

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF

THE NEVADA INTERAGENCY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

October 26, 2022

The Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness was called to order by Chair Lisa Lee at 1:06 p.m. on Wednesday, October 26, 2022. The meeting was video conferenced via Microsoft Teams. This meeting is being conducted virtually. This meeting was noticed in accordance with Nevada Open Meeting Law and posted at the locations listed on the agenda, as well as on <https://dwss.nv.gov/Home/Features/Public-Information/> the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services website.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lisa Lee, Chairwoman, (Human Services Program Specialist at Washoe County, Human Services Agency)

Bea Duran, Assemblywoman, Nevada

Brian Williams, Deputy Director, Nevada Department of Corrections

Robert Thompson, Administrator, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of welfare and Supportive Services

Fred Wagar, Director, Nevada Department of Veterans Services

Mike Montero (Judge, Nevada District Court 8)

Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness
October 26, 2022

Bailey Bortolin Deputy Chief of Staff (designee)

Judge Mike Montero, 6th District, Nevada

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Moises Denis, Senator, Nevada

Stephen Aichroth, Administrator, Nevada Housing Division

Christopher Gorrell, Police Lieutenant, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

Marc Bello, Captain, Washoe County, Nevada

Sheriff Jerry Allen, Pershing County, Nevada

Judge Christy Craig, 8th District, Nevada

OTHERS PRESENT:

Niani Cooper, Manager, Homeless to Housing, Nevada Department of Health and Human
Services Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

Debbie Robinson, Homeless to Housing Coordinator, Nevada Department of Health and Human
Services Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

Sumiko Joiner, Homeless to Housing, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

Twlanie Long, Homeless to Housing, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

Ryan Sunga, DAG, Nevada

Agenda Item I. Welcome, Call to Order and Roll Call

Niani Cooper: Good afternoon and welcome to the Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness This meeting has been publicly noticed in compliance with Nevada's Open Meeting Law. Chair Lisa Lee will call the meeting to order.

Chair Lee: Good afternoon, I'd like to call the Wednesday, October 26, 2022, meeting to order. Will Niani Cooper please call roll?

Niani Cooper: [Roll was conducted] Madame Chair, we do have Quorum.

Chair Lisa Lee: Wonderful. Alright. Thanks everyone for showing up today. Item number 2 on our agenda today is public comment. No action may be taken upon a matter raised until the matter has been specifically added to an agenda. Comments are limited to three minutes, and we are now open for public comment. If you wish to speak, use the hand raise feature. If you are joining online go ahead unmute and state your name for the record.

Agenda Item: II.

[No public comment]

Agenda Item III. Approval of minutes from September 28, 2022, Interagency Council on Homelessness.

Robert Thompson: Motion

Mike Montero: Second

Agenda Item IV. DWSS Outreach Presentation- Sekea Davis Social Services Manager II (SSMII) Targeted Outreach Partnerships (TOP). Evette Cullen, Social Services Program Specialist, Geraldine Inciso, Social Services Program Specialist

Agenda Item V. Presentation on Policy Proposals to Create Infrastructure for Supportive Housing-Brooke Page, Revised no Presentation.

Agenda Item VI. Presentation on Nevada Interagency Council on Homelessness Strategic Plan Michele Fuller-Hallauer Interagency Council on Homelessness to Housing (ICHH) Technical Assistance Subcommittee Chair.

Agenda Item VII. Discussion and Approval of the Nevada Interagency Council on Homelessness Strategic Plan.

Lisa Lee (Chairwoman): I do have just a couple of requests for edits and notes, look on page 28 of the strategic plan. It looks like somebody hit enter and then the paragraph kind of moved down. I think those need to be strung together, if not, there just needs to be an extra space. The second part is at the bottom of page 28, there's inconsistency between capitalization of veterans and no lower-case veterans, so just for consistency. I would recommend that we capitalize veterans each time veterans are mentioned. Director Wagar, what is proper is it capitalized or lower case?

Fred Wagar: Madam Chair, if it's just used in a sentence, it's lower case.

Lisa Lee: What?

Fred Wagar: It's fine.

Lisa Lee: Okay perfect, then on page 30, where it says use rezoning powers when developing affordable housing on parcels reserved for that purpose and then there's an acronym that I don't see used previously or used often enough. I think it should be spelled out. It's SNP, I have no idea and I'm guessing that other readers probably don't know what that is either. So, I would recommend that be spelled out.

