

Nevada Commission on Mentoring

Meeting Minutes

Friday, February 28, 2020

2:00 PM-3: 30 PM

Meeting Locations:

Video Conference

OFFICE	LOCATION	ROOM
Department of Education	2080 E. Flamingo Road Las Vegas, NV	Las Vegas Board Room
Department of Education	700 East Fifth Street Carson City, NV	Carson City Board Room

1. Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Maxwell called the meeting to order on Friday, February 28, 2020 at 2:05 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Cota conducted a roll call. **Quorum was established** (6 Members present initially, then 7 Members present after Commissioner Flores arrived)

Commission Members Present:

Dr. Mike Barton
Dr. Douglas Garner
Dr. Michael Maxwell
Dr. Kristin McNeill
Mr. Matt Morris
Ms. Coleen Lawrence
Mr. Michael Flores (joined late)

NDE Staff: Gabby Lamarre, Rose Cota

Others in Attendance: Deputy Attorney General David Gardner, Brigid Duffy, John Ezzell

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda (Information/Discussion/For Possible Action)

Motion: Approve Flexible Agenda

By: Dr. Garner

Second: Dr. McNeill

Vote: Passed unanimously

Dr. Maxwell thanked everyone for attending and for establishing a quorum. He welcomed the Commission's newest member, Coleen Lawrence and said another candidate for the Commission, Brigid Duffy, was in the pipeline for appointment. She already submitted her application to the Governor's Office, and Dr. Maxwell said he thought they would be able to add Ms. Lawrence to the Commission at their next meeting.

Dr. Maxwell said that Dr. Killins was no longer working at NDE, and until a replacement could be put into place, Ms. Gabby Lamarre would serve as the interim liaison for NDE. He thanked her for her willingness to step up to this new position in the NCOM family.

5. Approval of January 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Information/Discussion/For Possible Action)

Dr. Maxwell asked if there were any changes or corrections to be made on the minutes. There were four changes to be made: 1) Matt Morris should be listed under "Commission Members Present" not under "NDE Staff." 2) Ms. Duffy's first name should be spelled "Brigid." 3) Yvonne Morris did not attend the meeting. 4) Mr. King's first name should be spelled "Donche."

Motion: Approve January 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes with noted corrections

By: Dr. Garner

Second: Mr. Morris

Vote: Passed unanimously

6. Public Comment #1

Dr. Maxwell said he failed to add the speaker for the Mentoring Highlight portion of the meeting to the agenda, so the speaker from Boys Town would use the Public Comment time for that.

Mr. John Etzell, Executive Director of Boys Town Nevada, presented an overview of the work that Boys Town does in southern Nevada. They have been serving students, parents, and communities for 29 years and serve more than 2,000 individuals every year. Support for CCSD has been their primary focus over the last couple years. They are teaching what's called the "Well Managed School Curriculum" to reinforce and elevate student behaviors in the classroom. Another component is the addition of school support specialists who partner with classroom teachers to support the "well managed" part of the equation.

Outside the schools, Boys Town offers care coordination and in-home family services programs. The services are provided in-home to best support families to communicate better with their kids, to set whatever expectations that they need to have, build upon their strengths and fill in any gaps that they may have in order to help them be a bit of a better functioning home.

6. Public Comment #1 (continued)

The care coordination specifically works on the case management side of things and ensures that folks know how to access all the tools necessary for success. This runs the gamut from getting students enrolled in health care to getting parents into career-building programs.

In 2017 they opened a behavioral health clinic off of 215 and Sunset. This behavioral health clinic has three full-time psychologists who work primarily with kids ages 2-18. This year they are adding two more psychologists to their staff. Staff is available for reference and for referrals to best help families.

Dr. Garner stated that he had observed the Boys Town school support specialist, Leona Hunter, at Peterson Academic Center, and he was very impressed with her work and the level of professionalism she displayed. As an interventionist, she plays a key role in getting students back in their classrooms after they've been removed for behavioral or attitudinal issues.

