

STEVE SISOLAK
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

TERRY REYNOLDS
Director



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

Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Commission on Minority Affairs was held on Monday, January 27, 2020. Pursuant to public notice: Via video conference call between all locations: 1) Nevada State Business Center, 3300 W. Sahara Ave, Nevada Room, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102, 2) Nevada Department of Business and Industry, 1830 College Pkwy, Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89706, and 3) Conference call: Carson City: 775-687-0999, Las Vegas: 702-486-5260, Participant's Collaboration Code: 64575.

1. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Chair Chaney called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

B. Commissioners Present: Chair D. Edward Chaney (person), Vice Chair Myisha Williams (person), C. E. Mercedes Krause (person), C. Amy Shaw (person), C. Adleen Stidhum, and C. Kathleen Taylor (person).

C. Commissioners Absent: C. Hasaan Azam, C. Janelle Conine

D. Staff Present: Emily Ku, Management Analyst for the Commission on Minority Affairs, Gary Mathews, Counsel

E. Public Attendance: Janet Serial

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Janet Serial from the NAACP provided information about the first annual NAACP Environmental Conference at University of Nevada Reno on Saturday February 15 as one of their activities for Black History Month. They are partnering with the UNR Sanford Center for Aging, City of Reno, and Washoe County Health District. It is from 9 am to 2pm at the Joe Crowley Student Union, 4th floor. They will be having plenaries on workforce diversity, a panel discussion on the status of black mental health, and a presentation by Dr. Peter Reed from the Sanford Center for Aging. Ms. Serial invited the Commission to participate in this symposium.

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. Approval of November 18, 2019 meeting minutes (for discussion and possible action)

C. Stidhum moved to approve the minutes. C. Shaw seconded. The motion carried.

B. Subcommittee Updates (for discussion and possible action)

1. Education

C. Krause said that the National Congress of the American Indian, Native Organizers Alliance and Four Directions were in town during the month of January to work on Native American voter engagement and census participation. Our local communities will continue organizing and doing weekly outreach on the census and caucusing at the Las Vegas Indian Center. C. Krause would like to find a way to compensate for our under count of Native American students with information obtained from the census. She is unsure what kind of support is needed from possibly the Governor's office to figure out a strategy for this.

The first meeting of the Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Cabinet (STAC) met this year and will meet again in April. Some focus groups were established on the topics of recruitment and retention and equity in education. C. Krause suggested that we invite someone from the Superintendent's Advisory Cabinet to give a brief overview of their findings and their suggestions because this goes to the Nevada Department of Education. We know that recruitment and retention are very important to the education system.

She met with the Nevada Indian commission's Stacey Montooth on the missing achievement data for Native American students being absent from the Nevada Ready report, and the biased curriculum in the new ReadyGen curriculum that our school district adopted three years ago.

Also, there is a save the date for Saturday, March 7th from 10am to 1pm for the National Education Association of Southern Nevada. It is going to be a CCSD Teacher Recruitment & Retention symposium. It will be educators and stakeholders involved in talking about what is needed to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers. They want their voices heard, finalize their ideas, compile it into a report, and send it out to several different venues.

2. Health

C. Taylor said that in December, she attended the Building Communities in Public Health at the UNLV School of Medicine. The keynote speaker was Senator Yvanna Cancela, and additional presenters were from the Southern Nevada Health District and the Children's Advocacy Alliance. She met with Jennifer Young, who is the Assistant Director of Community Engagement at the UNLV School of Medicine, to schedule a follow-up meeting on how to work collaboratively with the Health Subcommittee. From a referral from Chair Chaney and C. Williams, she corresponded with Jodi Tyson at Three Square to explore collaborative initiatives on the "Whole Food System". Lastly, she connected with Alma Spears, Director of Operations at the Boys and Girls Club of Southern Nevada to talk about the mental health services they provide to the youth.

M. A. Ku said as part of the Health Impact Assessment working group, they are finalizing the decision support tool in March for city planners to help with the "good, better, best solutions" when they are redesigning parts of the city and incorporating public health into those plans.

