



Nevada Commission for Persons that are Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Legislative Subcommittee

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time of Meeting: **Tuesday, March 26, 2024
2:30 PM**

Location of Meeting: **ZOOM**

AGENDA

1. **Roll Call and Opening Statement:**

Members: Eli Schwartz, Beth Jones, Susan Beckett, Catherine Nielsen, Betty Hammond

Guests: Dolores Hauck, Lance Ledet, Trisha, Meleah Smith, Kristy Fritzler

Accommodations: Ava Smith, Interpreter; Naomi Rosen, Interpreter; Becky Van Auken, Captioner

Staff: Obioma Officer, Executive Director; Lorraine Belt-Dolan, Administrative Assistant III

2. **Public Comment:**

- No Public Comment

3. **For Possible Action:** Approval of Minutes of the January 17, 2024, meeting.

- We would like to make an adjustment to the minutes for the previous minutes as the DD council does not have a set amount of funding for Deaf Day at the legislature and we would like to withdraw the statement about funding.
- Beth Jones made a motion to approve the minutes with the adjustment from the above statement, Catherine Nielsen seconded, motion carried.

4. **For Possible Action:** Commission Directive Topic(s): For Discussion and approval to bring to the Commission for final approval if needed.

- a) Planning and Discussion and approval of recommendations for Deaf Day at the Legislature 2025, collaboration with Las Vegas Deaf Seniors.
- It was decided that 3 members of the subcommittee, Beth Jones, Susan Beckett, and Catherine Nielsen will work with at least 3 volunteers from the Las Vegas Deaf Seniors to plan Deaf Day at the Legislature 2025 and bring that information back to the subcommittee.
- b) Discussion and Approval of Recommendations for new Bill Draft Requests (BDR's) needed in the next legislative session. From Eli's list of possible BDR's to include Advocacy Concepts, BDR's to be solicited by Commissioners direct connections.
- As we are in the interim and committees are doing a lot of presentations at this time to educate the legislators this would be a perfect time for us to capitalize on that and do presentations in as many settings as possible.
 - It was suggested that we as a subcommittee and commission come up with position statements that we can use when testifying and communicating with the legislature and then we do not have to vote each time there is an opportunity to voice the commissions support of a legislative initiative.
 - This discussion was very robust, and it was decided to continue the discussion into the next meeting.
- c) Discussion and Advocacy concepts to address current challenges with statewide noncompliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)/Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Federal Laws.
- This item got included in the discussion of BDR's.
- d) Advocate for detention centers to be ADA compliant by utilizing ASL interpreters and communication access.
- We received information on this that the Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center's role is protection and advocacy, to go into facilities to investigate, usually unannounced. Catherine Nielson is president of their board and can submit a complaint to them and have the facilities in question investigated.
- e) Advocate for a Deaf school for kindergarten – 12th grade.
- This item was tabled until the next meeting.

5. **For Possible Action:** Approval of tentative Agenda Items for Next meeting, July 16, 2024.
 - Position statements for the commission.
 - Bluetooth/T-coil for government building.
 - Go over Eli's list and advocate for a Deaf School.
 - Look at BDR's that were close and didn't pass the last session.
 - Deaf Day subcommittee report.
 - Possible educational presentations to legislative subcommittees.
6. **Public Comment:**

Dolores Hauck is a consultant for the united way of Southern Nevada, there is funding that has come through to nonprofits and some entities under language access. As such they are working towards several BDRs to add ASL as another language.
7. **Adjournment: 3:45 PM**

Accommodation Requests and Meeting Materials:

NOTE:

- Supporting public material provided to Commission members for this meeting may be requested from Lorraine Belt-Dolan, Commission Administrative Support, ADSD at Lorrainebelt@adsd.nv.gov 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 \(nv.gov\)](https://www.nv.gov/NebraskaCommissionforPersonsWhoAreDeafHardofHearingorSpeechImpaired)

AGENDA POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

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 [ADSD \(nv.gov\)](https://www.adsd.nv.gov) and Nevada Public Notices website at <https://notice.nv.gov>