



NEVADA LEGISLATURE
NEVADA SILVER HAired LEGISLATIVE FORUM
(*Nevada Revised Statutes 427A.320 through 427A.400*)

SUMMARY MINUTES AND ACTION REPORT

The eighth meeting of the Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum (NSHLF) for the 2005-2006 interim period was held on Tuesday, January 16, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 4401 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 3138 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada, and to Room 137 of the High Tech Center at Great Basin Community College, 1500 College Parkway, Elko, Nevada. A copy of this set of "Summary Minutes and Action Report," including the "Meeting Notice and Agenda" (see [Exhibit A](#)) and other substantive exhibits, is available on the Nevada Legislature's Web site at www.leg.state.nv.us/73rd/Interim. In addition, copies of the audio record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office at the following e-mail address or telephone: e-mail: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775/684-6835).

FORUM MEMBERS PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS:

Lucy Peres, President
Herbert E. Randall, Ed.D., Vice President
Alice Adams
Clo Banks
Evelyn Cannestra
Thelma Clark
Robert E. Erickson
Verlia Davis Hoggard
Robert G. McCune
Mary D. Roberts
Mimi Rodden
Rick A. Stanfill
Harriett Trudell

FORUM MEMBER PRESENT IN ELKO:

Ray B. Jones

FORUM MEMBERS ABSENT (EXCUSED):

Ruth H. Hart

Sydelle MacKay

Jane Maxfield

Herbert W. Perry

Margaret Spooner

Ronald E. Stoller

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:

Mary Shope, Coordinator, NSHLF, Administrative Division, Las Vegas Office

Brian L. Davie, Legislative Services Officer, Administrative Division, Las Vegas

Sally Trotter, Senior Research Secretary, Research Division

CALL TO ORDER, OPENING REMARKS

Lucy Peres, Forum President, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and requested the roll be called. It was determined that a quorum was present.

She introduced and welcomed the newest members of the Forum, Clo Banks, nominated by Senator Valerie Wiener for Clark Senate District 3 and Rick A. Stanfill, nominated by Senator Michael A. Schneider for Clark Senate District 11. Mrs. Banks and Mr. Stanfill shared their professional and personal information with the Forum. President Peres recognized that both new members have diverse backgrounds, which will enrich the membership of the Forum.

President Peres congratulated Forum members on their reappointments and thanked them for their willingness to serving on the Forum. In addition, President Peres thanked outgoing members Donald Kirkwood and Carolyn Stephens for their service, and she thanked Barbara S. Dimmitt, Senior Research Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) and other members of LCB for all their assistance with the Forum.

Brian L. Davie, Legislative Services Officer, Administrative Division, LCB, Las Vegas Office, introduced Mary Shope, the new Coordinator of the NSHLF. Mr. Davie informed the Forum of the employment search process for the Coordinator position and provided Ms. Shope's background information. He stated that Ms. Shope will work out of the LCB's Las Vegas Office and is assigned as a full time staff member.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2006, MEETING

- The NSHLF **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**
MIMI RODDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2006, MEETING. VICE PRESIDENT RANDALL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- During the discussion of the September 19, 2006, meeting minutes, Robert G. McCune raised concerns that the language of the prior meeting minutes, June 15, 2006, should be corrected to include the Office of the Attorney General. He stated the minutes read as "rather" implying that the Office of the Attorney General be excluded. The NSHLF approved the language to read: "Mr. McCune also suggested that Nevada's Secretary of State, 'in addition' to the Office of the Attorney General, should be charged with protecting seniors from victimization by investment advisers."

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Robert E. Erickson, Forum Treasurer, explained the “NSHLF Summary of Receipts and Expenditures” report dated January 4, 2007 ([see Exhibit B](#)). He advised the Forum’s current account balance is approximately \$3,637.
- The Forum **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

PRESIDENT PERES MOVED TO APPROVE THE TREASURER’S REPORT. THELMA CLARK SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Mr. Erickson noted that in the past, the NSHLF’s financial status was dependent largely on donations. It was his opinion that because a budget for the NSHLF is now being reviewed by the Nevada Legislature, the fiscal status of the Forum maybe improved in the future. Responding to Verlia Davis Hoggard, Mr. Erickson stated that a tentative budget was submitted to the Legislative Commission in September 2006. Mr. Davie reaffirmed that the budget was submitted to the Legislature as a component of the LCB’s budget.
- President Peres commented on possible future expenditures of the NSHLF which may include membership dues for the National Silver Haired Legislatures (NSHL).