Dr. Maxwell asked how do families engage, especially with the LIFT program? How do families actually take advantage of those services?

Mr. Etzell said the LIFT program is in about nine schools within CCSD and they hope to increase that to 14 schools heading into the 20/21 academic year. Any family can access their services just by giving them a call or stopping into their office at 215 and Sunset where their behavioral health clinic is.

Dr. Maxwell thanked Mr. Etzell for his presentation and asked that Boys Town keep Commission Members apprised of their outreach and mentorship services going forward.

7. Chair's Report (Information/Discussion/For Possible Action)

Dr. Maxwell started his report with the **Commission Membership Update**. Ms. Lawrence has been appointed. There are two applications that are sitting in the Governor's Office waiting for appointment. Dr. Maxwell asked David Gardner, Deputy Attorney General, to explain how they can proceed with getting their other appointments done.

The Deputy Attorney General said that Dr. Maxwell asked him to look at the membership of the Committee, especially the four that are going to be appointed by the nine other members of the Commission. Mr. Gardner reviewed NRS 385 which is the statute that created the Commission. NRS 385.760(2) talks about the members of the Commission and that the nine members get to appoint the final four. Typically, a majority of members are able to do those actions. So as long as NCOM has five members, that would be a quorum of those nine, and those five members would then be able to appoint the remaining four. The Council now has enough people on it that have been appointed to appoint the remaining four, and then they will have 11 of the 13 with two still waiting for the Governor's appointment.

7. Chair's Report (Information/Discussion/For Possible Action) (continued)

Dr. Maxwell said this was terrific news. The original understanding was that they had to wait for the Governor's appointments before they could fill the other seats, and that is not the case. So now they will be able to make appointments, and as he said earlier, one of those would be Ms. Brigid Duffy. Ms. Duffy sits on the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee, and the understanding with the language in AB 235 was that she, even though she sat on the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee, still needed to get approved again by the Governor. However, Deputy Attorney General Gardner found language to basically dispute that and say since she's already been approved once by the Governor, she doesn't need to be approved again to join the Mentoring Commission. So, at their next meeting they will officially make the appointment for Ms. Duffy to join the Commission. They will also have Katy Minbrauno [phonetic] to represent the youth in southern Nevada.

At their next meeting, they will also be able to appoint Dr. Doug Garner as another at-large member of the Commission. He has been with the Commission all along, but after the legislation was enacted on July 1st, Members were all removed from the Commission for the new structure that was officially mentioned in or set forth in AB 235. And so, at the next meeting they will officially move Dr. Garner into a Commission seat as an at-large member. So, those three appointments will happen at the next meeting, and hopefully they will have the two gubernatorial appointments done at that time also. Either way, they will go from either having three additional members and possibly five new Commissioners with them at our next meeting.

Dr. Maxwell then reported on the **MENTOR Affiliate Agreement**, which he signed the day after the Commission approved him doing so. The MENTOR staff is setting them up with a mentoring coordinator. They are looking at the Needs Assessment and then also a feasibility study for them to move forward as an affiliate.

8. Subcommittee Updates (Information/Discussion/For Possible Action)

Dr. Maxwell started with an update on the **Strategic Planning Subcommittee**. At the last Strategic Planning Subcommittee meeting it was decided to move forward with designing a strategic plan for NCOM. They talked about some of the recurring things that are going to need to happen with NCOM, including the mentoring grants that were allocated in the AB 235.

There was an additional meeting yesterday with Deputy Attorney General Gardner and Ms. Lamarre from NDE to talk about how to move forward with those grants. There will be subsequent meetings with Strategic Planning and also Fiscal and Grants so that they can implement those grants with transparency, fairness, and plenty of public notice, so that as many as possible are aware of the grants and can take advantage of them.

They have the beginnings of a strategic plan and once MENTOR adds their items to it, the Commission will have the basis for their "official" strategic plan.

