



## NEVADA LEGISLATURE

### NEVADA SILVER HAired LEGISLATIVE FORUM

*(Nevada Revised Statutes 427A.320 through 427A.400)*

#### SUMMARY MINUTES AND ACTION REPORT

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The second meeting of the Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum (NSHLF) for the 2009-2010 interim period was held on Tuesday, October 27, 2009, at 10 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 128, Technical Arts Center, Great Basin College, Elko, Nevada.

A copy of this set of "Summary Minutes and Action Report," including the "Second Revised Meeting Notice and Agenda" ([Exhibit A](#)) and other substantive exhibits, is available on the Nevada Legislature's Web site at [www.leg.state.nv.us/Interim/75th2009...](http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Interim/75th2009...). In addition, copies of the audio-video record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (e-mail: [publications@lcb.state.nv.us](mailto:publications@lcb.state.nv.us); telephone: 775/684-6835.)

#### FORUM MEMBERS PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS:

Lucy Peres, President

Clo Banks

Joann M. Bongiorno

Evelyn A. Cannestra, M.S.W.

Richard C. Doyle

Verlia Davis Hoggard

Hebert W. Perry, CPA/EA

Herbert E. Randall, Ed.D.

Mary D. Roberts

Rick A. Stanfill

Ronald E. Stoller

Harriet Trudell

**FORUM MEMBERS PRESENT IN CARSON CITY:**

Ruth H. Hart

Margaret Spooner

**FORUM MEMBER PRESENT IN ELKO:**

Ray B. Jones

**FORUM MEMBERS ABSENT (EXCUSED):**

Alice Adams

Jane Maxfield

Mimi Rodden

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:**

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

## **I. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS**

Lucy Peres, Forum President, called the Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum's (NSHLF) meeting to order. Roll was called and a quorum was determined to be present.

President Peres welcomed guests and members of the public.

President Peres, with the Forum's permission, modified the agenda order to accommodate the guest's schedules.

## **IV. PRESENTATION ON KEEP MEMORY ALIVE**

Maureen E. Peckman, CEO, ([Exhibit B](#)) shared the remarkable history of the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health and Keep Memory Alive. She said Mr. Larry Ruvo's passionate dream to honor his father by establishing a center of excellence for the management of neurocognitive diseases began approximately 15 years ago. In July, 2009, the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health opened in Las Vegas with the anticipation of expansion to Reno and Elko, NV. Ms. Peckman stated the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health provides treatment for the approximately 100 – 150 new patients and their families per week, accounting for the anticipated 12,000 patient visits per year.

Furthermore, Ms. Peckman detailed many of the hardships in securing the support for this endeavor. She stated Mr. Ruvo ultimately commissioned the world-renowned architect, Frank Gehry to design the building. As designed, the institute will become the focal point of Symphony Park, 61-acres acquired from the City of Las Vegas. ([Exhibit C](#))

Ms. Peckman detailed the exploratory search for the perfect medical partnership for the clinic. In February, 2009, Dr. Delos "Toby" Cosgrove, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Cleveland Clinic, accepted the oversight of this specialized center. She indicated the underlying principles in considering the brain as the last unexplored frontier of modern medicine would guide Cleveland

Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health to advance research, and to identify and discover the causes of cognitive deficit diseases, while maintaining the focus on patient treatment. ([Exhibit D](#))

Maureen E. Peckman stressed goals to prevent the disabling symptoms of chronic brain disease and to prolong healthy and vital aging through early detection and intervention. She mentioned early therapy not only delays the onset of manifestations, but creates the critical support system for the family and caregivers.

Ms. Peckman extended an open invitation to the Forum members and welcomed any volunteer offers. She stated the volunteers provide exceptional quality service.

Additionally, Forum members welcomed the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health to the Vegas valley. They testified to the exceptional reputation, in hopes the Clinic becomes a household name for excellence. The Forum members supported the research endeavors and wished the Clinic continued success.

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS (Continued)**

President Peres continued her opening remarks by recognizing the Forum members with a Certificate of Appreciation for their support and dedication to the NSHLF. ([Exhibit E](#))

#### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JUNE 23, 2009, MEETING**

President Peres presented the minutes of the June 23, 2009, meeting. Ms. Shope provided a summary of the minutes for the benefit of the audience.

The NSHLF **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

VERLIA DAVIS HOGGARD MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 23, 2009, MEETING. HERBERT E. RANDALL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **III. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR OCTOBER 27, 2009**

- Joann M. Bongiorno, Treasurer, NSHLF, provided an overview of the "Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum Summary of Receipts and Expenditures or Sources/Uses of Funds and Encumbrances, for the monthly periods from 06/30/2009 through 09/30/2009." ([Exhibit F](#)) The Forum's current account balance reflects the remaining fiscal year appropriations at approximately \$4,400.

Ms. Shope provided the Forum with the proposal for Statutory and Interim Committees 2009 – 2010 Interim. ([Exhibit G](#)) She stated this proposal will be reviewed at the upcoming Legislative Commission's meeting.

