

JOE LOMBARDO  
Governor

TERRY REYNOLDS  
Director

STATE OF NEVADA



COMMISSION MEMBERS

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

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: August 17, 2023, at 9:30am

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

Type of Meeting: Hybrid with connection to Webex platform

**1. OPENING**

A. Call to order & Roll call

The meetings call to order at 9:33 by Chairwomen Gabriela Wyett

**Commissioner in Attendance:**

Angelica Villarta, Nic Steele, Gabriela Wyett, Jon Lau, Nina Gallagher, Juanny Romero, Lance West, Anabel Navarro.

**Commissioners Absent:** None

**Members of the Public Present:**

Elyse Monrroy Marsala – Belz & Case Government Affairs, Marcel Schaerer – Deputy Director of the Department of Business and Industry, Michael Demeter – Deputy Attorney General, Dale Hansen with the Department of Business and Industry, Emily Cervi with the Department of Business and Industry, Teri Williams with the Department of Business and Industry, Erika Hernandez with the Public Utilities Commission, Janet Serial with NAACP, Jose Soto with Clark County School District, Kathleen Taylor.

B. Silent Meditation & Pledge of Allegiance – Chairwomen Gabriela Wyett

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C. Land Acknowledgements – Commissioner Lance West

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

Kevin Osorio Hernandez, President of the Nevada State University Student Alliance.

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Approval of July 17, 2023, meeting minutes.

Commissioner Steele moved to approve, Commissioner Navarro second. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Business & Industry Public Information Presentation (For Discussion only)

Teri Williams, Public Information Officer with the Department of Business and Industry presented in front of Commissioners what her role is with the Department, how she can be of assistance with the Commission, and the Department's policies

C. Business & Industry Fiscal Services Presentation (For Discussion only)

Dale Hansen with the Department of Business of Industry's Fiscal Unit presented in front of the Commission how the departments policies affect/benefit the Commission in relates to its budget.

Chair Wyett asked when the Commission needed to spent the allocated funds by. Mr. Hansen responded that ideally for FY2024, all expenditure requests should be in by May 30, 2024.

D. Restructuring of Subcommittees (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Commissioner Steele moved to open discussion, Commissioner Gallagher second. Motion carried unanimously.

The subcommittees were restructure as follow:

- Housing
- Workforce Development
- Economic Development
- K-12 Education
- Higher Education
- Healthcare
- Legislative

The Community Liaison subcommittee was dissolved, and the Education subcommittee was divided into two.

Commissioner Steele moved to approve the restructuring of subcommittees, Commissioner Navarro second. Motion carried unanimously.

- E. Election of Subcommittee Chairs (For discussion and possible action)  
Commissioner Steele moved to open discussion, Commissioner Villarta second. The motion carried unanimously.

Nominations

Commissioner West self-nominated to chair the K-12 Education Subcommittee.

Commissioner Steele moved to appoint for Commissioner West to Chair the K-12 Education Subcommittee, Commissioner Gallagher second. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lau self-nominated to chair the Higher Education Subcommittee.

Commissioner Steele moved to appoint Commissioner Lau as the Chair for the Higher Ed Subcommittee. Commissioner Navarro second. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Steele self-nominated to the Workforce Development. Commissioner Navarro moved to appoint, Commissioner Gallagher second. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gallagher self-nominated to chair the Healthcare subcommittee.

Commissioner Navarro moved to appoint, Commissioner Steele second. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Navarro self-nominated to chair the Economic Development Subcommittee.

Commissioner Gallagher moved to appoint, Commissioner Steele second. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Romero self-nominated to chair the Legislative Subcommittee.

Commissioner Steele moved to appoint, Commissioner Navarro second. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Wyatt self-nominated to chair the Housing Subcommittee. Commissioner Steele moved to appoint, Commissioner Navarro second. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Management Analyst Update

MA Rojas is working still with StateWeb to update the website. The process is going slower than expected, but the conversation and efforts continues. MA encouraged Commissioners to submit resources to upload to the website.

4. Unfinished Business (For Discussion and Possible Action)

AB73

The Commission discussed only the possibilities on how the implementation of AB73 would go. The Commission will be voting on the discussion during the next meeting.

By-law Changes

The Commission discussed the changes proposed by former Chair Kathleen Taylor to add duties to the Vice-Chair position and decided to make additional changes and bring the discussion on to the next meeting.

Commissioner Villarta moved to table discussion of the By-Laws, Commissioner Steele. The motion carried unanimously.

5. NEW BUSINESS

The Commission discussed what would be best for the Commission as far as bringing former Commissioners as volunteers or giving the opportunity to other members of the public to serve as volunteers.

Chair Wyett announced that the Commission is currently taking applications for the vacant Commissioner position.

Commissioner Villarta introduced a situation regarding SB8992 (*This section of the conversation was changed by the MA when drafting minutes as the correct bill# is [SB92](#) Sidewalk vendors*).

Commissioner Villarta would like to further discuss the idea of creating workbooks or packets for stakeholders.

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

Kathleen Taylor spoke on behalf of herself as a member of the public. She provided a brief explanation of what her thoughts were when proposing the changes to the By-Laws.

Marcel Schaerer, *“on behalf of the Department and the Director Terry Reynolds, thank you so much for advocating and providing that voice that is so much needed for minorities residing here in our Silver State. I just wanted to reinforce the appreciation for everything that you do, and we look forward to your continued contribution.”*

Pio Rejas, *“President for the Associated Student of the College of Southern Nevada. My administration is currently working on changing our constitution and By-Laws for undocumented students and by accepted by the department. Looking forward to establish a connection with NCMA.”*

Jesse Cruz, *“I am currently a community advocate working in the non-profit sector for the work that the commission hopefully will continue to do as new members of the Commission, and I look forward to seeing how the governance can support our multiple populations.”*

Hilda Espinoza, *“I am also part of the student government of the College of Southern Nevada. I am one of the campus centers Senator, and my duty is to advocate for students, especially those who are minority. Am really happy to be here today and see all the work that you guys are going to continue doing, especially when at our schools we are currently working on advocating for undocumented students for them to be able to work with u alongside with us. I am also happy to see all the futures projects that you guys have planned so we can all volunteer and be part of this.”*

7. NEXT MEETING

September 18, 2023

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:09pm. Commissioner Steele moved to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Navarro seconded.