Fred Wagar: Can we move to approve as long as we stipulate that throughout the document? The correct punctuation, capitalization can be changed, or can we still approve the document, or do they need to be changed first?

Lisa Lee: I believe we can approve it now with the recommendations that those changes be made. I'd also just like to bring up that we're awaiting a letter from Governor Sisolak as well. Michelle brought that up on in the previous agenda item so we would assume that approval. Any motion to approve would also eventually include that letter.

Mike Montero: Send all my thanks to the subcommittee who have done all this work. I have not been as involved in earlier iterations of this, I was very impressed, and I'd like to 2nd that motion to approve.

Lisa Lee: Just for clarification, Director Wagar was that a motion you put out?

Fred Wagar: Absolutely

Lisa Lee: Okay, so we have a motion and a second. I'll open it up for any additional discussion before we move towards a vote approving the strategic plan. This year's strategic plan, with recommendations for minor revisions and including the letter from Governor Sisolak.

Fred Wagar: Motion

Mike Montero: Second

Agenda Item VIII. Discussion of Agenda Items for next meeting.

Lisa Lee: I need clarification from Niani, that will be happening next calendar year correct, we're planning for 2023?

Niani Cooper: Planning for 2023 there's four meetings for the year. So, we don't have those dates yet either I didn't know if you wanted to discuss that as well.

Lisa Lee: I think that's a good place to start everyone's calendars are full. We completed our four-meeting cycle before the holiday season, so that's great and we didn't even have to reschedule, we have a quorum. So, I'm really excited about that, let's start thinking about next year's meetings. This year's schedule workout for everyone.

Robert Thompson: I have concerns with the meetings next year, as we will be in legislative session. I would recommend that we do our first meeting before February, so that it does not conflict with legislative session. Either we hold the second meeting after session ends or we acknowledge there will be members that may be pulled away at the last minute which could impact the ability to reach quorum.

Director Brian Williams: I agree, we get asked for a lot of information and to testify as well. So, I definitely agree with that.

Lisa Lee: Thank you.

Robert Thompson: We can attempt to schedule during session, but we must acknowledge those of us in administration and those of us that testify do not have control over our own calendars for those 120 days. It will cause last minute cancellations that could impact the ability to reach quorum which may cause last minute reschedules. I would just ask that the chairperson be aware of that.

Lisa Lee: Yes, thank you. So, what I'm hearing is January and the second meeting in June?

Fred Wagar: We could try to schedule April at a quarterly basis, then if it doesn't work out, reschedule for June. Just to keep it on track, if everybody's agreeable for that.

Lisa Lee: Well, if we didn't do it in April mean you have dead day and everyone trying to get their stuff, out of committees and whatnot, maybe June for a second meeting. If everyone isn't amenable to that, and then we would have to meet again rather quickly, probably August, then another October meeting. If that works, then we can be strategic and not stress anyone out or let us get through this session.

Ryan Sunga: I don't know if this helps or not, but the statute that created the committee itself allows for several of the members to send a designee. Some not though, I would have to look and see exactly which ones, but some say or a designee and some of them don't, so I don't know if

that helps you guys a situation.

Fred Wagar: It really helps if we had that list of who could do that?

Lisa Lee: Thank you Ryan, Niani we did explore that previously do you remember it wasn't very many of our members that were able to have a designee? I believe it was the governor's office I don't know. I don't want to go on record with misinformation, do you remember Niani?

Ryan Sunga: If you give me a second, I can pull it up.

Lisa Lee: Perfect. Thank you, Ryan.

Niani Cooper: That's what I was going to suggest pulling it up.

Ryan Sunga: Okay, so if you're ready, the chief of staff of the governor or designee, Director of the DHS or designee, Director of Department of Corrections or Designee, Administrator of the Housing Division or designee, Director of the Department of Veteran Services or designee, the Sheriff of Clark County or designee, the Sheriff of Washoe County or designee, I think that's it.

Robert Thompson: Ryan, those of us, I am designee for the director of DHHS. Are we able to then redesignate?

Ryan Sunga: Yeah, that would be up to the director of to find designee for maybe a specific meeting that you might not be able to make to.

