**NV Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities (NGCDD) Executive Committee Meeting Minutes from January 9, 2025**

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**ZOOM**

Join by Computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/>82776920507

Join by Phone: 669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 827 7692 0507

# 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: Christine Riggi, Chair; Maxmillian Lowe, Vice-Chair; Stacy Alaribe; Vickie Ives; Santa Perez

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

NGCDD Staff Absent: Rebecca Ortiz, Executive Assistant

Public Present: Steven Cohen, Nina McCartney, Kate Osti

# Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Maxmillian Lowe, Vice-Chair at 10:01 a.m.

Ellen Marquez, Self-Advocacy Coordinator verified that the agenda for this meeting was posted to the appropriate locations on December 24, 2024.

# Land Acknowledgment

Mr. Lowe provided the land acknowledgement as follows: The Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities, as a program whose designated state agency is the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, acknowledges, honors, and respects the diverse Indigenous peoples connected to this land and recognize the State of Nevada is situated on the traditional homelands of the Nuwu, Newe, Numu and Wa She Shu. We offer gratitude for the land itself, for those who have stewarded it for generations, and for the opportunity to work alongside our Tribal partners. We encourage everyone in this space to engage in acknowledgement and continued learning about the Indigenous peoples who work and live on this land since time immemorial, and about the historical and present realities of colonialism.

# Public Comment

Mr. Lowe asked if there was any public comment and provided the information to provide public comment telephonically.

* Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director stated registration for the Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day is open and free. It closes February 7th. The application can be found on the council website.

# Approval of November 2024 Minutes

Ms. Riggi introduced this item and asked if there was a motion to approve the November 7, 2024 minutes. She opened this item for discussion.

**Ms. Riggi motioned to approve the November 7, 2024 minutes as written. Santa Perez seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

# Discussion on Consumer Leadership Development Fund (CLDF) Status Update and Applications

Ms. Riggi introduced this agenda item and deferred to Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director for further discussion.

Ms. Nielsen discussed the applications received by Khianna Reed and Nicholas Giaquinto for Individual out of state funds to attend the Best Buddies Leadership conference in June 2025.

**Mr. Lowe motioned to approve up to $1,750.00 of individual out-of-state funds to Khianna Reed and Nicholas Giaquinto each. Vickie Ives seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously**.

# Discussion on Committee Memberships

Ms. Riggi introduced this agenda item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director for further discussion.

Ms. Nielsen provided information on the status of the current committees and memberships information for the Executive Committee’s discussion. She discussed the need for more member in the policy committee and the loss of the designated state agency representative in the budget committee. She also discussed the changing members of the executive committee as new committee chairs are selected. She will be contacting each Committee chair for their input. She opened this item for discussion.

# Discussion on Concerns from Town Halls

Ms. Riggi introduced this agenda item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director for further discussion.

Ms. Nielsen gave an in-depth overview and discussed the document titled “TOWN HALL REPORT (DRAFT)”. She discussed the concerns expressed throughout the town halls held by council staff. These concerns included lack of services in the rural areas, lack of accessible transportation, support for federal and state laws, etc. She also discussed the support received from the Aging and Disability Services Division as representatives have attended various town halls. This report will be up for further review at the full council meeting in March. She opened this item for discussion.

# Next Meeting Date

Ms. Riggi stated the next Executive Committee meeting will be held on February 6, 2025 at 10 am via Zoom.

# Public Comment

Ms. Riggi asked if there was any public comment and provided the information to provide public comment telephonically.

* Ms. Nielsen stated the upcoming legislative session will begin on February 3rd.
* Santa Perez asked for a copy of the meetings calendar.

# Adjournment

Ms. Riggi adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.