C. Williams and C. Chaney were able to meet with the leadership team at Three Square and talk about their initiatives. That was a really productive meeting, and we thought it would be best aligned with the Health Subcommittee. It seems like a good opportunity to helping to get their message out and come up with a strategic plan of what that might look like. C. Chaney thanked C. Taylor for her work and is very excited about the relationship. C. Williams said one of the conversations was clarifying that the Commission is a volunteer body, and we have full time responsibilities outside the Commission. C. Williams said that Three Square was hoping to engage in the initial conversation to see if there is some alignment. There may be a legislative arm to it, and there may be an opportunity to share some of the load if it grows into that area and needs additional support, and if these are in alignment with the Commission's goals.

3. Housing

C. Krause received a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program Qualified Allocation Plan 2020 Draft. She will review it and report on it next month.

C. Krause said that since the last we met, the Las Vegas City Council has now imposed additional penalties for sleeping on the street during street cleaning days. She would like to know how she can be informed on the governor's overall stance is on education and housing issues. Director Schaerer said that the Governor's office is working on the new state plan but we don't have details yet. He hopes it will be available by the end of this quarter.

C. Taylor attended a Phenomenal Women's event, and met with Vera Moore who is the Executive Director of True Beginnings. They provide services and housing for women in crises. C. Williams asked about an update about the Southern Nevada Housing Authority. C. Taylor said that meeting was canceled at the last minute. C. Krause said that at the Nevada Housing Coalition meeting in Reno, one of their concerns was is that the same pot of money is used for economic development and housing, and most of that is earmarked for the high speed train. Director Schaerer said that's the volume cap of the private activity bonds. There are always competing interests in terms of economic development advancement. It has been distributed percentage wise over the years into affordable housing and concrete development to further economic activity and jobs. C. Chaney said he would like to attend the next SNRHA meeting.

4. Workforce Development

C. Stidhum said on January 1st, the Nevada Revised Statutes were codified for the new apprenticeship program, so there will be more data on the construction industry looks like as they are issuing contracts. They are trying to get a sense of what the apprenticeships looks like based on the crafts and trades that are available. Secondly, she spoke with the Community Interest Representative with the Mortenson-McCarthy Group with the stadium. They are now midway with the project, and now we should start seeing the workforce build as more work starts contracting in, such as foodservice. We heard about the MGM collaboration with the Raiders and that's bringing in Teamsters and other groups. She asked about statistics or something they can share, as the county is preparing for the small business training program to start up next month. C. Krause is interested in knowing more about the bidding process. If there are documents, she would appreciate it so she can share with her networks.

M. A. Ku said that on Friday, January 17th, Business and Industry had a table at the Dr. MLK, Jr. Tech Summit at Zappo's and spoke to the students about entrepreneurship. Nine different middle schools

attended the event, and Tony Hsieh, the CEO of Zappos, gave the keynote.

5. Economic & Business Development

C. Shaw said on January 16th, she attended the Sports Diversity Awards program, which honored McCarran for their commitment to the local business community and outreach. It was sponsored by the LGBTQ community. On February 6, the National Association of Minority Contractors conference is hosting their mid-winter conference at the Mirage. The theme is Vision 2020: Policy, Projects, and Partnerships. They want to begin engaging in the community under the NAMC Las Vegas chapter. On April 28th, McCarran is hosting a vendor fair for the rental car companies, which have a low participating in engaging with local suppliers and service providers, so they are inviting local companies that would supply anything the rental car companies would use and anything they may use for automobile service work like tires. They are meeting at the Commissioners Meeting Room from 8am-12pm.

M. A. Ku attended the LVGEA Outlook on December 3rd. Jeremy Aguero spoke about the growing tech industry in Southern Nevada, and they had some economists (Chris Thornberg and Stephen Miller) speak about numerous economic indicators to show that the economy is slowing down but don't see any indications of a recession in 2020. M. A. Ku also attended the Asian Chamber luncheon last Thursday, where they announced a 401K plan with the Latin Chamber for their members. She also helped with Business & Industry's New Market Tax Credits event. It was an intro seminar about what the tax credits are, and how small businesses can be a part of the program. There were 10 Community Development Entities at the event where small businesses could talk to them one-on-one. M. A. Ku said she saw a lot of minority small business owners who attended the event.