Robert Thompson: Robert Thomas, for the record, the problem with that Lisa is that we don't know until 10 minutes before that were being pulled. Last session it wasn't uncommon for me to get called with five minutes notice. We could be right in the middle of the meeting and have to go and then you lose quorum. So, I would recommend that we go to the January and June as you previously stated and then we still have six months after that to get two other meetings.

Fred Wagar: Director Wagar for the record, to Ryan, designees allowed to vote?

Ryan Sunga: Yeah, the designee sit in the place, stands in the shoes of the actual member.

Fred Wagar: Thank you.

Lisa Lee: Thank you Ryan, that's surprisingly more than I had previously thought.

Niani Cooper: Madam Chair, we do have several designees sitting on now. I think that's the way we did our account. So, I think only out of that list, possibly two that does not have a designee who is sitting on the council now. If that gives a little more context.

Lisa Lee: Thank you Niani. I think honesty the easiest less strict, least stressful scenario is to do the meeting January before session and start a meeting in June when people can breathe again. I think we can find time in August and then October. It seems like we did well this year as far as our scheduling and if everyone's okay with that kind of a long stretch to go between our first and second meetings, I think we'll manage if people are okay with that. I see thumbs up. Does that help to where folks are not pulled in so many directions?

Fred Wagar: We don't need a motion on this, so you can just agree when we're going to meet,

Lisa Lee: Alright, let's do that, January and next one June, Niani we'll get that scheduled. So, let's think about what we'd like to start our year as far as presentations or agenda items.

Robert Thompson: The Welfare Division was awarded a funding at the last Interim Finance Committee regarding doing a study on homeless youth. Specifically listing not excluding LGBTQ homeless youth don't know if by January, we'll be able to. We've gotten through the process to discuss where we're move forward, but we could have someone come from that team just to update on where we're at with that study.

Lisa Lee: I think that would be great.

Robert Thompson: Niani, that would be Maria Wortman-Meshberger team.

Niani Cooper: I'll reach out to Maria and get that started.

Robert Thompson: It may be a short presentation if we don't have any bids in yet, but we should at least be able to go over the parameters of what's being requested in this study.

Lisa Lee: I have a couple of things on my wish list, one is to hear from Our Place. It's a women's shelter and when I say that, I mean it's a shelter for female identifying persons and it's a family shelter and I really believe their model. I literally cry every time I go there not because I'm retraumatized, it fills me with hope. It fills me with the hope that one day this will be an evidence-based model that what they do for people experiencing homelessness becomes the national model, the national standard for emergency shelter services. It's really an amazing place and I wish that all people in emergency shelters were treated with such dignity, respect and trauma informed care. I would love to hear from them, they're up north. The other wish list is, I know that our law enforcement partners across the state have really worked hard on various diversion programs for people experiencing homelessness. I know we had a presentation from them I think it was last year or was it this year here? I don't know my pandemic brain; my memory is shot. We had a presentation from law enforcement on the various activities across the state. I really think that I would love to see more of that, and I know a lot has shifted. I can't speak for Southern Nevada, but up here in the north we've had some recalibration of those teams, and most teams and we have hope teams and we've got a lot of things going on to sort of.

Fred Wagar: Go ahead.

Brian Williams: This is deputy Director Williams from the Battle of Permanent Corrections. I do have someone that I would like to present. She works on finding housing for those that are incarcerated, releasing back into the community. I met with her several months ago, and she had a very good presentation and program, that's why I would like to reach out to her and see if she would like to present to the committee if I could?

Lisa Lee: I think that would be great. Thank you so much. I know that you mentioned that, and I think that would be really important and productive. Thank you.

Fred Wagar: We don't have any direct services for homelessness, and so most of ours are referrals, for instance, HUD, Vash or whoever else is in the area to help veterans get their homelessness, very difficult to track. I don't have a specific person, we are actually taking our housing responsibilities and handing those off to our outreach directors, North and South, to get more involved with that rather than paying a program manager for housing and justice reintegration anymore. So, I really wouldn't have much to present to this community committee, but if I ever do, I can just bring it up at a later date.

Lisa Lee: Thank you, Director Wagar. Is Assemblywoman Duran still on the call? Are there any legislative items that would be helpful for this Council? I had called on you. I'm wondering if there are any legislative items that you would like to highlight in a future meeting.

