



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION
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DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

<i>Name of Organization:</i>	Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Legislative Subcommittee
<i>Date and Time of Meeting:</i>	Thursday, April 7, 2022 10:00AM
<i>Place of Meeting:</i>	Virtual: Zoom Zoom Meeting Link Meeting ID: 876 2131 1856 Passcode: 550552 Audio Only Option 1-669-900-6833 (San Jose) CART will be accessible by following this link: Caption Link Meeting Materials can be found here: Home (nv.gov)

NOTE: Items on this agenda may be taken in a different order than listed. Two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration. An item may be removed from this agenda or discussion relating to an item on this agenda may be delayed at any time.

Minutes of this meeting will be produced in summary format. Please provide the Commission administrative support with electronic or written copies of testimony and visual presentations if you wish to have complete versions included as exhibits with the minutes.

1. Roll Call & Opening Statement:
Eli Schwartz, Chair

- Good morning, we have interpreters and closed captioning available this morning.
- Members: Eli Schwartz, Rusty Shaffer, Jay Cafferata, Beth Jones
- Guests: Laura Fink, Maureen Fradianni, Ace Patrick, Cat Rexing, Susan Beckett, Jewel Eldridge, Eric Wilcox, Jeff, Becky Van Auken, Captioner, Jamie Jaramillo, Interpreter, Aliana Watson, Interpreter
- Staff: Obioma Officer, Director, Lisa Torres, Lorraine Belt-Dolan

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 five 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.)

- Susan Beckett making public comment about an idea presented to her that we work with the legislative subcommittee and Deaf Commission, when an officer

approaches a vehicle there is no idea the person inside is deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired and the idea is to work with the department of motor vehicles to add to the registration prior to the name the words Deaf, HH (for hard of hearing), or SI (speech impairment). There may be no cost to the DMV possible staffing time, but this could help with confusion later and would be private unlike some items that other states require.

- Ace Patrick chair of the Nevada Statewide Independent Living council and would like to invite everyone to the next SILC meeting on April 20th and 21st both days are from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. More information can be found on their website, nvsilc.com. If you are attending and need an interpreter, please reach out to Ace or Dawn Lyons (their information is on the website) they would be happy to provide that accommodation.

3. Approval of Minutes of the September 1, 2020, meeting: (For Possible Action)

Eli Schwartz, Chair

- Eli made the motion to approve the meeting minutes, Rusty Shaffer seconded the motion and motion carried.

4. Follow-Up to Public Comment during Interim Session Committee Meeting on Government Affairs:

Eli Schwartz, Chair

- Eli wrote a public comment to the Interim Session Committee Meeting on Government Affairs. That statement is included in the meeting materials available here: [Home \(nv.gov\)](http://Home.nv.gov)
- Jay commented about a new law SB318 that was passed last legislative session and is being uncoupled from COVID, so every state agency is going to have to have a language access plan.
- Eli would like to see it be more specific to ASL, Jay stated that it is more than just ASL that deaf people use, also the law is for all disabilities, and he is working hard on this and is part of that committee. With legislation as soon as you make a list of included services you are making a list of unincluded services, so we want to make sure the language is inclusive.
- The office of new Americans would like to partner with us on access to information, they did reach out to us, and Jay had made the comments to them that they include the deaf and blind and SILC as they were not including anyone other than white able-bodied persons.
- Open the floor to public comment based on what was just discussed.
- Laura Fink, I represent employment specialist at DETR she is a Vocational Rehabilitation counselor and is the employment specialist for the full commission, she has been asked by DETR to make an agency plan to address SB318, she is working with the blind as well and is looking forward to creating the agency plan.
- What can we as the legislative subcommittee/Deaf Commission able to do to facilitate this change? Section 7 is about communication access and Jay is offering to meet with anyone about the writing of this section.

5. Planning Discussion and set tentative date(s) for Town Hall meetings in 2022 – 2023: (For Possible Action)

Eli Schwartz, Chair

- In prior years we have had town halls and they were successful, Beth stated that NV Hands and Voices would be very interested in participating in the town halls. Rusty would be able to participate in the Reno area. Jay asked if they would be live or zoom, and these would be live.
- Jay Cafferata made a motion to start a committee to plan 3 town halls throughout the state with a zoom component for those unable to attend live. Seconded
- Beth made comment that there is an event coming up could we give out flyers, we do have commissioners that will be attending that event.

