

NCBV Meeting Minutes
08-20-2020
3:00pm

I. Roll Call and Confirmation of a Quorum: Dick Saperstein, Chair

A quorum was present at this meeting.

Dick Saperstein, Chairperson
Beth Perring, Southern Representative
Harold Petrofsky, Southern Representative

II. Verification of Posting: Melissa Castro

Melissa Castro confirmed that the Agenda was posted in a timely and correct manner.

III. First Public Comment Section

No public comment.

IV. For Possible Action – Vote to Accept the Agenda

Harold Petrofsky made a motion to accept this agenda and Beth Perring seconded it. This motion passed unanimously.

V. Welcome and Introduction of Guests

Northern NV Office: Janette Parish and Kevin Horigan.

Southern NV Office: Chris Mazza, Melissa Castro and Susie Park.

On the phone: Burnetta Schlecter, Ivan Delgado, Joe Urbanek, Teresa Fax, Nels Brown, Janet Osalva Division of Public and Behavioral Health and Nutrition unit, Sydney Martinez, Jessica Peters and Robert Whitney.

VI. For Possible Action- For Possible Action – Approval of the minutes for the Nevada Committee of Blind Vendors meeting, May 28, 2020

Beth Perring made a motion to accept the minutes and Harold Petrofsky seconded it. This motion passed unanimously.

VIII. New Business

Discussion/For Possible Action-

**Chris Mazza
Richard Saperstein**

- Fill two vacancies on the NCBV Committee left by the passing of Bert Hansen and Bill Schley.

The chair took the agenda out of order and addressed number 8, second item. The chair appointed Nels Brown to the Northern Representative position and Ivan Delgado as the Southern Representative; they both accepted. There are now 5 committee members which is a full body and is required under the rules and regulations.

Chris Mazza asked the chair if he would appoint the positions that Bert vacated as Vice Chair and Bill Schley vacated as Secretary position.

The chair appointed Harold Petrofsky as the vice chair and Beth as the Secretary; they both accepted.

VII. Old Business

Discussion – BEN project and status update:

- BEN site updates
- Welcome new BEO I, Susie Park

Chris Mazza stated that the program overall continues to struggle through the pandemic. The sites at the Hoover Dam remain closed and there is no indication from the Bureau of Reclamation as to when those sites will open. On a positive note, some work will be done on those sites to upgrade them as much as possible during the down time. Some of the other sites are open but are operating at a very limited capacity. Most of the buildings remain at 10%-50% occupancy rate which has diminished sales at all BEN sites. The DMV's are open 5 days a week and people cannot show up without an appointment. Because of that, the process has expedited for those who have appointments and does not allow time to go to the snack bar, which is a challenge. The Grant Sawyer building is at 10%, the Lloyd George building is at 50%, the Brian building is at 10%, LCB is at 0%, Washoe County building is at a diminished capacity as well as Reno City Hall and Mills Lane Justice Center.

Dick Saperstein asked how this has affected our set aside fund.

Chris Mazza said it has affected our set aside fund because of diminished numbers coming in over the last five months. He assured that the reserve is still strong, the program continues to have unassigned vending come in, which has been up and down. Sometimes the months are good, and some are not so good. Overall, the program has seen 50% reduction in some of the vending. Chris Mazza assures that we continue to have a healthy program. The operators have done a great job contributing to the reserve to allow about a 2-year window of being able to operate the program if the pandemic goes that long. After talking to the RSA and other states, we are in a much better position than other states.

Chris Mazza announced and welcomed Susie Park back as our BEO I.

Dick Saperstein welcomed Susie and thanked her for her work.

Susie Park said she is happy to be back and hopes to meet everyone she hasn't already, once the pandemic is over.

VII. New Business

- New BEN Policy 4.30 – Pandemic Response Policy

Dick Saperstein asked Chris Mazza to finish up the second item under number eight of new business. Chris Mazza announced a new policy for the pandemic. The Pandemic Response Policy mentions COVID-19 specifically but is more of a generic response policy for the program if we should have to deal with something like this in the future. One of the goals for this policy was to be proactive as it relates to the host agencies. Chris Mazza gave an example of what happened with Marcos at the Sahara DMV; one of his employees' family member tested positive for Covid-19 which got back to the DMV that Marcos tested positive for the Coronavirus. Which resulted in many phone calls and emails all the way up to the director of the DMV about what to do and to close immediately. The policy was created because of this issue and based on their reaction to this pandemic. The policy differentiates between an exposure and an outbreak. An exposure would be if somebody you knew or talked to or family member, not you specifically, were to test

positive for Covid-19. The policy states what we will do as a program and as a site operator to remain safe. The policy defines an outbreak as an employee or operator that tests positive which can cause a spread quicker throughout the facility. It specifies what steps we will take and protocols to follow. The policy was crafted in a way to be safe and continue to be open with the CDC guidelines in mind. If everyone agrees with the policy, it will be sent to the RSA and DOE to be approved and authorized and then integrated into the BEN policies.

Beth Perring commented that this is a great policy and asked how temperatures as an employer should be taken.

Chris Mazza answered that he has wall mounted thermometers available for each BEN site and can be used without touching them.

Harold Petrofsky requested a copy of the policy.

Chris Mazza said he would send a copy to all vendors in the program.

Beth Perring made a motion to adopt the policy and Nels Brown seconded the motion. This motion passed unanimously.

IX. Second Public Comment: Dick Saperstein

Harold Petrofsky congratulated Joe Urbanek on the Hoover Dam Mercantile.

Dick Saperstein also welcomed Joe Urbanek aboard.

X. Discussion – Date for Next NCBV Meeting: Dick Saperstein

Dick Saperstein suggested to wait to schedule the next NCBV meeting until any concerns or issues arise. Ivan Delgado made a motion to adjourn; Nels Brown seconded it and the motion passed unanimously.

XI. Adjournment: Dick Saperstein

This meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.