FORUM'S BUDGET AND FUTURE EXPENDITURES

- Vice President Randall assumed the Chairmanship as President Peres was excused.
- Mr. Erickson provided more specifics of the proposed budget. He noted revenues were requested for ongoing NSHLF meetings, reimbursement for travel to Las Vegas for a NSHLF meeting with all members in attendance, reimbursement for travel to Carson City for legislative hearings and testimony, and memberships in the NSHL.
- Mr. Erickson provided distinctions between the National Silver Haired Congress (NSHC) and the NSHL. He said the NSHC has as many members from the State as the number of congressional members and that Nevada has 5 members. He noted the Nevada members of the NSHC are ex officio members of the Forum with full membership privileges.

Mr. Erickson further stated the NSHL is similar to the NSHLF, which is comprised of seniors, age 60 plus, who are elected by their peers, to work with area elected State legislators and Congress. The NSHL works closely with members in other states to advocate for changes in legislation that improve conditions for seniors.

STATUS OF WORK SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS

- The NSHLF addressed the following recommendations, which are included in the Forum's "Work Session Recommendations Assignment" ([see Exhibit C](#)).

Recommendation No. 1 – Providing Funding for Forum Operations

Mr. Erickson reiterated the NSHLF's budget was submitted to the Legislature.

Recommendation No. 2 – Protecting Seniors from Unsound Investment Advice

Recommendation No. 3 – Eliminating or Reducing the Premium Tax on Certain Annuities

Recommendation No. 4 – Creating a Senior Protection Unit

Mr. McCune advised the Forum that seniors are often victims of unsolicited financial mailers. He recommended support for appropriate legislation to protect seniors from unsound investments and fraud with the help of the Office of Attorney General. Also, he will follow-up on proposed legislation that addresses the premium tax on annuities and report back to the Forum.

Recommendation No. 5 – Creating a Legislative Study on Guardianship for Adults

Vice President Randall stated Senator Joseph Heck submitted legislation to the Legislature to authorize a guardianship study. (Bill Draft Request 386)

Recommendation No. 6 – Increasing Availability of Intergenerational Housing

Margaret Spooner was unavailable to give a status report on intergenerational housing.

Recommendation No. 7 – Maintaining the Supply of Mobile Home Housing

Recommendation No. 8 – Increasing the Supply of Affordable Housing

Mrs. Clark advised that legislation has been submitted to the Legislature that addresses the availability and inventory of affordable housing, and she asked members for their support during the upcoming hearings.

Mary D. Roberts indicated she is talking with Senator John Lee about the Forum's concerns for affordable housing and the need for legislation.

Recommendation No. 9 – Improving Emergency Preparedness – Nursing Homes
Recommendation No. 10 – Improving Emergency Preparedness – Nursing Home Drills

Mrs. Rodden is currently researching legislation related to local emergency planning, drills, and mandatory shelter-in-place drills. Her research will include origin of the legislation and the complexity of future legislation. She will report back to the Forum.

Recommendation No. 11 – Repealing the Medicare Rehabilitation Therapy Cap

Vice President Randall and Mrs. Clark indicated that federal legislation has addressed the repeal of the rehabilitation therapy cap.

Recommendation No. 12 – Improving Health Care: Continuing Education in Geriatrics
Recommendation No. 13 – Improving Health Care: Creating Department of Geriatrics

Mrs. Davis Hoggard advised that proposed legislation related to geriatrics would most likely be requested by the University of Nevada, Reno, through the Sanford Center of Aging, and she encouraged Forum support.

Recommendation No. 14 – Mental Health Services: Alzheimer’s Disease and Dementia

Mrs. Davis Hoggard stated that legislation related to mental health services for persons with dementia would most likely be proposed and she encouraged Forum support.

Recommendation No. 15 – Access to Dental Services

Sydelle MacKay and President Peres were unavailable to give a status report on access to dental services.

Recommendation No. 16 – Strategic Plan Accountability Committee for Senior Services (SPAC)

Sydelle MacKay and President Peres were unavailable to give a status report on SPAC’s recommendations and proposed legislation.

Recommendation No. 17 – Nevada Prescription Drug Makers Summit

Alice Adams and President Peres will report back to the Forum regarding the Nevada Prescription Drug Makers Summit.

Recommendation No. 18 – National Silver Haired Congress and 2005 White House Conference on Aging

Mrs. Clark advised that the NSHC will meet in February 2007 to address current senior issues, and the Nevada Delegation of the NSHC will have an opportunity to advise the Forum about significant and current federal and State legislative issues. Mr. Erickson suggested adequate time be given at the next meeting to allow Forum members to formally endorse those issues.

