**NV Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities (NGCDD) Policy Committee Meeting Minutes from June 22, 2023**

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Zoom [https://zoom.us/j/](https://zoom.us/j/8)87493919504

Meeting ID: 874 9391 9504

NV Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities  
406 East Second Street, Carson City 89701

# Special Notes

* All items reviewed during this meeting are available for view on the NGCDD website; under the event created for this meeting: [www.nevadaddcouncil.org](http://www.nevadaddcouncil.org/)
* Bolded text under a heading indicates an action taken by the NGCDD.

# Introductions

Committee Members Present: Stacy Alaribe, Committee Chair; Heather Lafferty; Max Lowe; Dora Martinez; Jack Mayes; Santa Perez; Christine Riggi; Cindi Swanson; Jodi Thornley; Vivian Turner

Committee Members Absent: Jennifer Frischmann; Renee Portnell; Julie Weissman-Steinbaugh

NGCDD Staff Present: Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director; Ellen Marquez, Self-Advocacy Coordinator; Alysa Marquez, Intern; Rebecca Ortiz, Executive Assistant; Kimberly Palma-Ortega, Public Health Liaison; Marisol Rivas, Projects Manager

Public Present: Autumn Blattman; Steven Cohen

# Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by NGCDD Policy Committee Chair, Stacy Alaribe, at 10:01 a.m.

Rebecca Ortiz, Executive Assistant verified the agenda for this meeting was posted to the proper locations on June 13, 2023.

# Public Comment

Ms. Alaribe asked if there was any public comment. Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director, verified meeting information and how to submit public comments.

* Cindi Swanson stated we had a very active legislative session and spent some very positive time meeting legislators. There is also an Arc of Nevada now. So with that, she expressed the idea of creating some sort of disability group. There is one that was created by Steven Cohen and Dora Martinez with Assemblywoman Tracy Brown-May, but she was hoping to expand this. Possibly creating an advisory group that can be created with links in the Governor’s council and the Arc. She stated that legislators have a short run and often by the time they figure out what we are talking about, their terms are up. She expressed her hopes that the Arc and the council would be able to collaborate.
* Autumn Blattman introduced herself to the committee. She stated she is a regional coordinator for the Aging and Disability Services Division. She is part of the Washoe County Division. Part of her role is educating the community on ADSD services and supports. She also stated she takes feedback from the community for possible policy changes in ADSD and to make sure they are serving the community as best as they can. She added her contact information in the chat.

# Approval of Minutes from the April 2023 Meeting

Ms. Alaribe asked if there was a motion to approve the April 13, 2023 Committee meeting minutes.

**Max Lowe motioned to approve the April 13, 2023 Committee meeting minutes as written. Jack Mayes seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

# 2023 Legislative Update

Ms. Alaribe deferred to Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director, for conversation on the past Legislative session and initiatives.

Ms. Nielsen referred to the document titled “Bill Tracker for Legislative Year 2023” and discussed some key bills and initiatives the NGCDD had been tracking throughout the 2023 legislative session. She stated that the final list of bills will be released on the Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System (NELIS) website soon. She also stated certificates were sent out to about 30 legislators to congratulate them on their efforts as champions of the disability community. She opened this item for discussion.

# Position Statements

Ms. Alaribe deferred to Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director.

Ms. Nielsen referred to “DRAFT Position Statement on Aging” and summarized the document. She opened this item for discussion.

**Mr. Mayes motioned to recommend the approval of the “Draft Position Statement on Aging” with the recommended changes to the Full Council. Mr. Lowe seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Nielsen referred to “DRAFT Position Statement on Education” and summarized the document. She opened this item for discussion.

**Mr. Lowe motioned to recommend the approval of the “Draft Position Statement on Education” with the recommended changes to the Full Council. Jodi Thornley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Nielsen referred to “DRAFT Position Statement on Human and Civil Rights” and summarized the document. She opened this item for discussion.

**Santa Perez motioned to recommend the approval of the “Draft Position Statement on Human and Civil Rights” with the recommended changes to the Full Council. Mr. Lowe seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

# Next Meeting Date

The next Policy Committee meeting will be held on July 13, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. via ZOOM.

# Public Comment

Ms. Alaribe asked if there is any public comment.

* Mr. Mayes asked when the next full council meeting will be. Ms. Nielsen stated September 7, 2023 at 9 am via zoom. He also asked if there will be a special legislative session in August. Ms. Nielsen answered she will look for more details and share with the council if there is one.
* Kimberly Palma-Ortega stated that she was recently able to attend the Rural Preparedness Summit with Heather Lafferty from the Division of Emergency Management. They were able to highlight the partnership between DEM and the NGCDD to be able to get more information out to the public.
* Heather Lafferty thanked Ms. Palma-Ortega and gave a shoutout to the success of the partnership.

# Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.