Bea Duran: Senator Moise Denis, I'm not sure if he's going to continue to be on this board. Then depending on my real-life action I'm not sure if I'm going to be appointed again.

Lisa Lee: Okay, so what I'm hearing is, it's unclear whether or not we'll have electees and their continued service on this or we'll have our same electees. Does anyone else have any recommendations?

Fred Wagar: I haven't gotten that involved with this Council. Does this Council make legislative recommendations to the governor's office? Have we done that this year?

Lisa Lee: Do we have Bailey on? We do have someone appointed from the governor's office, who is also the chair of our legislative subcommittee. I haven't heard a report back from them, but I would invite her to update on that and provide an answer for that.

Bailey Bortolin: Hi Lisa. I apologize, I had another meeting at the same time. Could you ask me the question again?

Lisa Lee: I'm so sorry hi Bailey, Director Wagar had a question regarding whether or not we make legislative recommendations to the governor's office. I know you're the chair of our legislative subcommittee. I don't think we've received a report back on activities from that subcommittee. So, if you could provide a brief update on whether or not they're legislative recommendations brought back to the governor's office.

Bailey Bortolin: Sure. Thank you, So the legislative subcommittee has been hearing proposals from different advocacy groups around possible legislation and legislation that entities in the space maybe bringing. Our thinking was that we would then elevate those to the full committee to vote on whether or not the committee should support those when they are publicly in front of the legislature in the spring in terms. Making recommendation to the governor's office, the Governor's office itself only carries 5 policy bills through the session. So, while we are certainly interested in concerns, proposals, and feedback that folks have on housing legislation, housing legislation that you would like to see that you believe would further the mission of this Commission. We are interested, we are all ears, but the governor's office would not be the entity that would be able to initiate those bills going forward. That said, there is never a shortage of avenues to get legislation put forward in the Nevada process. So, we could certainly work together with some legislators on this committee on finding vehicles for things that the committee feels are important that don't already have vehicles. Does that make sense?

Lisa Lee: Yes, thank you so much, and given what you said about some possible recommendations back to the Council before the session starts. I believe we would need to prioritize you as the chair of the Legislative subcommittee for our January meeting since that's the only meeting before session starts.

Bailey Bortolin Yeah, I think that makes sense and would be good timing if we want to agenize that the legislative subcommittee could finalize recommendations before then, and we'd probably have more information on more concrete idea of what those bills are shaping up to look like.

Lisa Lee: Wonderful. Thank you. So, can we add you to that January agenda?

Bailey Bortolin: Yep, that sounds great.

Lisa Lee: Great. Thank you very much, Director Wagar did that answer that question for you?

Fred Wagar: Yeah, that's fine. I just wasn't sure I we have the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs as well International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA) and we as a body make a recommendation to the governors every two years. So, I wasn't sure if this body didn't same thing or not. That seemed to answer that question.

Ryan Sunga: This is Ryan again from the Attorney General's office to address member Wagar's question. The duties for the committee are listed in the statute NRS 232.4983 now and I don't know if this is your question, but part of one of those duties is to develop a strategic plan for addressing homeland homelessness in this state. That includes without limitation, recommendations for actions by state and local agencies and for legislation, and update that strategic plan every five years. So, it sounds like to the extent, the committee does make recommendations for legislation that it's to be included in the strategic plan.

Lisa Lee: Thank you, Ryan.

Ryan Sunga: You're Welcome.

Lisa Lee: Anyone else before we wrap that agenda item up? Hearing none will move on to agenda item number 9, which is our second public comment period. Just as a reminder, no action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon, which action may be taken. Comments are limited to three minutes and if you'd like to speak, you can go ahead and unmute yourself and state your name for the record. I do not see any hands up in the participant list of those joining online, nor do I see anyone unmuting themselves. Give it just a second to see. All right. We'll go ahead and close public comments. The next item is we adjourned. Thanks everyone. I hope you all have happy holidays and whatever ways you celebrate them, and we'll see everybody again next year. Thank you for everything.

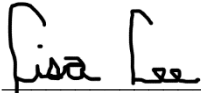
Chair Lisa Lee: Adjourned 2:16 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Thompson", written over a horizontal line.

Administrator Robert Thompson, Secretary

APPROVED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Lee", written over a horizontal line.

Lisa Lee, Chair

Date: October 26, 2022