- Dates will be set by the Executive Director and approved by the full commission.
6. Planning Discussion and set tentative date for Deaf Day at Legislature in 2023: (For Possible Action)
Eli Schwartz, Chair
- Jay, Eli, and Beth are trying to create a deaf day at the Legislature, and they were semi-successful previously and as we have time to plan one for next spring when legislature is in session would be successful.
 - Beth said that the last one we had was successful considering it was via zoom and NV Hands and Voices would be excited to do it and the families participating is very important.
 - Rusty asked what we are trying to accomplish with a Deaf Day at the legislature.
 - Beth stated that they can educate young people on testifying
 - Rusty thinks that sound great and news coverage would be beneficial and with notice he can make sure that the news is there to cover.
 - This helps to make the legislatures see that we are a community and exist and having the children come and testify it helps them to see that they can advocate and make a difference. Gives the community a sense of being involved in the process. In person is always better and food always makes it better.
 - Bringing it to the full commission is needed and it needs to have a budget and a clear person to be in charge.
 - Rusty will check if we can start to put it together with a budget, he will take it to the office of telecommunications association and ask for them to participate financially.
 - Rusty Shaffer makes a motion to have a Deaf Day at the legislature next spring and Jay Cafferata seconded, motion passed.
 - Jay and Obioma will be in communication to get this set up.
7. Discussion on approach to legislature supporters following this term:
Eli Schwartz, Chair
- Tracy Brown-May (assemblywoman) expressed interest in being a supporter of the deaf to Beth Jones, she is a big supporter of Opportunity Village, and she did participate in deaf day and Beth has contact information and the list of persons who participated in deaf day last time. Senator Spearman and Hardy are retiring and have been our supporters in the past.
 - Senator Spearman is running for Mayor of North Las Vegas and has not responded to any of Jay's attempts to get information, however Beth has some information that she can forward on to Obioma.
 - Beth will look at the records from Deaf Day at the Legislature and will recommend some more legislatures who attended and get that information to Eli and Obioma to present to the Commission as a whole.
8. Review, Discussion of By Laws applicable to Subcommittees and Subcommittees recruitment:
Eli Schwartz, Chair
- Opportunity to review the bylaws and know what your duties as a subcommittee member are and that the full commission will be voting on some changes to those bylaws. The subcommittee positions are currently the same time frame as the full commission of three-year terms, and we are looking to change the subcommittee's term to one year with a possible second term available. We also may be setting new expectations for subcommittee members.

9. Approval of Roster, and contact information updates: (For Possible Action)

Eli Schwartz, Chair

- Eli Schwartz
- Jay Cafferata
- Rusty Shaffer
- Beth Jones
- There is currently one position open on this subcommittee.
- Jay Cafferata so moves that these persons be accepted as members of the legislative subcommittee, Rusty Shaffer seconded, and motion carried.
- All the contact information needs to be sent to Obioma, so we know we have the correct information.

10. Discussion and Approval of Recommendations related to items brought forth in this meeting:
(For Possible Action)

Eli Schwartz, Chair

- So far what we have recommended in this meeting that there be a subcommittee set up for the setting up of 3 townhalls throughout the state of NV in person we will be making this recommendation to the full commission.
- Rusty Shaffer makes a motion to bring Deaf day at the legislature and getting a budget and funding to the full commission and Beth Jones seconded. Motion carried.
- Beth and Obioma will work on supporters from the legislature.

11. Review, Discuss Tentative Agenda Items for October 6, 2022, meeting: (For Possible Action)

Eli Schwartz, Chair

- Susan Becketts suggestion to contact DMV about adding the words Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Speech Impaired to registration information, possibly the subcommittee bring a recommendation to the commission of writing a letter.
- Continue work on SB318, what support would be needed
- Deaf Day at the legislature
- If you have any ideas for the subcommittee to work on, please send them to Obioma to add to the October agenda.
- Made a motion and Jay seconded, motion passed.

12. 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 five 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.)

- Jewel Eldridge I am deaf and am president of Nevada Black Deaf advocates (NVBDA) and she is a college student and works at CSN and tutors. I like the idea of the deaf day and going to the legislature and as a member of the community I didn't know about it and we are partnering with the commission to get the information out to the community, and we could share resources and I would love to be involved. I didn't see any information on Facebook or public forums and would like to see if maybe we could even put out a YouTube video for the next one as English is not everyone's primary language. Obioma is the vice president of NVBDA, and they have a meeting tonight at 6:00 pm where she will be presenting about the Deaf Commission.

13. Adjournment: 11:34 am

Eli Schwartz, Chair

Accommodation Requests and Meeting Materials:

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 Lorraine Belt-Dolan in writing at 3320 W. Sahara, Suite 100, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102, email lorrainebelt@adsd.nv.gov or call at (702) 486-4307 as soon as possible.

Notice of this meeting was posted at the following Aging and Disability Services Office at 3208 Goni Road, Building I, Suite 181, Carson City, NV. 89706. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division website at www.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 Lorraine Belt-Dolan, Commission Administrative Support, ADSD at (702)486-4307 and is/will be available at the meeting locations and ADSD website at [Nevada Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired \(nv.gov\)](http://Nevada Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired (nv.gov))

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