The NSHLF **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

VERLIA DAVIS HOGGARD MOVED TO APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORTS AS SUBMITTED.  
EVELYN A. CANNESTRA SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **V. STATUS REPORT ON THE NATIONAL SILVER HAIRED CONGRESS (NSHC) AND NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SILVER HAIRED LEGISLATORS (NCSHL)**

- President Peres and Mary D. Roberts shared the details of the NSHC and the NCSHL meetings in Charleston, West Virginia. President Peres summarized the proposed resolutions and will share the approved resolutions, when available. Ms. Roberts stated the conference offered many educational opportunities and recommended future participation with NSHC and NCSHL.

## **VI. DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF SILVER ALERT NOTIFICATION OF MISSING**

### **SENIORS**

- President Peres stated the proposed missing senior legislation continues to be a priority. She recognized the organizations, participants, and Forum members who provided support during the 2009 legislative process. President Peres encouraged members to review future legislative proposals and make the effort to identify priorities.

Ms. Shope provided the Summary of Legislation of Interest to Nevada's Elders and Persons with Disabilities, 75<sup>th</sup> Session of the Nevada Legislature, 2009, prepared by Sally Crawford Ramm, Elder Rights Attorney, Aging and Disability Services Division for the Forum's review. ([Exhibit H](#))

## **VII. STATUS REPORT ON REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE FORUM**

- Ms. Shope explained the reappointment of the members to the Forum by the Legislative Commission, as directed by NRS 427A.330 and Section 10 of Chapter 532 of Statutes of Nevada 2007. ([Exhibit I](#)) She informed Forum members that Legislators occasionally requested additional information and she offered her assistance if this occurred.

## **VIII. PANEL DISCUSSION ON LONG TERM HEALTH CARE**



- Ms. Shope provide a constituent's letter with accompanying articles for the benefit of discussion on long term health care. ([Exhibit J](#))
- Richard C. Doyle recommended the Forum address the quality of care provided to seniors living in extended care facilities. He encouraged further discussion to gather proposals for improving long term care. Some members indicated additional legislation might improve care, while other members supported enforcement of existing regulations, including accountability for noncompliance. President Peres encouraged Forum members to support other Legislative Committees addressing health care.

## IX. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS, MEETINGS DATES, AND EXPENDITURES

- President Peres opened the discussion on future agenda items, meetings dates, and expenditures.

After reviewing the calendar and consulting with President Peres, Ms. Shope will notify the Forum members and public of the next meeting.

- At the request of President Peres, Ms. Shope reviewed the existing expenditure policy and highlighted the difficulties in the implementation of the policy if an event occurred between scheduled meetings.

The Forum reiterated the importance of educational opportunities. After discussion, the Forum recommended the expenditure policy be modified to include provisions for retroactive reimbursement approval at the next available meeting.

The NSHLF **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

JOANN M. BONGIORNO MOVED TO ESTABLISH A REIMBURSEMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES WHICH SHALL INCLUDE THE APPROVAL FROM TWO OR MORE FORUM OFFICERS, THE EXACT REIMBURSEMENT DELINEATED TO THE PURPOSE, AND LIMITED TO \$50 DOLLARS, OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE, IF THE EXACT REIMBURSEMENT EXCEEDS \$50 DOLLARS, THE REIMBURSEMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE SHALL REQUIRE APPROVAL FROM ALL FORUM OFFICERS AND INCLUDE THE EXACT REIMBURSEMENT DELINEATED TO THE PURPOSE. EVELYN A. CANNISTRA SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED 13 TO 1, WITH VERLIA DAVIS HOGGARD IN OPPOSITION.

- President Peres shared information on the recent parliamentary workshop sponsored by the Nevada State Association of Parliamentarians and requested approval for the registration of two Forum members. ([Exhibit K](#))

The NSHLF **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

RICHARD C. DOYLE MOVED TO APPROVE REIMBURSEMENT FOR TWO REGISTRATION FEES FOR THE PARLIAMENTARIAN SEMINAR. CLO BANKS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Ms. Bongiorno requested Forum members share their activities and experiences as one method to enhance dialogue among members. She revealed she assisted a constituent with the Social Security benefits application.
- Ms. Shope shared additional information as listed below:

State of Nevada, Department of Business and Industry's media release outlining Nevada's Fight Fraud Taskforce and the upcoming series of fraud education seminars. ([Exhibit L](#))

NV Energy and Nevada Rural Counties RSVP present: Health and Prosperity Are in Your Future, Senior Expo ([Exhibit M](#)) ,

Chronic Kidney Disease - A Growing Healthcare Concern, published by HealthInsight, packet provided by President Peres ([Exhibit N](#)) , and

State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division's media release indicating Nevada will receive \$1.2 million in grants for Alzheimer's disease programming and respite services. ([Exhibit O](#))

## **X. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Gary Brodt, private citizen, Las Vegas, raised concerns relating to the quality of long term health care and suggested enforcement of the regulations to improve care. He shared examples when other states readily provided requested information which was in contrast to his experiences in Nevada. He encouraged the Forum's continued support.
- John Healy, private citizen, Las Vegas, and member of Citizens for Patient Dignity, shared concerns about the abuse in the nursing homes and the current trend for nursing facilities to hire staff with criminal backgrounds.