8. Subcommittee Updates (Information/Discussion/For Possible Action) (continued)

Mr. Morris reported there were no updates for the **Fiscal and Grants Subcommittee**, but he shared that the Department of Justice just announced the Mentoring Opportunities for Youth Grant Initiative. That's the main DOJ

Federal funding for mentor programs. There's an April 13th deadline. Organizations like MENTOR and Big Brothers, Big Sisters are the primary targets as recipients. Mr. Morris said he thought the Juvenile Justice Oversight Commission would have a role to play in the application and he hopes that NCOM can, at the very least, write a letter of support or help raise awareness or just make sure that folks know that that's the biggest pot of money for mentorship programs from the Federal government. Even if the Commission is not supposed to be the primary applicant, they should just try to help facilitate the application if they can.

Ms. Duffy said that the Oversight Commission, the JJOC, is forming a subcommittee to look for grants and review grants, but that next meeting isn't until April 13th.

Mr. Morris said the MENTOR group would surely be applying for these funds because it's tens of millions of dollars in Federal funding for mentorship programs. Could Dr. Maxwell affirm that? Dr. Maxwell said now that they are officially an affiliate or forming an affiliate with MENTOR, he can let them know about the grant. That is one of the things that they were looking at. Part of the feasibility study is to see what are the resources that can help support the affiliate. And so that's something that he will share with them. He will also get the ball rolling with the Fiscal and Grants Subcommittee.

Dr. Maxwell had some questions about the **By-laws, Rules and Procedures Subcommittee**. He asked Mr. Morris if that subcommittee had much ongoing work? Mr. Morris replied no, and he didn't think there would be many changes in the by-laws going forward.

Dr. Maxwell suggested that Commissioners who were serving on the By-Laws Subcommittee join one of the other two subcommittees. Mr. Morris said he thought they should keep the By-Laws Committee as a standing committee so that they don't have to re-form the committee in case they do need to make by-laws changes.

Dr. Maxwell said once they have the existing membership for each of the subcommittees, they'll send out an email, and then those who are not represented on Fiscal and Grants or Strategic Planning can choose, and then they can go from there.

Dr. Maxwell said he was going to create a Twitter account because many have expressed that it's difficult to go through the NDE website to get mentoring information. Twitter is more of an informational source and it's used by many. The Commission can use NV Mentoring as their Twitter handle, and they can use their new logo as well. Dr. Maxwell said he would manage the account for now until their MENTOR coordinator can take it over.

9. Annual Governor's Report (Information/Discussion/For Possible Action)

Dr. Maxwell said it was their intention to bring in Ms. Yvonne Morris from NDE to take on the Mentor and Coordinator position with the MENTOR Affiliate. They have to have that done before they can actually get a

Governor's Report put together. Once they have a new liaison from NDE and the Coordinator in place with MENTOR, then they will proceed with forming a draft of the Governor's Report. The Governor's Report will be taken care of once they have all of those folks in place with the Commission.

Dr. McNeill asked if there was any type of statutory deadline for that report? Dr. Maxwell replied that statutory deadline was February 1st. Dr. McNeill asked If there was any type of communication that they needed to submit requesting an extension? Dr. Maxwell said Ms. Lamarre would check into getting an extension.

10. Statewide Conference on Mentoring (Information/Discussion/For Possible Action)

Dr. Maxwell said after looking at the legislation, they discovered the \$5,000 state set-aside for a statewide conference does not have to be used this fiscal year. And because they don't have to utilize that money during this fiscal year, they don't have as much urgency to make conference plans. The Strategic Planning Subcommittee can make plans for how and when they'd like to put that money for that conference in place.

11. Agenda Item Considerations: date, time, and location for next meeting (Information/Discussion/For Possible Action)

Dr. Maxwell said their next meeting was scheduled for March 20th and he would try to reserve a location at Las Vegas City Hall for that meeting. Also for the May 15th meeting.

12. Public Comment #2

There was no public comment.

13. Adjournment

Dr. Maxwell asked if there were any final comments or questions, and there were none. He said he would accept a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Adjourn the February 28, 2020 NCOM Meeting

By: Unidentified speaker

Second: Dr. Garner

Vote: Passed unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 PM.