

Nevada Commission on Mentoring

Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 21, 2022
2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Meeting Location: Due to the COVID-19 response and in accordance with Governor Sisolak's Emergency Directive 006; Subsection 1, this meeting was conducted via Zoom.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:

Chair Catarata called the meeting to order on Friday, January 21, 2022, at 2:05 p.m. and led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call:

Katie Membreno, Vice Chair conducted a roll call. **Quorum was established** (6 Members present).

Commission Members Present:

Karl Catarata
Katie Membreno
Dr. Douglas Garner
Michael Flores
Brigid Duffy
Dr. Laura Davidson

Commission Members Absent:

Dr. Michael Maxwell
Sebastian Cardenas

Others Present:

Gabby Lamarre, NDE Staff
Rose Cota, NDE Staff
David Gardner, Deputy Attorney General

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda

The Commission **did acquire quorum** and therefore we could vote on approval for any objective in this meeting.

Motion: Approve Flexible Agenda
By: Dr. Douglas Garner
Second: Katie Membreno
Vote: Passed Unanimously

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4. Public Comment #1

Chair Karl Catarata took this agenda item out of order.

Tiffany Tyler-Garner, on behalf of the Children's Advocacy Alliance, thanked the Commission for its commitment to mentoring.

5. Welcome and Introduction (Mission Statement)

a. Special Remarks

Roberta Cox, Constituent Services Program Officer at the Office of the Governor, discussed Governor Sisolak's discussion of the positive impact of having the late Senator Harry Reid as a mentor, who the governor described as a father-like figure and trusted friend. Ms. Cox next shared the Governor's proclamation of January 27, 2022 as Thank a Mentor Day in Nevada and its importance in raising awareness of positive outcomes of mentoring relationships and in celebration and gratitude for mentors.

b. Recognizing Champions of Mentorship for National Mentoring Month

Chair Karl Catarata introduced the Champions of Mentorship:

- Molly Latham, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Nevada
- Kasina Boone, TULIPS
- Coleen Lawrence, Moxy Up
- Michael Flores, Nevada Youth Network
- Erica Mosca, Leaders in Training
- Robert Strawder, Hip Hop Entrepreneurship
- UNR Upward Bound Program
- The Ron Wood Family Resource Center
- The UNLV College of Liberal Arts (COLA)
- Assemblyman Steve Yeager
- Student, Zachary (no last name given), who created a mentoring app

c. Remarks from MENTOR National Affiliate Partners

Jessica Haggett Silverman, MENTOR Affiliate Expansion Director, explained that MENTOR is the unifying champion for expanding the quality and quantity of mentoring relationships in the United States. Ms. Silverman explained that although opportunity is not equally distributed, potential is, and MENTOR aims to help young people across

the country find support through mentoring programs. Ms. Silverman informed the Commission that MENTOR aims to be a resource, connector, and champion for commissions like NCOM and that MENTOR looks forward to continuing to build infrastructure and drive action to ensure that all mentoring programs in Nevada are able to thrive and have the support they need.

Chair Karl Catarata informed the Commission that a letter from April 2019 established a national mentoring affiliate, which provides the critical link between national efforts to foster and support the quality of mentorship organizations and mentoring relationships and serves as a unique role for statewide trainings, resources, public awareness, and advocacy, as well as provides leadership infrastructure for awareness, community support and engagement, and assisting evidence-based approaches and providing the expansion of such relationships.

6. Approval of December 21, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Motion: Approve December 21, 2021 NCOM Meeting Minutes.
By: Brigid Duffy
Second: Douglas Garner
Vote: Passed Unanimously

7. Chair's Report:

Chair Karl Catarata informed the Commission of his presentation before the State Board of Education of NCOM's three priorities: standards; summit; funding. Chair Catarata indicated that the Board shared information regarding NSHE's promise scholarship and congratulated NCOM on its work and outreach.

Chair Catarata discussed the upcoming summit, indicating his hopes to plan more details for the annual summit for the spring season. Chair Catarata explained that he is in the process of soliciting locations and asked interested Commissioners to assist.

Chair Karl Catarata informed the Commission that he and Vice Chair Membreno have been in regular communication with MENTOR and thanked MENTOR National for its role in helping to create Mentor National Mentoring Month in the state.

Chair Karl Catarata explained that per NRS, NCOM is required to complete an annual report, the content of which the chair will send to Commissioners for feedback prior to submitting to the legislature, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Senate, and the Governor's Office.

Chair Karl Catarata discussed the need to onboard two more Commissioners, one adult and
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one youth. Chair Catarata thanked Commissioners Davidson, Membreno, and Cardenas for helping to facilitate the process.

Laura Davidson asked Chair Catarata to provide background regarding the summit for newer Commissioners unfamiliar with it.

Chair Karl Catarata explained that NRS requires NCOM to hold an annual conference/summit that bring together mentoring organizations. Chair Catarata explained that COVID will likely be a topic at the upcoming summit. Chair Catarata further explained that the conference in April 2019 was priced at \$5,000 but will likely require more funding, as prescribed in NCOM's updated letter to legislators. Chair Catarata informed the Commission that the conference will include sessions on effective mentoring practices, identifying evidence-based approaches for mentoring, conducting assessment and evaluations on mentoring programs, and other mentoring components based on statewide community identified needs.

8. NCOM Development updates:

a. Brief Update on NCOM Funding

Chair Karl Catarata informed the Board that NCOM has received \$25,000 for the purpose of awarding grants of money to mentorship programs in accordance with the provisions of NRS 385.780, and NCOM shall develop a competitive grants program to award grants of money to mentorship programs in the state in coordination with the Office of Grant Procurement, coordination and management of the Department of Administration, and the following three guidelines: number 1, the Commission shall administer the grants program; number 2, the Commission shall establish guidelines for the submission and review of applications to receive grants from the program; number 3, the Commission shall consider and approve or disapprove applications for grants from the program. Chair Catarata recommended that Commissioners hold a work session to begin this process, indicated that he has not been through this process before and as such, is reliant upon more experienced members of the Commission, and indicated his desire to create a clear and concise grants program.

Douglas Garner asked if the funding contains a portion that NCOM can use for administrative purposes.

Chair Karl Catarata explained that there is a set-aside in the budget administrative fees, in addition to a reserve of approximately 1,800 for transcription from December 2021 to June 2022, both of which are separate from the 25,000.

Gabby Lamarre, NDE, explained that the funds expire June 30 but that the fiscal team does expect administrative funds as well as the 25,000 for grants to then be replenished for the new fiscal year starting July 1.

Brigid Duffy thanked NDE for finding the funding for NCOM.

Chair Karl Catarata indicated his desire for the Commission to make a statement on its social media channels for organizations to be aware of the funding and the beginning of a grant process, and advocated for the start of a work session with Commissioners in order to finalize the process.

Motion: Chair to begin work on wording for a potential press release
By: Brigid Duffy
Second: Katie Membreno
Vote: Passed Unanimously

b. Update from Partners in Northern and Southern Nevada

There were no updates from partners in northern and southern Nevada.

9. Agenda items considerations

Chair Karl Catarata indicated that at the following month's meeting, he intends to process the items for press release as well as finalize the members for the work session for the grants process. Chair Catarata further indicated that he would like to hear more from the community in terms of mentoring stories.

10. Public Comment #2

Chair Karl Catarata asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

11. Adjournment

Chair Karl Catarata adjourned the meeting at 3:19 P.M.