



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
NEVADA COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

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Nevada Commission for Women
May 25, 2021
Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order – Chair Jo Etta Brown
2. Roll Call – Mary Doyal, Executive Assistant
Present: Richann Bender, JoEtta Brown, Durette Candito, Heather Engle, Jennifer Lopez, Jennifer Rogers-Markwell, Ann Silver.
Others Present: Katie Armstrong, Mary Doyal.
Absent: Flor Bernal-Gonzalez, Diane Fearon, Victoria Ruiz-Marin.
3. Public Comment

Public comment will be taken during this agenda item. Comments may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the chairperson. Members of the public may comment on matters not appearing on this agenda or may offer comment on specific agenda items. Comments may be discussed by the Commission, but no action may be taken on matters presented by the public that are not already on the agenda marked for action. The matter may be placed on a future agenda for action. **Angela Segovia - Director of Portfolio Management at Aristocrat Technologies in Las Vegas attended the meeting to see if she would like to become a member of the board.**
4. Approval of Minutes from the April 27, 2021 Nevada Commission for Women Meeting – Chair Jo Etta Brown (**For Possible Action**) **Ann Silver motioned to approve, they were seconded by Durette Candito and it passes unanimously.**
5. Overview – NCFW Purpose, Mission, and possible retreat – Fall 2021 (**Discussion Only**)
Chair JoEtta Brown proposed an in-person retreat in September or October, to update the mission statement, our purpose, the history of this commission and get to know the Commissioners.

6. Report – NCFW Virtual Empowerment Workshops – Vice Chair Durette Candito **(Discussion Only)** Vice Chair Durette Candito thanked Commissioners Flor Bernal-Gonzalez, Heather Engle, Diane Fearon, Jennifer Lopez, and Jennifer Rodgers-Markwell for assisting with the Virtual Empowerment Workshops. Vice Chair Durette Candito said this is her last term and she hopes that the workshops will continue. There were 7 workshops which were recoded on Facebook and are available for viewing. Comments: from Commissioner Jennifer Rodgers-Markwell said they were terrific and received a lot of good feedback from them and thanked the group for their work. Commissioner Heather Engle said they were wonderful and hoped they will be continued and thanked the group. Chair Jo Etta Brown said she would like to also see the workshops continue either in person or virtual.
7. NCFW Pay Parity -Possible “White Paper”, Survey - Commissioner Ann Silver **(Discussion only)** Commissioner Ann Silver wanted to see if there is any interest in pursuing the subject of Pay Parity as a goal for the Commission. She is willing to reach out to the Chamber of Commerce and CEO’s she is in contact with. Vice Chair Durette Candito and Commissioners Heather Engle and Richann Bender said they are interested in pursuing this issue for future agendas and as a topic for the Commission. Vice Chair Durette Candito suggested posting on Facebook as a discussion topic. Commissioner Richann Bender is willing to explore the topic with the National Association for Women.
8. NCFW on-line meeting calendar – Chair Jo Etta Brown for Commissioner Flor Bernal-Gonzalez. An email will be sent to poll the group to see if Tuesday or Thursday would be the better day for the ongoing meetings. Mary Doyal is to meet with the IT Department to go over the information for the June meeting. **(Discussion and Possible Action) No action taken.**
9. Report – NCFW Social Media – Jennifer Lopez **(Discussion Only)** Jennifer Lopez shared a presentation regarding the Nevada Commission for Women Social Media Report.
10. Report – NACW Conference Update – Commissioner Richann Bender has been working on a time capsule which will be placed in the Turning Point Suffragettes Memorial that was just dedicated last week in Virginia. The time capsule will be opened in 2046 and will have items collected from 2020 including information regarding the pandemic. **(Discussion Only)**

