

**STATE OF NEVADA  
NEVADA COUNCIL FOR THE PREVENTION OF  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

## **Minutes of Meeting**

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*March 22, 2011, at 3:00 p.m.*

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Office of the Attorney General  
5420 Kietzke Lane, Suite 202  
Reno, Nevada 89511

**Committee Members Present**

None

**Committee Members Present Via Teleconference**

Kathleen Bergquist  
Valerie Cooney  
Toni Downen  
Christina Hernandez  
Eileen Herrington  
Sue Meuschke  
Suzanne Ramos  
Wendy Ronovech  
Andrea Sundberg

**Committee Members Absent**

Lubna Ahmad  
Robert Lundquist  
Mike Sprinkle

**Council Members/ Non-Committee Members Present**

Staci Alonso

**Public Present**

Kim Phillips, North Las Vegas Deputy City Attorney  
Kathy Grost, Explorer Program  
Alexia Emmermann, Esq.

**Attorney General's Office Staff Present**

Henna Rasul, Deputy Attorney General  
Lorraine Webber, Assistant to the NCPDV

**1. \*Call to order, roll call of members, and introduction.**

The meeting was called to order by Sue Meuschke at 3:00 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

**2. \*Review and approval of minutes from the January 12, 2011 meeting.**

Valerie Cooney made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Christina Hernandez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**3. \*Update on Boy Scout Peace begins at Home Patch program.**

Valerie Cooney reported that the Rotary Club had donated money to fund the production of the patch. Ms. Ronovech added that the Southern Nevada roll-out is scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup> at the Boy Scout Expo. The activity list will be distributed and Lt. Lundquist and Andrea Sundberg will be making presentations at their booth. 5000 people are expected to attend the Expo. Ms. Cooney advised the Committee that the Reno area merit badge fair was also coming up.

**4. \*Review, discussion and possible action on health care outreach efforts.**

**i. Update on Hospital Survey regarding Hospital-based Domestic Violence programs.**

Ms. Cooney said that she had volunteered to contact some hospitals along with Andrea Sundberg and Eileen Herrington, but that she had not had the chance to do that yet. Ms. Herrington and Ms. Sundberg stated that they had not done so either.

Ms. Cooney stated that she had come across the National Consensus Guidelines on Identifying and Responding to Domestic Violence in the Healthcare Setting on the End Abuse Family Violence Prevention Fund website. She asked Ms. Meuschke if was familiar with it. Ms. Meuschke stated that she was and that the NNADV had distributed thousands of those guidelines. The guidelines had been sent to doctors and given out at hospitals. Ms. Meuschke was not certain if they had been sent to all of the hospitals. She didn't think that physicians necessarily took the time to read through them. Ms. Cooney remarked that it is a good reference. Ms. Hernandez asked if there were trainings that went along with the

manual. Ms. Meuschke stated that the NNADV had done trainings using it as reference but she was not sure if there were any training specific to it.

The Committee discussed whether or not to pursue this project. Valerie Cooney, Eileen Herrington, Toni Downen and Christina Hernandez volunteered to contact the hospitals to determine who, specifically, the surveys should be directed to. Ms. Webber will send them the list of hospitals to work from.