- Kathleen Browning, private citizen, Las Vegas, and member of Citizens for Patient Dignity, shared concerns about the lack of funding for nursing homes and the quality of care. Additionally, she raised concerns about Medicare fraud.
- Rajka Campagiorni, private citizen, Las Vegas, and member of Citizens for Patient Dignity, shared concerns centering on patient rights, adequate nursing care, and retaliatory practices by the nursing staff. She requested the Forum's assistance to protect the most vulnerable seniors. She encouraged enforcement of the existing Nevada statutes. Additionally, Ms. Campagiorni supports guardianship reform. ([Exhibit P](#))
- Sylvia Healy, private citizen, Las Vegas, and member of Citizens for Patient Dignity, supported the Forum's continued efforts to improve the health care system. She stated concerns about the "money" problems associated with long term care.

Ms. Healy indicated funds are increasingly directed from senior programs, affecting the quality of care. She provided a supporting e-mail message encouraging reform and the need for unionization. ([Exhibit Q](#))

- Jim E. Burchette, private citizen, Las Vegas, provided correspondence detailing his concerns about financial exploitation of seniors by the legal profession. Ms. Shope shared the letter with the Forum members. ([Exhibit R](#))

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Forum, the meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Shope, Coordinator

Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Lucy Peres, President

Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Harriet Trudell, Secretary

## Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum

## LIST OF EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the "Second Revised Meeting Notice and Agenda" for October 27, 2009, provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator, Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum (NSHLF), Administrative Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB).

[Exhibit B](#) is the curriculum vitae for Maureen E. Peckman, Chief Executive Officer, the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator.

[Exhibit C](#) is the cover of *Keep Memory Alive*, a publication of Keep Memory Alive in support of the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, Volume 1 2009, provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator.

[Exhibit D](#) is the *Las Vegas Sun* article titled "City's Budding Love Affair", by Marshall Allen, September 24, 2009, provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator.

[Exhibit E](#) is the Certificate of Appreciation for the NSHLF members, provided by President Lucy Peres, NSHLF.

[Exhibit F](#) is the document titled "NSHLF Summary of Receipts and Expenditures or Sources/ Uses of Funds and Encumbrances, for the monthly periods from 06/30/2009 through 09/30/2009", provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator.

[Exhibit G](#) is the document titled "Proposal for Statutory and Interim Committees, 2009-2010 Interim", provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator.

[Exhibit H](#) is the document titled "'Summary of Legislation of Interest to Nevada's Elders and Persons with Disabilities - 75<sup>th</sup> Session of the Nevada Legislature 2009", prepared by the Aging and Disability Services Division, Sally Crawford Ramm, Elder Rights Attorney.



[Exhibit I](#) is the document that includes Section 10 of Chapter 532 of Statutes of Nevada 2007, provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator.

[Exhibit J](#) are the documents titled "An Open Letter to the U.S., Nevada and Las Vegas Governments and President Barack H. Obama", and two articles entitled "Yugoslav Guest Seeks Right to Remain Here", and "Bill Permits Yugoslav Girl to Live Here", provided by Rajka Campagiomi.

[Exhibit K](#) is the document titled "Nevada State Association of Parliamentarians, General Meeting Workshops, Saturday October 10, 2009, Parliamentary Procedure That Works for You", provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator.

[Exhibit L](#) is the document titled "State of Nevada Department of Business and Industry, Learn to Fight Fraud at Fall Seminar Series", provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator.

[Exhibit M](#) is the document titled "NV Energy and Nevada Rural Counties RSVP present: Health and Prosperity Are in Your Future, Senior Expo, provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator.

[Exhibit N](#) is the document titled "Chronic Kidney Disease – A Growing Healthcare Concern", prepared by HealthInsight, provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator.

[Exhibit O](#) is the news release titled "State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division receives \$1.2 million in grants, provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator.

[Exhibit P](#) is the letter written and provided by Rajka Campagiorni, private citizen and member of Citizens for Patient Dignity.

[Exhibit Q](#) is the e-mail message written by David Dean, private citizen, dated 12/22/08, provided by Sylvia Healy, private citizen and member of Citizens for Patient Dignity.

[Exhibit R](#) is the letter dated October 12, 2009, submitted for Jim E. Burchette, private citizen, by Mary Shope, Coordinator.

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](http://www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/research/library/feedbackmail.cfm) or telephone: 775/684-6827.