

JOE LOMBARDO  
Governor

Dr. KRISTOPHER SANCHEZ  
Director

## STATE OF NEVADA



COMMISSION MEMBERS  
Gabriela Wyett – Chair  
Angelica Villarta – Vice-Chair  
Jon Lau  
Nic Steele  
Nina Gallagher  
Juanny Romero  
Lance West  
Anabel Navarro  
Demetrius Ware

### DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR NEVADA COMMISSION ON MINORITY AFFAIRS

*The central advisory body advocating for and providing a voice to Nevada's minority community."*

## MEETING MINUTES

Name of the Agency: Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs

Date and Time of the Meeting: November 6th, 2023, at 9:30am

Location: 3300 W. Sahara Ave., Suite 430, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102

Type of Meeting: Hybrid with connection to remote technology system

### 1. OPENING

#### A. Call to order & Roll call

The meetings call to order at 9:32am by Chairwomen Gabriela Wyett

#### **Commissioner in Attendance:**

Gabriela Wyett, Nina Gallagher, Anabel Navarro, Demetrius Ware, Nic Steele, Lance West, Jon Lau, Juanny Romero

**Commissioners Absent:** Angelica Villarta

#### **Members of the Public Present:**

Gilda Espinoza, Michelle Merced, Mike Licea, Maggie Salas-Crespo, Ferrari Reeder Public Affairs, Elyse Monroy, Cecilia Heston, Belz & Case Government Affairs, Ganesh Kadam.

#### **Staff in Attendance:**

Angie Rojas

#### B. Silent Meditation & Pledge of Allegiance

#### C. Land Acknowledgements by Commissioner West

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2. PUBLIC COMMENT (1<sup>st</sup> Period)

None

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Approval of October 5, 2023, meeting minutes.

Item tabled as the Management Analyst had issues with retrieving the recording from the recorder device. The Commission will be meeting on November 14, 2023, at 8:30am. just to approve October 5, 2023. meeting minutes to comply with NRS 241.

Commissioner Steele moved to approved, Commissioner Ware 2<sup>nd</sup>. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Dissolution of committee regarding AB73 – Graduation Adornments

The Commission dissolved a committee consisting of Chair Gabriela Wyett, Commissioner Lance West and Management Analyst, Angie Rojas to be responsible for reviewing graduation adornments received from the Department of Education to provide consultation.

Commissioner Steele moved to approve, Commissioner Navarro 2<sup>nd</sup>. The motion carried unanimously.

4. NCMA Academy Series

A. Introduction of guest stakeholders – Gabriela Wyett

Chair Wyett asked guest speakers to do a short introduction.

- Mark Licea, Nevada Housing Division
- Michelle Merced, Neighborhood Housing Services
- Desiree Zapinsky, Volunteers in Medicine of Southern Nevada
- Lisa Curran, Volunteers in Medicine of Southern Nevada
- Maggie Salas Crespo, Secretary of State

B. Nevada Housing Division Presentation by Mark Licea

Mark Licea did a five-minute presentation regarding the State's Low Income Housing Tax Credit program.

C. Neighborhood Housing Services of Southern Nevada Presentation by

Michelle Merced

Michelle Merced did a five-minute presentation regarding the services offered by Neighborhood Housing Services of Southern Nevada.

- D. Roundtable discussion regarding Affordable Housing – Commission members and Stakeholders  
Affordable housing in the State of Nevada and the issues the State faces to provide more affordable housing was discussed between Commission members and guest speakers.
- E. Volunteers in Medicine of Southern Nevada Presentation by Desiree Zapinsky  
Desiree Zapinsky did a five-minute presentation regarding the services Volunteers in Medicine of Southern Nevada offered.
- F. Secretary of State presentation by Maggie Salas-Crespo  
Maggie Salas-Crespo did a five-minute presentation regarding the Nevada Lock box program within the Secretary of State office.
- G. Roundtable discussion regarding access to healthcare resources – Commission members and Stakeholders  
Access to healthcare resources and the services offered by the Lockbox program was discussed between Commission members and Stakeholders.

5. New Business

MA Rojas thanked all stakeholders for participating in the Commission meeting, she also asked Commissioners to comment on the format of this meeting as this meeting was formatted as a pilot program to bring in guest speakers to discuss topics related to Commission subcommittees. Commissioners liked and agreed to have this type of setting every other month.

Chair Wyett reminded Commissioners that the MA is not an administrative assistant, and that she brings the data to the Commission as requested by Commissioners.

MA Rojas reminded the Commission that she operates as requested by Commissioners but not on admin duties. It has to be based on what is required by statute. She stated that she assists the Commission members to do the studies the Commission is supposed to be doing.

Commissioner Romero asked if scheduling meetings for Commissioners part of the MA's duties was or if that was on Commissioners to do so.

Chair Wyett responded that it would depend on what the meeting was and if the meeting required MA involvement.

Commissioner Romero requested clarification on where the MA duties fall and where they fall outside of that scope.

Commissioner Romero also provided an update on her efforts with the Legislative Subcommittee.

Michael Demter advised the Commission to recall items as the Commission was going into discussion beyond new discussion.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT (2<sup>nd</sup> Period)

Mr. Ganesh Kadam provided public comment regarding the Commission's annual report for 2022 and the two Bill Draft request the Commission intended to submit during the 2023 Legislative Session.

7. NEXT MEETING

January 11, 2023

8. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Steele moved to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Ware seconded. The motion carried unanimously.