**5. \*Review, discussion and possible report regarding Boards and Commissions.**

**i. Update on approaching EMS Board**

Kim Phillips from the city of North Las Vegas reported that she did not work with a board, but that training for the North Las Vegas firefighter paramedics will be rolling out next week. There is also training scheduled with AMR Medic West on June 9, 2011. Ms. Meuschke asked if the training was approved for continuing education credits or if that was even an issue. Ms. Phillips stated that she was not sure it had been an issue. AMR Medic West welcomed them to provide information on domestic violence awareness in a healthcare setting. She added that the firefighters go to monthly trainings anyway and were happy to have them come in and talk about the issue. She did not have to go through any formalized process to get that done. If they were to roll out the training to other areas, then she probably would need to work with the EMS Board. Ms. Meuschke noted that that the Committee has not been successful in working with the EMS Board. Ms. Phillips stated that Trish Kline, the training coordinator at AMR Medic West, had been very helpful and knowledgeable about where to go next with the Southern Nevada Health District, Health and Human Services, and EMS advisors. Ms. Kline also provided the names of doctors that Ms. Phillips could reach out to for support. Ms. Phillips said that at this point they have been working on developing the two-hour training and that the next logical step would be to work on getting it approved for continuing education credits and rolling it out to other areas. She noted that AMR Medic West has asked to videotape the presentation for use in future trainings for their employees. Ms. Phillips is willing to work with Ms. Kline to advance the project.

In response to Ms. Meuschke requests, Ms. Phillips said that she is willing to do a training of trainers and to share her PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Meuschke stated that Mr. Sprinkle had been attempting to get on the agenda of the EMS Board and suggested that the Committee should continue to try and do that. She also suggested determining which Deputy Attorney General sits on that Board as a possible avenue to the Board. Ms. Rasul said that she would find out if the Attorney General's Office represented the EMS Board.

Ms. Meuschke asked if Ms. Phillips would like to be an official member of the Committee. Ms. Phillips said that she would be happy to. Ms. Meuschke asked Ms. Phillips to see if Ms. Kline had a suggestion on how to get through to the EMS Board.

**ii. Update on approaching Nursing Board**

Ms. Downen reported that she had been playing phone tag with her contact at the Nursing Board and had hoped to catch her at a meeting they were both attending, but the meeting had been canceled. Ms. Sundberg stated that she had attempted to contact the Nursing Board but did not get a call back.

**iii. Ideas of other boards and commissions to approach**

There were no new ideas of board and commissions to approach.

**6. \*Discussion and possible action regarding approaching casino human resources departments.**

Ms. Meuschke asked the Committee to consider what it is, specifically, that they are planning to approach the casinos about; what will the Committee be doing for them; and who is planning to do it. Ms. Cooney stated that at the last meeting, there appeared to be some interest both by Committee members and by casino human resource directors for some in-house training on how an employer can help a victim. She agreed that the Committee should probably have a better idea of what to do before contacting the casinos again.

Ms. Alonso stated she has contacts with the human resources and executive teams of a lot of casinos. Should the Committee want to develop a training tool or module, she is willing to use her connections to open those doors if necessary.

Ms. Hernandez stated that she thought it was a great idea to build training around domestic violence and added that it would be even better if there were training for security personnel about how to respond to sexual assault as well.

Ms. Cooney stated that the Committee had previously discussed if brochures and information could be provided at casinos. Ms. Sundberg stated that the MGM was resistant to the idea. They said brochures are often not picked up no matter what they are for. However, MGM was interested in training for human resources in how to respond when their employees are victims. She added that she agreed with Ms. Hernandez that security personnel training would be important. The priority of casino security is often to get the problem off of the property rather than ensuring the safety of the victim.

Ms. Cooney asked Ms. Alonso if she had a feel for what direction the industry might be interested in taking when it comes to this topic. Ms. Alonso said she did

not but that she could make some calls to friends at some of the major properties. She thought there might be some resistance when it came to training security personnel. She stated that she will report back to the Committee on what she finds out.

The Committee discussed making an assessment of what kind of information and training is already available to those in the casino industry. Ms. Meuschke thought there was probably training available but that it might not be well coordinated and likely varied by company as to how much and what, specifically, was offered and accepted. Ms. Alonso stated that in her ten years at Station Casino, they responded to team members in need, or team members who wanted to help another employee in need, by providing resources, however there was no specific training available to employees. She suggested making sure those resources that are provided are current.

Ms. Bergquist stated that from a human resources perspective, providing training could help improve a casino's bottom line in terms of worker productivity, liability issues due to sexual assault, etc. She asked if there were any brochures or resources that discussed domestic violence and sexual assault from a perspective important to businesses. Ms. Meuschke stated that there are materials available which discuss the cost of domestic violence and its impact on business.

