

---

**Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling  
Legislative Workgroup Work Session  
Meeting Approval Minutes  
Thursday, August 12, 2021  
10:00 a.m. to Adjournment**

1. Call to order/roll call – *Stephanie Goodman, Chair*

**Present Members:** Alan Feldman, Stephanie Goodman (Chair), William Theodore Hartwell, Denise Quirk

**Absent Members:** Constance Jones, Carol O'Hare & Dr. Rory Reid

**Staff/Guest:** Andi Dassopoulos, UNLV International Gaming Institute; Lena Hatzidopavlakakis, Bristlecone; Donna Myers, Reno Problem Gambling Center; Dr. Jeff Marotta, Problem Gambling Solutions; Kim Garcia, Morgan Briscoe, & Brook Adie, Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness & Prevention; Tray Abney, Abney Tauchen Group; Carolene Layugan, Caesars'; Lea Case, Nevada Psychiatric Association; Nann Meador, Nevada Council on Problem Gambling; Wendy Whitsett, Health Plan of Nevada's Behavioral Health Department;

2. Public comment – *Stephanie Goodman, Chair*

*(Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for a later meeting)*

No public comment

3. For possible action: Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 24, 2021

*Stephanie Goodman, Chair*

Mr. Feldman makes a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting on June 24, 2021.

Mr. Hartwell seconds the motion.

Motion passes unanimously by committee.

4. For possible action: Discussion and Possible Recommendations for Future Strategies Related to Problem Gambling Services

*Stephanie Goodman, Chair*

Chair shares with the committee the ask they would like to bring to Interim Finance Committee (IFC), using the dollars from the state Covid dollars (American Rescue Plan funds). The ask would be for an ad campaign, research, and infrastructure. The research component would include a graduate assistant cost, research consultant, research incentives, and any add-ons for UNLV at 8%. For 12 months the research would run at an estimated cost of \$100,627 according to Ms. Dassopoulos. Chair does have figures for a 6-month program as well if needed.

Chair reviews ask for an ad campaign. All costs will be based on research findings. The cost for 3-month ad campaign will be around \$1.3 million. For a 6-month ad campaign

the cost would be around \$1.8 million. For the research and ad campaign the estimated cost would be estimated at \$2 million.

Dr. Marotta asks what the research would be specific to. Chair states that the research would reflect how COVID-19 adversely impacted people dealing with problem gambling. Chair continues that the idea is the research will help to pinpoint how COVID-19 impacted them and using that to shape an ad campaign. Mr. Feldman comments on how much money has been gambled post-COVID-19. March of this year showed that statewide casinos had revenue of \$1 billion. That is a 114% increase from last year. Mr. Feldman found that there has been a significant increase in revenue. Without international travel, that means the source for the income is coming locally. Mr. Feldman conveys to the committee that without international travel, the game of Baccarat has dropped more than 75% over 2019. Slot revenue went up by \$220 million, or 30% over 2019, while visitor volume has dropped 17.6%.

The chair adds that these are the hard numbers that were put together for IFC members. Mr. Feldman notes that the international play is down \$21 million. Ms. Adie provides ways to ask for ARP funds. This ask can go through the division or the governor. If done through the division, it needs to be to them on August 18. Chair asks Ms. Adie if the department is willing to consider ACPG for backup. Ms. Adie and Ms. Garcia reply that they will push the ACPG application up the chain of command. Ms. Adie adds that there is not a specific amount that has been earmarked by the division for these dollars. She also notes that an entity must be named to receive the ARP Funds. Ms. Adie notifies the committee that the funds are available for entities with an "immediate need" for the dollars. Mr. Feldman notes that there has been a lot of conversations with the department. He sees that there is not a need to minimize what their needs are. Mr. Feldman suggests going through the department as Ms. Adie suggests. Mr. Hartwell asks what hard deadlines there for the department. The division's deadline is August 18.

Dr. Marotta notes that within the framework given by Ms. Adie; the form is concise. When Dr. Marotta looks at the form, he suggests that this group fits in to the disadvantaged communities section. This is at a quick review of the form.

The chair shares that media dollars could be spent immediately. Ms. Dassopoulos mentions this can be done rather quickly. Ms. Quirk asks how the group will do this and put everything together. Chair discusses with the committee how to breakdown the application to be filled out. Mr. Feldman suggest the committee asks for all of the amount within the framework but be creative in how it is done. Mr. Hartwell notes that infrastructure is included. Access can be connected to advertising to spread awareness. Chair, Mr. Feldman and Dr. Marotta will contribute to the form. Ms. Adie suggests that for the purpose of the meeting to agree to exact amount and what to work on. Ms. Adie encourages committee to think of as much detail as possible for decision made. Ms. Garcia believes that a word document can be used to fill out the form. This will get it through the division, department, and the director's office. There is discussion on the form. Ms. Adie notifies committee how to strongly tie funding back to COVID-19. Mr. Feldman goes through different questions on the form and which will be best for problem gambling. The committee discusses amounts to ask for and where the funds

should be used and continues to break down some of the questions. Ms. Adie notices the target groups discussion. She believes that they are going in the right direction. Ms. Quirk makes a motion to allow the Chair, Mr. Feldman, and Dr. Marotta to fill out an application for ARP Funds to address the critical needs of Problem Gambling.

Mr. Hartwell seconds

Motion passes unanimously

August 16<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for committee to have their document sent to the division for upload by the 18<sup>th</sup> of August.

5. Informational: Discussion on Updates Related to Problem Gambling Services  
*Stephanie Goodman, Chair*  
No Discussion
  
6. For possible action: Approval of the Next Meeting, Future Meeting Agenda Items  
*Stephanie Goodman, Chair*  
A month from now. Ms. Quirk asks for the September 14. Committee agrees to September 14 at 3:00 pm. Same standing agenda.
  
7. Public comment - *Stephanie Goodman, Chair*  
(Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for a later meeting)  
No Discussion
  
8. Adjournment – *Stephanie Goodman, Chair*