C. Williams went to the Las Vegas Stadium Authority Board meeting to hear updates on workforce and economic development. There was going to be a larger update on what the community could expect from the community benefits oversight plan at the January 23rd meeting. That agenda had both the master operator and master concessionaire, and they were supposed to provide an update to the community about the level of inclusiveness and their actions on engaging the community in terms of outreach and activity. They did not show. It was really disheartening to the committee and the community, that banded together and said it was unacceptable to not put out a report in the same fashion that Mortenson-McCarthy did. There are public documents available on the Stadium Authority board website where you can get the past minutes on the Mortenson-McCarthy benefits plan, which includes who they've contracted with and what categories they fall under. They report this out on a monthly basis. The expectation was that the master operator and master concessionaire, would have similar reporting. It is mandated in SB1 that they participate. C. Williams gave public comment on behalf of the Commission on the necessity of needing to be open and transparent and to understand how minorities are being involved in both operations and concessions. There was some coverage by the media in terms of no show. They have been mandated to provide an update in the next 30 days. AEG has rebranded as ASM Global and they are master operation, and Levy is the master connection. C. Chaney said it's imperative, if the Commissioners can, to attend those meetings. It's important to disseminate that information to the communities and assist in awareness and application, and how we can have an equitable share in the stadium all the way through in operations.

6. Legislative

C. Williams is preparing for the next legislative session and asked each commissioners to keep thinking about ideas and legislative action that needs to be taken. If anyone has ideas, getting them set in place now is great so we can start seeking the necessary connections in the community who have shared interests. Sometimes it may not be the Commission leading a bill draft request but it may be partnering with an organization. Finding those areas of legislation early on will be to our advantage. She thinks we've had some great relationships built in the community based on the outreach the Commission has done. Having multiple voices is a very powerful strategy. C. Williams said that looking at national conferences is only going to help our case.

M. A. Ku attended a social justice event hosted by Assemblywoman Neal and Monroe-Moreno. It was a casual networking event with other people who are passionate about social justice issues.

C. Chaney was recently appointed to the Sunset Subcommittee of the Legislative Commission, to review and make recommendations on boards and commission for the state of Nevada. He was appointed by the governor on December 31st, and they had their first meeting a few weeks ago. He wanted to be fully transparent and that he will recuse himself if the Commission came up.

7. Community Liaison

C. Azam was not present but sent a written update and has been attending the Sheriff's Outreach Committee. C. Chaney asked if we were going to expand the Community Liaison to include other areas. M. A. Ku said the Strategic Plan and Annual Report currently focuses on law enforcement, but the Commission can revisit that topic.

C. Krause asked if there's any community response towards homelessness, with regard to law enforcement, because they are the ones enforcing the new ordinance. C. Chaney said there was an event by Minister Stretch, and they had a shutdown of Fremont Street that brought a level of awareness to the issue. The City Council has not responded. C. Chaney said we have to be careful with our boundaries, and maybe we can be a part of the change that needs to take place on the policy side. How do we increase the Commission's involvement with processes to say that we will engage and disseminate this information to the people so they can respond. We may not be in a position to respond but we can galvanize people and share the information.

C. Management Analyst update (for discussion and possible action)

1. Upcoming events –

- i. University Legal Services launch at CSN – Immigrant Community Event, Thursday, Jan 30 at 4 pm, CSN North Las Vegas Student Union 126 & 128
- ii. LVGEA State of Economic Development – February 13 at 8 am, Four Seasons. Director Michael Brown will be speaking.
- iii. Sheriff's Asian Advisory Council – February 26 at 6 pm, Mint Bistro
- iv. Business and Industry Resource Fair – May 7 at Sahara West Library

2. Update on Commission vacancy – The Commission has identified a candidate and will put forward this name to the Legislative Commission. M. A. Ku thinks their next meeting will be in February. C. Williams said that in that person is not confirmed by the Legislative Commission, then it keeps their name off that process. There's not a rule stating that we can't, but out of courtesy of the legislative approval process. Typically in the past, which was replicated this time, candidates are vetted by the

chair and vice-chair, and then nominations are put forward. We stayed consistent with the previous process.

