

**Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)  
Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling (ACPG)**

**November 3, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

**Approved as Presented December 12, 2016**

**Meeting Conducted Via Teleconference**

**Physical Location:** 1820 E Sahara Avenue, Suite 208, Las Vegas NV

**ACPG Members Present**

Tony Cabot  
Ted Hartwell  
Carolene Layugan  
Carol O'Hare  
Denise Quirk

**ACPG Members Absent**

Ryan Gerchman  
Connie Jones

**Program Concepts Workgroup (PCW)**

**Members Present**

Stephanie Asteriadis Pyle  
Ted Hartwell  
Jeff Marotta  
Denise Quirk  
Sarah St. John

**Members Absent**

Ryan Gerchman  
Sydney Smith  
Lana Robards

**Others Present**

Priscilla Colegrove, ASO IV, DHHS  
Pat Petrie and Cindy Smith, DHHS Office of Community Partnerships and Grants (OCPG)

**I. Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements**

ACPG Chair Denise Quirk called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM and announced that the meeting was being recorded. She stated that the purpose for calling a special meeting of the ACPG was to review and approve the 2017 Legislative Talking Points.

Roll call was taken and a quorum of members was confirmed for both the Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling (ACPG) and the ACPG Program Concepts Workgroup ACP-PCW). Pat Petrie introduced Priscilla Colegrove, who was representing the Department following Laurie Olson's move to Aging and Disability Services, and OCPG staff member Cindy Smith, both on the call.

**II. Public Comment**

None

**V. Review Draft Legislative Talking Points Submitted by Program Concepts Workgroup**

(Taken out of order at the discretion of the Chair)

Ms. Quirk turned the floor over to Tony Cabot, Chair of the Legislative Workgroup, for his opening comments. Mr. Cabot stated that in his review of the talking points, he was very favorably impressed

with the tremendous job done by the Program Concepts Workgroup. He had two comments, both of which were incorporated in the current document.

- That the workgroup come up with a specific ask with regard to what the legislature needs to do in terms of funding. This is reflected in the second statement's second bullet point, which recommends one dollar per Nevada resident with a cost of living increase. He thinks it is an appropriate recommendation.
- The original document included a controversial quote regarding the costs on society. That was replaced with statistics from Keith White, of the National Council on Problem Gambling. This is included under the second statement on page two: Treating disordered gamblers saves Nevada taxpayer dollars. The social impact of problem gambling is estimated at \$1,800 per problem gambler.

Mr. Cabot stated that it is important to move quickly in order for the legislators to start the process to get these items in for review. In the interim, we will work with other groups and constituents to gain consensus.

Ms. Quirk acknowledged Ted Hartwell, Chair of the Program Concepts Workgroup, and asked if he had any comments. Mr. Hartwell stated that he appreciated the input provided by Mr. Cabot, as well as the work of the members of the workgroup. It was a challenging process, and he appreciates everyone's hard work.

Ms. Quirk asked Mr. Cabot to describe the next steps. Mr. Cabot stated that the person with the greatest knowledge of gaming issues in the Senate in the coming session is Senator Becky Harris. Senator Harris was in the Master of Laws (LL.M.) program in Gaming Law and Regulation at UNLV and sat through some of his classes. She has a strong interest in this issue, has met with Carol O'Hare and others, and would be his first recommendation on the legislative side. He also suggested involving Senator Mark Lipparelli, who was formerly the Chairman of the Nevada Gaming Control Board, although he will not be serving in the next session, and Senator Tick Segerblom. These individuals will be able to provide a great deal of advice and guidance moving forward.

Ms. Quirk asked if there was someone in the Department who could keep the ACPG apprised of what's happening during the legislative session, as Ms. Olson did in the past. Mr. Petrie responded that currently, the Department is in a period of transition and he couldn't speak to that at this time. He could provide names in the next week or two, and in the interim, the group could contact him with any question and if necessary, he would make sure the right person gets it.

Ms. O'Hare brought up some technical questions regarding the document. The second talking point's second bullet, referencing a new funding formula, is an incomplete sentence. Additionally, she wondered if it should be a stand-alone statement more prominently placed, or offered as the introductory statement of the document, followed by the talking points. Mr. Cabot agreed that the sentence structure should be corrected, but was less concerned about where it appeared in the document. He stated that the ACPG will meet with different legislators and interested parties to present the proposal to change the funding formula, provide the talking points and explain why we think it's a justifiable ask. That will come behind the actual legislation which will be the clear ask.

Mr. Cabot explained the actual mechanics of creating a bill draft. The first step is to find a champion to sponsor the legislation. That person makes a request to reserve a spot for a bill. Once the ACPG comes

to an agreement with the sponsor as to the actual language of the bill, the champion will submit it to the LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau), where it inevitably is tweaked. It passes back and forth until the legislator or legislators are satisfied and willing to put it forward. They then typically find an array of co-sponsors, get it submitted, it get assigned to committee. Mr. Cabot thought it would go through the Senate Judiciary Committee, but it may not. He didn't see any of the recommendations as being controversial, neither the funding formula nor the changes to ACPG membership and duties, and imagined all would be included in one bill.

Ms. Quirk suggested that the final talking points document include a listing of the ACPG members' names or signatures, along with their endorsement of approval and the date. She also suggested modifying the wording of the second bullet point to "we propose" a new formula.

#### **VI. Approve Legislative Talking Points Document**

- Ms. O'Hare moved to approve the content of the 2017 Legislative Talking Points document as presented and edited per committee discussion. Mr. Cabot seconded the motion and it carried unopposed with no abstentions.

#### **III. Approve Minutes of August 18, 2016 ACPG Meeting and**

#### **IV. Approve Minutes of September 19, 2016 Program Concepts Workgroup Meeting**

There being a quorum of both the ACPG and the ACPG Program Concepts Workgroup present, Ms. Quirk addressed agenda items III and IV in one action item.

- Ms. Quirk, ACPG Chair and member of the Program Concepts Workgroup, moved to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2016 ACPG meeting and the September 19, 2016 Program Concepts Workgroup (PCW) meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Ted Hartwell, Chair of the PCW and ACPG member. The motion carried unopposed with no abstentions.

#### **VII. Public Comment**

None

#### **VIII. Additional Announcements and Adjournment**

Ms. Quirk expressed her gratitude for the work of the ACPG and the two workgroups, stating she is looking forward to this legislative session. She urged Mr. Cabot to contact her day or night if testimony or information was needed.

- Ms. O'Hare motioned to adjourn. Ms. Quirk adjourned the meeting at 9:32 AM.