11. Updates – Community Foundation of Northern Nevada and Elevate Her – Mary Doyal, Executive Assistant. **(Discussion only)** The minutes were approved from the May meeting and they will be sent to the bank to have Jennifer Thomas’ and Molly Walt’s names removed and Mary Doyal’s added to the account. The Elevate Her site is back up and running. Mary talked to Laura Levin about who maintains the site and she said Mabble Media can do that for \$250 an hour and give us a 40% discount or they can turn it over to the Commission and we can maintain it ourselves. Chair JoEtta Brown asked to have an email to be sent to all the Commissioners with the contract and the terminated contract for the Elevate Her website so the Commissioners can review the information. Also, Chair JoEtta Brown requested a conference call be set up with all the players to work on how to keep the Elevate Her website up for future use. Commissioner Ann Silver has offered to loan a staff person to help update the website with help from all the Commissioners providing content.
12. Commissioner Updates – Commissioner Jennifer Rodgers-Markwell talked about the Girl Scouts of Northern Nevada, they would like to come in and do a day of shadowing, when things get back to normal with Covid, to see what it is that the Commission for Women does.
13. New Business – Commissioner Richann Bender is working with the outgoing Commissioners and will be going to lunch on June 15th to recognize all the hard work they have done with the Commission. Thank you for your service Commissioner Diane Fearon, Commissioner Jennifer Lopez and Co-Chair Durette Candito.
14. Public Comment – Chair JoEtta Brown

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15. Adjournment **Jennifer Rogers-Markwell made a motion, it was seconded by Jennifer Lopez: Meeting was adjourned.**

Nevada Commission for Women

Unless noted as an action item, discussion of any item raised during a report or public comment is limited to that necessary for clarification or necessary to decide whether to place the item on a future agenda.

All times are approximate. The chairperson reserves the right to take items in a different order or to combine two or more agenda items for consideration to accomplish business in the most efficient manner. The chairperson may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time. The chairperson may call for a break.

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public with disabilities and who wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify the Nevada Commission for Women staff (775) 684-0299 as soon as possible, and no later than 24 hours prior to the time of the meeting.

Notice of this meeting was posted online at www.notice.nv.gov.

Notice of this meeting and supporting materials are available on or after the date of this notice at <https://admin.nv.gov/Boards/Women/Meetings/2021/Meetings/>.

**Attachments
Agenda
Item
#4**

In 1963, the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs proposed that state governors create commissions patterned after the Presidential Commission. According to files in the Research Library, in 1964 Governor Grant Sawyer created Nevada's first Commission on the Status of Women by executive order. The second commission was created in 1967 by Governor Paul Laxalt. The structure for both of these commissions included a chair, two vice chairs, and seven committees-citizenship, community service, education, employment, legislation, public information, and social insurance and taxes.

In 1969 and 1971, legislation was introduced in the Nevada Legislature to create in statute a commission on the status of women. Both bills failed. In 1975, Governor Mike O'Callaghan changed the Commission on the Status of Women to a focus on the status of people. The Governor authorized the new commission to investigate state laws that discriminate against all Nevadans. It would appear that this commission was discontinued sometime after 1975.

Nevada Commission for Women

In 1991, Senate Bill 574 was enacted to create the Nevada Commission for Women. According to minutes of the hearings, supporters argued that a commission would act as a clearinghouse for information. Opponents argued that such a commission would promote a feminist political agenda. This bill contained an expiration date of July 1, 1995.

The expiration date was repealed by Assembly Bill 116 in 1995. In addition, A.B. 116 included an appropriation of \$10,000.

The Research Library has among its holdings the *Report to the Governor and the Legislative Commission, Nevada Commission for Women (1992, 1993)*, which was required by NRS 2331.050, until that report was deleted in 2013 with the passage of S.B. 405.

In addition, the Research Library has the following publications produced by the Commission:

- *Nevada Women's Legal Guide*, Nevada Commission for Women (1995); and
- *Domestic Violence: A Handbook for Victims and Professionals*, Nevada Commission for Women (1998).

In the *Directory of State and Local Government*, the last listing of members was in 1999.

Conclusion

You might be interested in the National Association of Commissions for Women (<http://www.nacw.org/>), which has divided the nation into 10 regions; Nevada is in Region 9. You can find information on its website about the active commissions in other states as well as some local level commissions. It also appears that the National Association has held national conferences, although information about a 2016 conference is not available on the website.

You might also make contact with the Nevada Women's Lobby (<http://nevadawomenslobby.org/>). Marlene Lockard is the lobbyist for the organization. She testified in support of reactivating the Commission for Women, as proposed in A.B. 134 in the 2015 Session. The minutes for the hearing on A.B. 134 are here: <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/78th2015/Minutes/Assembly/GA/Final/240.pdf>.

I hope this is helpful. Please let me know if I can assist as you prepare for your first meeting. I can be reached at (775) 684-6825.

Thanks for the list on appointees.

