

Nevada Department of Education

Nevada Commission on Mentoring

Friday, October 20, 2023

2:00 PM

Office	Mode	Platform
Department of Education	Teleconference/Livestream	Zoom

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING

COMMISSION MEMBER PRESENT

Karl Catarata, Chair

Katie Membreno, Vice Chair

Dr. Laura Davidson, Commissioner

Brigid Duffy, Commissioner

Andres Estrada, Commissioner

Michael Maxwell, Commissioner

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT

Sarah Thomas, NDE Staff

Rose Cota, NDE Staff

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance, and Land Acknowledgement:

Chair Karl Catarata called the meeting to order on Friday, October 20, 2023 at 2:05 p.m.

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

Chair Karl Catarata led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance and acknowledged the land.

2. Public Comment

Chair Karl Catarata opened the floor to public comment.

Juanny Romero, Henderson resident, introduced herself and noted that the work done by NCOM is important to her as a resident, a business woman, and as a parent. Ms. Romero discussed her work as a commissioner on the Commission of Minority Affairs, and indicated her desire to have commissions connect with one another to learn what each is doing.

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda

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

Motion: To approve a flexible agenda

By: Karl Catarata

Second: Brigid Duffy

Vote: Passed unanimously

4. Welcome and Introduction (Mission Statement)

Vice Chair Katie Membreno thanked everyone on the team who has been helping with the workshops, especially Dr. Davidson, noting her happiness at seeing the workshops come to light. Vice Chair Membreno expressed her excitement at the work getting done and the accomplishments of the Commission.

5. Approval of NCOM September 1, and September 15, 2023, Meeting Minutes.

Motion: To approve the September 1, 2023 NCOM Meeting Minutes

By: Katie Membreno

Second: Michael Maxwell

Vote: Passed unanimously

Motion: To approve the September 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes

By: Katie Membreno

Second: Brigid Duffy

Vote: Passed unanimously

6. Chair's Report:

Chair Karl Catarata discussed the upcoming planning that will need to take place for the next legislative session, indicating that NCOM will need to get to work soon on getting a standing legislative committee to focus on different BDRs for the Commission. Chair Catarata discussed the Commission's desire to increase its \$100,000 in grant funds and indicated his interest in working with NDE staff and Superintendent of Public Instruction, Jhone Ebert, to determine the budget work involved to increase those funds. Chair Catarata further noted his interest in working with Commissioner Davidson regarding how to increase the grants for Washoe County, the rural counties, as well as for Southern Nevada. Chair Catarata thanked NDE staff for their work and informed the members that when he first joined NCOM, the Commission had no money at all, and now looks forward to continuing its upward progress as well as showcasing the work being done to support mentors and mentees throughout the state. Chair Catarata encouraged anyone interested in serving on the legislative committee to do so.

Chair Karl Catarata next discussed the need of a secretary for NCOM and encouraged any member

interested in doing so to take over for Rose Cota, NDE staff, who has done an excellent job thus far. Chair Catarata discussed the meeting minutes, noting that they are transcribed into the public record, and noted the Commission's efficiency in keeping minutes under 60 minutes so as to lessen the taxpayer burden on the cost of transcribing those minutes.

Chair Karl Catarata thanked Dr. Davidson for her work on the workshops and the attendees of those workshops, noting that approximately 30 nonprofit/student/mentor organizations attended between the two virtual workshops.

7. NCOM Development updates:

Commissioner Laura Davidson indicated the workshops were successful and well attended. Commissioner Davidson thanked NDE staff for sending out the invites and coordinating the Zoom logistics. Commissioner Davidson noted that she has not yet received feedback from the mentoring organizations but was pleased with the turnout as well as the work being done to compile a comprehensive listserv of mentoring organizations across the state.

Sarah Thomas, NDE, indicated her belief that the workshops went well, and commended Commissioner Davidson on her work both in preparation for the workshops, and during the workshops themselves in explaining each step of the grant process with potential applicants.

Commissioner Michael Maxwell congratulated the Commission on the turnout for the workshops, noting that this has been an objective for NCOM for many years that has come to fruition. Commissioner Maxwell noted the importance of looking at additional funding, especially if the workshops continue with the attendance seen the two held in October. Commissioner Maxwell discussed another long-held goal of the Commission, a mentoring conference to bring together mentoring organizations to see the actual number of organizations that NCOM can support and bring under the NCOM umbrella.

Chair Karl Catarata confirmed that the conference is in NCOM's charter and something that he, too, would like to see come to fruition. Chair Catarata indicated that he has submitted an initial inquiry to the Superintendent of Public Instruction regarding a conference and a budget for the conference and questioned if this should be added into the budget for the legislature or if funding should come through community/business partnerships.

Commissioner Michael Maxwell indicated that there is nothing that precludes the Commission from getting funding from both sources.

Chair Karl Catarata discussed the possibility of having speakers at an annual conference.

8. Agenda Item Considerations

Chair Catarata asked for agenda item considerations for the next meeting.

Commissioner Brigid Duffy discussed her service on the Juvenile Justice Oversight Commission, a statutory commission under Chapter 62 of the NRS, and explained that the commission currently has several vacancies that could be of interest to mentoring organizations. Commissioner Duffy

explained that there is a vacancy for a representative of a nonprofit organization, which provides programs to prevent juvenile delinquency; a vacancy for a volunteer who works with children who have been adjudicated delinquent; four vacancies for any member under the age of 24 at the time of appointment, none of whom necessarily have to have had juvenile justice involvement, although that is preferred; two vacancies for anybody nominated by the Supreme Court of Nevada who are not judges, justices, or other public officers; and two vacancies for members appointed by the State Senate who are not members of the Senate or public officers.

Motion: To allow conversation and a vote on seeking membership for the Juvenile Justice Oversight Commission from the mentoring teams that work with NCOM.
By: Brigid Duffy
Second: Katie Membreno
Vote: Passed Unanimously

Chair Catarata requested that NDE staff add this under Agenda Item 6, Chair's Report, for the next meeting.

Commissioner Michael Maxwell asked about the social media presence of NCOM.

Chair Catarata indicated that NCOM has 91 followers on Twitter and an inactive Instagram and suggested the best way to support Commissioner Duffy on this request is to send out a mass email to mentoring organizations or mentors that interface with NCOM, as well as to post on Twitter.

Vice Chair Katie Membreno confirmed that the Commission could post on Twitter as that is the main form of contact on social media.

Commissioner Michael Maxwell suggested posting the visuals from the workshops, as well.

Chair Catarata concurred with Commissioner Maxwell's suggestion and noted that screenshots from Workshops 1 and 2 were posted, including screenshots of Dr. Davidson hosting, and one honoring Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson, creator of NCOM.

9. Public Comment #2

Chair Catarata opened the second period of public comment.

There was no public comment.

10. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the October 20, 2023 NCOM meeting at 2:34pm.
By: Karl Catarata
Second: Michael Maxwell
Vote: Passed Unanimously