Ms. Meuschke asked the Committee to come up with a starting point. There seemed to be a lot that needed to be researched regarding what is already being done in local communities. Ms. Bergquist said she would do some research from an employment law perspective and what companies are doing to address it. Ms. Alonso said she would also help research what kind of training is being done with casino security and human resources departments. Ms. Meuschke also suggested finding out what kind of training casinos would be willing to incorporate.

For the next meeting, Ms. Meuschke urged the Committee to consider if it would be developing a curriculum and training materials or whether it would be acting as a clearing house. Would the Committee working alone, or partnering with other programs? She added that she will research what kind of outreach other domestic violence programs are doing with casinos.

**7. \*Discussion and possible action regarding Explorer program. (Kathy Grost)**

Ms. Grost explained that the Explorer program is an affiliate program of the Boy Scouts. She stated that over the course of the past year or so there has been discussion of the Nevada Attorney Generals Office sponsoring an Explorer post for students interested in law and government. Also in attendance at the meeting was Alexia Emmermann, an attorney and Explorer Program board

member. Ms. Grost stated that Ms. Emmermann was willing to take a leadership role in the program.

Ms. Grost described previous meetings with General Masto and Kareen Prentice regarding the Explorer Program as well at the presentation she made about it at the November, 2011 NCPDV meeting. The Explorer Program is a career exploration and mentorship program sponsored by a business or government agency for high school students. Ms. Grost provided the Law and Government program guide for the Committee members' review. Based on the conversations she had with General Masto and the response from her presentations, Ms. Grost believed that the Attorney General's office would be willing to sponsor a post. One of the challenges in beginning a new post is to find someone who would be the adult leader for the students in the program. Samples of typical activities of the Explorer Program are described in the program guide.

Ms. Herrington asked how many students were typically in an Explorer post. Ms. Grost stated that a post might range from 8 or 9 members to 40-50 members. She thought that an ideal number for a law and government post would be between 12-20 students. Ms. Herrington asked if a post could incorporate kids from outlying areas. Ms. Grost said that it could. She provided a sample invitation letter that could be sent to children across a large area. She stated that the person who takes on the advisor role for the post does not have to be an employee of the organization sponsoring the post. The organization simply has to accept that person as the leader. Typically, a post is set up to operate over a school year but it doesn't have to be that way. A number of organizations have started the program in the spring and offer activities over the summer when the students usually have more time. A lot of fund raising opportunities occur over the summer. But all of those decisions are made by the organizations sponsoring the post.

Ms. Meuschke stated that the Education Committee is made up of volunteers who may have a personal interest in the project but who have no ability to speak for the Attorney General's Office. Ms. Grost said that while trying to promote this program within the Attorney General's office she has been asked to speak to the NCPDV and its committees. She questioned who she should be making the presentations to in order to facilitate progress on the project. Ms. Meuschke said she was not sure. Ms. Rasul stated that the Council and its Committees are solely related to domestic violence issues and training. She said that the Explorer program sounded like something that would have to be done with the Attorney General's office on a broader scale. The Education Committee does not have the authority to bind the Attorney General's Office to participating in the program. Ms. Rasul asked if the Explorer post would be specific to domestic violence or if there would be other components as well. Ms. Grost stated that it would be up to the Attorney General's Office but she thought the post would be improved by having more components. Ms. Rasul suggested taking the discussion to the Council.

Ms. Meuschke asked that there be an agenda item to discuss this and decide what recommendations, if any, should be made by the Education Committee to the Council.

Ms. Grost stated that she will contact Kareen and see if there is another way she should approach the Attorney General's Office.

**8. \*Schedule future meetings & agenda items.**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 24, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

**9. Public comment.**

There was no public comment.

**10. \*Adjournment.**

Ms. Meuschke adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.