

JOE LOMBARDO
Governor

Dr. KRISTOPHER SNACHEZ
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

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: October 5, 2023, at 9:34am

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 9:32 by Chairwomen Gabriela Wyett

Commissioner in Attendance:

Gabriela Wyett, Jon Lau, Nina Gallagher, Lance West, Anabel Navarro, Demetrius Ware

Commissioners Absent: Angelica Villarta, Nic Steele, Juanny Romero,

Members of the Public Present:

Jeff Whitehead, Vanita Ware, DeAndre Ware, Njoki Karanja, Florence Besong-Asah

Staff in Attendance:

Angie Rojas

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

C. Land Acknowledgements – Commissioner Lance West

2. PUBLIC COMMENT (1st Period)

None

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A. Approval of August 17, 2023, meeting minutes.
Commissioner West moved to approve; Commissioner Lau seconded.
The motion carried unanimously.

- B. Swearing-in Ceremony for Newly Appointed Commissioner
M.A. Rojas provided background information for the public regarding the newly appointed Commissioner. Commissioner Demetrius Ware was sworn into the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs.

- C. Resignation from Chair Gabriela Wyett as the Housing Subcommittee Chair
Commissioner Gallagher moved to open the floor for discussion, Commissioner West seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
Commissioner Wett provided an explanation as to why she resigned as Chair for the housing subcommittee and opened the floor for questions.
No questions
Commissioner Navarro moved to approve; Commissioner Ware seconded.
The motion carried unanimously.

- D. Election of Housing Subcommittee Chair
Chair Wyett nominated Commissioner Ware to be the housing subcommittee Chair. Commissioner Ware provided background information on his housing experience. Commissioner Ware accepted the nomination. Commissioner Navarro moved to elect Commissioner Ware as the housing subcommittee chair, Commissioner West seconded.
Motion carried unanimously.

- E. Approval of Individuals to Serve as Volunteers
Gilda Espinoza did a 1-minute presentation on her background, and interest in being a volunteer with the Commission. Commissioner Ware moved to approved; Commissioner Navarro seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- F. Approval of the Process and Procedures for the Submission of Reports pursuant to, and required by, NRS 232.0087
M.A. Rojas provided background information on NRS 232.0087. Chair added that she feels the Commission does not have to convene for just one agenda item, sha also included that M.A. Rojas works throughout the year on the Diversity and Inclusion Liaison's initiative, and she trust that the M.A. knows what she is reviewing. The chair opened the floor for discussion or questions. Commissioner Navarro moved to have the M.A.

approve the DIL's annual report; Commissioner Ware seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Subcommittee Updates

- Housing by Chair Wyett

Chair Wyett provided an update on a three-part series collaboration between Nevada Neighborhood Housing Services of Southern Nevada, NAACP, Alpha Phi Alpha and Legal Aid. She added that part two was focused on Housing, and part three was after you buy a home, and what is needed and what will occur.

The chair provided an update on two major bills that passed during this year's legislative session related to affordable housing.

- AB310 requiring the Housing Division of the Department of Business and Industry to develop and implement a supportive housing grant program, creating the Nevada Supportive Housing Development Fund in the State Treasury.
- AB448 revising the exemption from the real property transfer tax applicable to certain transfers of real property between business entities.

- Workforce Development
None

- Economic Development

In July 14th City of Las Vegas, Batteries Included Youth Initiative, Commissioner Navarro attended as a speaker and judge of the event. July 28th, Commissioner Navarro attended the Microbusiness Initiative with the Department of Business and industry; is a strategic business planning, assistance for housing, health, and education.

August 4th, Commissioner Navarro attended the United Way Hispanic Chapter meeting.

From August 30th to November 1st, Commissioner Navarro will be teaching an entrepreneurship master class on Wednesdays from 5:30pm to 8:30pm at the Nevada state Business Center.

- Healthcare

Commissioner Gallagher has attended several meetings for the past month with the Department of Health and Human Services staff with an effort to collaborate with different agencies to see what resources are

available for healthcare and see if those resources are helpful for them.

Commissioner Gallagher has also been referring stakeholders to the Commission's website as she connects with other entities.

Chair Wyett recently toured The Center, a minority serving organizations that is focused on serving the LGBTQ community, but their services are offered to all citizens. The majority of their clientele are Hispanics and African Americans.

- Higher Education

Commissioner Lau stated that there are a lot of events going on at the colleges in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

On October 17th the University of Nevada Reno is having the state of the university. Commissioner Lau also stated that he was down in Southern Nevada visiting some of the colleges with an effort to connect with them.

- K-12 Education

Commissioner West provided background information and an update on the recent release of the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF), school ratings, English Language Proficiency students, absenteeism, and graduation rates.

Chair Wyett asked if some of the statistics that were shared was an overall number or only for BIPOC communities.

Commissioner West clarified that it was an overall number.

- Legislative

Chair Wyett stated Commissioner Romero is going to be taking a public policy course. Chair also stated that her and Commissioner Romero will be meeting with Asher Killian with LCB

4. Unfinished Business (For Discussion and Possible Action)

A. Approval of proposed changes to the by-laws

Commissioner Ware moved to approve the proposed changes on the By-laws; Commissioner Navarro seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of process for implementing the Commission's duties created by AB73.

Chair Wyett provided an update on AB73. The Commission voted to Commissioner West, Chair Wyett and M.A. Rojas to reviews appeals from the Department of Education for consultation regarding graduation ceremony regalia.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Wyett stated that the next NCMA Academy event will be on December 11th and it will be around outreach for the Healthcare subcommittee

6. PUBLIC COMMENT (2nd Period)

None

7. NEXT MEETING

November 6, 2023

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:38am. Commissioner Ware moved to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Gallagher seconded. The motion carried unanimously.