed in multiple sessions. This is a hard time for personal care companies and thinks that we will see a lot of them go out of business. Companies that do not take Medicaid have a better chance. Responses from these companies has not been good.
- Barry Gold – We are in elections season and AARP is involved in ‘Protect 50+ Voters’, which is their voter engagement campaign. This makes sure that everyone knows how to vote safely. Early voting ends Friday. Election Day is November 3<sup>rd</sup>, or one can use mail in ballots so that all our voices are heard. Next issue, during Legislative Report on Senior Issues agenda item he would like to talk about consideration of a virtual lobby day. Unsure if Legislature will be virtual or in person – to do an in-person Senior Issues Day may not be possible. AARP has done a virtual event in the past; these are good opportunities and should be discussed.
- Jennifer Richards – Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities produced a video and resources on voting. [Video Link](#), [NDALC Link](#), [NV Ease Platform Link](#)

### **3. Approval of Minutes of the May 27, 2020 meeting**

Mary Liveratti stated corrections to the May 27, 2020 Meeting Minutes:

Page 3, paragraph 3

Mr. Gold asked if Kirsten could find out the process for the rural and report back to the committee and expressed concern that AB122 needs to be part of the study. Mr. Klein stated a story that encompasses the situation would be beneficial and added going back to ACL/alternative pathways development. Ms. Liveratti stated that-AARP has a rural group which may enable us to collaborate with other states to build strength and affect federal policy. Mr. Gold responded he will ask his national liaison.”

Page 6, Item 11 paragraph 3,

“Ms. Liveratti commented when she was working, people who had mental health issues and dementia, ended up in jail and that became the mental health service. When they are older, and the jail does not know where to discharge as it is usually a case of them being combative, or very difficult behaviors they cannot control. This makes it hard for their families to maintain them at home and find a facility to help them.

Mr. Jeff Klein asked for a motion to approve with the stated corrections. Mary Liveratti moved to approve. Barry Gold seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously as amended.

### **4. Overview and Discussion of Training Opportunities for Home and Community Based Services**

Crystal Wren presented training opportunities for Personal Care Agencies ([See Attachment A](#)) & informational links:

- [Adult Care Connections](#)
- [Personal Assistance Services \(PAS\) - Caregiver Online Training](#)

Jeanne Hesterlee presented the training requirements for types of Health Facilities Involved with Community Based Programs ([See Attachment B](#)) & ([See Attachment C](#)) ([See Attachment D](#)).

Patti Swager presented trainings offered by NGEC ([See Attachment E](#))

## **5. Nevada For the Common Good: Introduction of Anna Eng, Lead Organizer**

Mr. Klein introduced Anna Eng, Lead Organizer, Nevadans for the Common Good (NCG). Ana Eng gave introduction to self and credentials. She gives a background of NCG. Ana reviewed immediate concerns of the community. The main concerns are the issues of distance learning, lack of funding in schools, the housing eviction crisis and addiction recovery. For the upcoming Legislative Session, she plans on focusing on better understanding the budget, advocating against cuts where appropriate and continue to look at long term citizen voice in the budgeting process.

## **6. 2019 Legislative Session Report on Senior Issues. Discuss and Approve**

Mary Liveratti reviewed bills that had not passed in the previous legislature session. Mary reviewed these bills to see if the Commission wanted to attempt them again in the upcoming Legislative session. ([See Attachment F](#))

Jeff Klein brought up the Committees approach this year being that the Legislative Session may not be fully in person. Mr. Klein proposed an after-election planning session for the Committee. This will allow for review of seats that have changed in the Assembly and Senate and take a look at what agendas are looking like and what leadership is coming up with. Take a look at the BDR's that are already starting to surface. Setting an immediate post-election meeting will allow the committee to move forward quickly.

Barry Gold speaks on the successful Senior Issues Day/ Senior Lobby Day in Legislature in the past. Giving up on this because of the Pandemic does not make sense. AARP has history in other states on doing virtual lobby days. Have technological capabilities through different platforms to host this. Mr. Gold would like to invite agency staff and elected officials to do presentations. The in-person environment for seniors will probably not be safe. Recording this event and posting to web will allow for sharing of the event electronically. Holding this event virtually is something to consider. Getting legislative leadership on record and hear what the issues are and hear how many people are involved is a good idea. Agrees with Mary that Committee on Aging will need to be careful of how we frame our issues especially any that require funding. The only issue we have always backed with appropriations is protecting for funding of HCBS services. We are lucky to not be included in cuts from special session. Need to seriously consider narrowing list of issues the committee wants to push. Mr. Gold reiterates that committee needs to choose carefully so that it increases the chances of getting what they want and has heard that the Economic forum is going to be tough.

Mr. Jeff Klein recommends the committee asks Barry Gold to draft some ideas on virtual possibilities for the next meeting. Target a meeting for December 2020 so we are post-election yet before the holiday break. Use this meeting to review Legislative initiatives and review virtual ideas to bring together a package for discussion at the next meeting.

Mary Liveratti brings up the point that Dena Schmidt will be presenting at the next COA meeting about the budget. Ms. Liveratti assumes the committee will be supporting these budget requests. ADSD budget requests in combination with the issues will need to be considered.

## **7. Review, discuss and approve tentative agenda for the next meeting**

Follow up Items from today's meeting:

- Budget COA Report from Dena Schmidt
- Next Session Package – Issues and potential virtual format
- Members to bring lists of groups we have previously worked on legislative issues with to next meeting
- Natalie Mazzullo, Stanford Center of Again and Extension Offices of UNR
- Observation comment. When hearing a lot of NRS and NACs and legislative bills the language that is modeled reflects Ageism. The Associated Press and those that work in the field of Gerontology have made a shift to remove some of the words and use them less often to reduce the view of Ageism. Words like elderly, frail and seniors are all words that put a picture in your head of someone that is maybe not healthy or depicts a certain societal look. Leaning toward using the word ELDERS more. As noticed that during discussion of older adults have still been using these words. As a group that promotes aging for our state that we should model the language that we would like other to use. Just an observation and a comment as we move forward. Need to try to do a really good job as a Commission to reduce ageism and make sure to use more positive words that depict older adults. Jeff Klein remarks that this is noted and is a worthy topic to raise at the COA in two weeks. Reframing the aging vernacular is important to where we want to head in the future

**8. Next Meeting Date** Next meeting date moved up to December. No longer scheduled for January 21, 2021.

**9. 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. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

- Barry Gold – AARP has a partnership with the Review Journal has done a poll on senior issues and voting. A video has been posted by Review Journal reviewing congressional issues. Barry is not going to post the link to the Commission chat, but if anyone is interest can access it through the AARP YouTube page.

**10. Adjournment** – Barry moved to adjourn. Larry Weiss seconded the motion. No opposition. Meeting adjourned at 12:56pm

Attachments:

- A. [CBC Personal Care Agencies Presentation](#)
- B. [AGC Caregiver & Administrator Training Requirements Handout](#)
- C. [Regulations for Training in HIRC Handout](#)
- D. [DPBH Training Requirements Presentation](#)
- E. [NGEC Education Overview Handout](#)
- F. [COA Dead Bills Spreadsheet](#)

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