D. Review and approve 2019 Annual Report to the Governor for submission by January 31, 2020 (for discussion and possible action)

C. Williams moved to approve the draft of Annual Activity and Recommendation Report for 2019, and reserve the right to make minor edits and corrections. C. Stidhum seconded. The motion carried.

E. Event/Marketing ideas (for discussion and possible action)

a. Update on previous ideas – M. A. Ku said there were two ideas that were brought up in the November meeting. One is the career fair and the other one is the TV show. M. A. Ku discussed the ideas with Business and Industry administration, and unfortunately we cannot move forward with either of these. M. A. Ku also reviewed it with our counsel, and he was concerned with possible legal liability. C. Taylor asked regarding the online TV platform, what types of platforms are acceptable within the confines of the Commission, and would like clarification if this not a direction that falls in alignment with what we can do. Counsel Mathews said he is only addressing the legality of a certain idea, and the idea needs to go through the proper channels to get approved. C. Williams said that this Commission has done more innovative things than have been done previously, so we don't have precedent. If it's not already on the approved types of communication, then we can ask the question about would this be entertained before it goes through the full Commission process. C. Krause looks forward to the website and share resources and suggests perhaps we can host some videos on the website on topics to get the information out. C. Chaney said that we are representatives of the State of Nevada, and we have to be very delicate with that and be sensitive to our leadership.

4. NEW BUSINESS

None

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Janet Serial, Reno-Sparks NAACP, said that the 1st Annual African-American Health and Environmental Climate Justice will at held at the University of Nevada, Reno on Saturday, February 15. The symposium will include a keynote speaker Kate Marshall to talk about the 2020 Census. They are having a plenary on Healthcare Workforce Pipeline--Connecting Students to Careers, Professionals to Communities, and Communities to Better Health. Lynne Barker, the City of Reno Sustainability Manger, will present on the environment and climate change to public health issues, followed by a luncheon panel on Alzheimer's and dementia in African-Americans as well as an afternoon plenary on the State of Black Mental Health in Washoe County. She would like to invite the Northern Nevada Commissioners to attend. She would also like a copy of previous minutes.

Director Schaerer – As we enter 2020, part of the engagement with the Governor's Office of Economic Development is to think more in terms of an integrated business and economic ecosystem. In 1976, Apple was in business development out of a garage. In 2006, Under Armour was in business development out of a garage. When you access www.iversifynevada.com, a lot of us know about it, but we have not fully accessed that information. From a user's perspective, it goes into what they do. There's programs and incentives. In my opinion, it should go into an ecosystem of business support:

Why Nevada should transition to doing business in Nevada land. Bring you up to speed in 2020 and the state plan going forward.

There will be a Consumer Affairs Fraud Prevention Fair on March 2nd in Reno and March 6 here, and doing it during the National Consumer Protection week. The Nevada Small Business Resource Fair on May 7th is part of the celebration of National Small Business week. We are riding the big wave of a national event, and participation of the Commission is key.

Data is huge as we go into 2020,. We continue to be a hub of information and tools. We are not reinventing the wheel but collecting the data in Nevada and grouping it in the way the Commission is structured.

The last piece, Nevada Sandbox SB 161, is a regulatory innovation sandbox that cannot follow traditional regulation so it needs a sandbox. A company presents a product or service that will have a framework with some regulation but not the entire regulation. If it works and we are protecting consumers, then it follows the normal channels of the regulatory process. If you to the FAQs, that will give you a good taste of what the regulation is about.

6. ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 10:55 am
- Next Meeting: Monday, March 16, 2020 at 9:30 am