- Ms. Shope assured Forum members that she will track and follow proposed legislation related to the Forum's work session recommendations, which were provided to the Legislative Commission in the NSHLF's Final Summary Report. She indicated the Forum's membership directory will be updated and forwarded to members.
- Ray B. Jones commented that transportation is a significant senior concern for the rural areas of the State, and he encouraged Forum members to support proposed legislation related to this issue.
- Mrs. Clark volunteered to follow proposed public utilities legislation and update the Forum in this regard.
- The Forum **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

MRS. DAVIS HOGGARD MOVED TO APPROVE THAT MRS. CLARK TRACK PROPOSED PUBLIC UTILITIES LEGISLATION AND PROVIDE UPDATES TO THE FORUM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY HARRIET TRUDELL, WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

TRACKING BILLS RELATING TO THE INTERESTS OF THE FORUM

- Vice President Randall concurred with President Peres' opinion that the NSHLF's legislative issues are best addressed through testimony at the appropriate committee hearings. He asked Forum members, if possible, to be available for testimony on proposed legislation.
- Ms. Shope referred to a handout that contains a summary of proposed legislation for the 2007 Regular Session of the Nevada Legislature ([see Exhibit D](#)). She indicated the summary is chronologically organized by bill draft number. At the Forum's request, she agreed to provide future summaries that are referenced by title and date.

NEVADA LEGISLATURE'S PERSONALIZED BILL TRACKING

- Ms. Shope referred to a handout titled "Nevada Legislature Personalized Bill Tracking" ([see Exhibit E](#)) and provided an overview of the Nevada Legislature's Web site. She offered Forum members her assistance to conduct research and track legislation.

FUTURE MEETINGS AND DATES

- Vice President Randall opened the discussion for the consideration of future meetings. Ms. Shope indicated the Legislature has first priority with room scheduling and videoconferencing and advised that, during the legislative session, Forum meetings risk cancellation due to this conflict.
- Mr. Erickson recommended the Forum meet prior to the Legislature's deadline for bill introductions, which is March 26, 2007, as pointed out by Mr. Davie. Mr. Davie advised that, during the legislative session, Friday afternoon is the best day and time for scheduling a videoconference meeting to avoid conflict with legislative standing committee schedules.
- The Forum **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

MRS. DAVIS HOGGARD MOVED TO APPROVE THAT THE FORUM'S NEXT MEETING BE HELD MARCH 30, 2007, IN THE AFTERNOON WITH THE EXACT TIME TO BE DETERMINED LATER. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. ERICKSON, WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Mrs. Davis Hoggard raised concerns about community participation at the Forum's meetings, and she said to increase community awareness and participation, the Forum might consider off-site meeting locations. Ms. Shope reassured the Forum that active outreach measures will be implemented to increase community awareness.
- Mr. McCune notified the Forum that today is his last meeting. Vice President Randall thanked Mr. McCune for his tenure and service on the Forum and wished him well.
- Mrs. Clark advised the Forum members to take the extra time to become knowledgeable of Nevada Legislators, and not just their Senators. Ms. Shope will provide a reference list that includes all the members of the Nevada Legislature.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Mr. Chester Hamilton, a Las Vegas resident, briefly discussed his concerns about the following topics: (1) senior law; (2) the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada;

(3) senior protection; (4) improving education at Nevada's colleges in the field of geriatrics; (5) Nevada's usuary and escrow law; and (6) rental housing.

- Evelyn Canestra and Vice President Randall, on behalf of the NSHLF, thanked Mr. Hamilton for his participation and suggestions.
- Mrs. Trudell suggested that Mr. Hamilton contact Janice Brown at the Cambridge Family Resource Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Forum, the meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Shope, Coordinator
Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum

APPROVED BY:

Lucy Peres, President
Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum

Date: _____

APPROVED BY:

Herbert E. Randall, Ed.D., Vice President
Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum

Date: _____

LIST OF EXHIBITS

Exhibit A is the “Meeting Notice and Agenda” provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator, Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum (NSHLF), Administrative Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB).

Exhibit B is a document titled “Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum Summary of Receipts and Expenditures” provided by Robert E. Erickson, Treasurer, NSHLF.

Exhibit C is a document titled “Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum Work Session Recommendations Assignment” provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator, NSHLF, Administrative Division, LCB.

Exhibit D is a list of bill draft requests provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator, NSHLF, Administrative Division, LCB.

Exhibit E is a document titled “Nevada Legislature Personalized Bill Tracking” provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator, NSHLF, Administrative Division, LCB.

This set of “Summary Minutes and Action Report” is supplied as an informational service. Exhibits in electronic format may not be complete. Copies of the complete exhibits, other materials distributed at the meeting, and the audio record are on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Carson City, Nevada. You may contact the Library online at www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/research/library/feedbackmail.cfm or telephone: 775/684-6827.