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Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
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Brian L. Mitchell  
Director

**PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

Name of Organization: STEM Advisory Council  
Date and Time of Meeting: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 @ 4:00 PM  
Place of Meeting: Nevada State Library and Archives  
100 North Stewart Street, Suite 220  
Carson City, NV 89701

Please use the following numbers to join the conference call:

North: 775-687-0999 or  
South: 702-486-5260  
Access Code: 70987 push #

**I. Call to Order / Roll Call**

Co-Chair Mark Newburn  
Co-Chair Kelly Barber

The STEM Advisory Council was called to order by Co-Chair Mark Newburn at 4:00 P.M. on January 30, 2019, on the above conference line. He will be running the meeting today.

**Members Present:**

Andrew Snyder  
Brian Mitchell  
Camille Stegman  
Chris Sewell  
Judy Kraus  
Mark Newburn, Co-Chair  
Richard Knoeppel

**Members Absent:**

Kelly Barber, Co-Chair  
Kristen Averyt  
Marcus Mason  
Shelace Shoemaker

**Staff Present:**  
Debra Petrelli  
Tracey Gaffney

**II. Public Comment** (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item.)

There was no public comment.

**III. Welcoming Remarks and Announcements** (For information only)  
Co-Chair Mark Newburn

Co-Chair Newburn welcomed everyone. He had no announcements to report.

**IV. Approval of the Minutes from the August 30, 2018 Meeting** (For possible action)  
Co-Chair Mark Newburn

Co-Chair Newburn asked if there were any corrections or additions to the August 30, 2018 Minutes, as written. None were made. Ms. Kraus made a motion to approve the Minutes of August 30, 2018, as written. Mr. Knoepfel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**V. Discussion and Possible Vote on The STEM Advisory Council's 2018 Report to The Governor** (For possible action)  
Brian Mitchell

Mr. Mitchell pointed out the statute that created the STEM Advisory Council requires the council to write a written report with recommendations in January of each odd numbered year, which will go to the Governor, the Legislature, the State Board of Education and the Board of Regents. He said he has prepared a draft report of different policy ideas from council meetings and conversations that took place throughout the last year. He said the first idea concerns computer science professional development that has been discussed at length within the Computer Science subcommittee; the second recommendation is for the creation of regional STEM networks or STEM hubs, as discussed at a STEM Advisory Council this last summer; and the third recommendation is the creation of STEM motor vehicle license plates with the proceeds going to fund different STEM programs identified by the council. He said the fourth recommendation is the permanent creation of certain K-5 STEM grants funded with state money, which currently OSIT has been running with private money. He added one other recommendation mentioned in the preamble of the report is in regards to the vacant seats on the STEM Advisory Council which have been vacant for some time. It requests filling those appointments, which would allow for easier quorums for STEM Advisory Council meetings as well as include a broader group of members.

Ms. Stegman commented on a couple of content corrections to be made. Mr. Mitchell agreed to make the corrections.

Ms. Kraus suggested adding another item to include verbiage for the revision to the STEM recognition events by removing the higher-level institution clause. Mr. Mitchell agreed.

Co-Chair Newburn commented on the Computer Science recommendations and said they appear to be the same as recommendations to Senator Woodhouse's Bill Draft Request (BDR). Mr. Mitchell stated that the source document for the computer science recommendations was the subcommittee's recommendations to Senator Woodhouse and feels this document reflects a vote in support of the outcome of Senator Woodhouse's BDR.

Mr. Snyder commented on a grammatical correction to be made. Mr. Mitchell agreed to make the correction.

Mr. Knoepfel asked how soon the legislation will start to make appointments to fill vacancies on the council. Mr. Mitchell replied that typically legislation will not make appointments to the STEM Advisory Council during the legislative session, but suggested the council push for those appointments immediately following the conclusion of the legislative session.

Co-Chair Newburn asked for a motion to approve the recommendations included in the 2018 Report of the STEM Advisory Council to the Governor, Legislature, State Board of Education, and Board of Regents with the technical corrections and changes discussed. Ms. Stegman made a motion to adopt the recommendations included in the 2018 Report of the STEM Advisory Council to the Governor, Legislature, State Board of Education, and Board of Regents with the suggested changes. Mr. Knoepfel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**VI. Discussion on the Upcoming Year for the STEM Advisory Council and Anticipated Accomplishments, Including Planning Dates for Meetings Each Quarter and In-Person Meeting in Summer 2019 (For possible action)**

Brian Mitchell

Mr. Mitchell discussed the STEM Advisory Council's meeting schedule for the rest of the year. He said it makes sense to have the next meeting in the spring of 2019, to update the council on legislation and have a discussion on schools that have passed muster for recognition for the Governor STEM School Designation. He suggested the meeting after that should be in the summer of 2019, and because of the requirement to hold in-person meetings and there is sufficient funding in the budget, this would be an appropriate timeframe. He added that this meeting would be ideal for newly appointed members to attend and receive orientation from the council. He said the council will need to determine if that meeting should take place in Las Vegas or Reno. He suggested one topic of discussion for that meeting could be the Strategic Plan, which was written in 2016 and adopted in 2017. He pointed out it may be a good time to start preliminarily updating the Strategic Plan. He added that updating the document could go throughout the remainder of the year with a target completion date for a new Strategic Plan and new goals in early 2020. He pointed out that with a new Strategic Plan in place it may set the council up well in putting together some future initiatives for the 2021 legislative session. He added he would suggest one more meeting this year in the fall to conclude the council's meeting schedule for 2019.

Ms. Kraus suggested the summer meeting would be better for her in June than July. Ms. Stegman agreed. Mr. Knoepfel agreed. Mr. Snyder also agreed. After further discussion, it was agreed by the council the most appropriate date would be towards the end of June.

Mr. Mitchell commented on the good work being done at the STEM Advisory Council's subcommittee level and how beneficial it is for those groups that the council meets to review their work and to assist in setting a strategic direction for them.

Mr. Knoepfel asked when the best date would be for the first quarter meeting in the springtime with all the activity going on during the legislative session. Mr. Mitchell replied, in order to avoid having two meetings, it would be best to schedule a meeting after the STEM school site visits have been made and reviewer scores have been compiled for the Designated STEM schools. He said in reference to the timing of the legislative session, he does not expect the council to necessarily discuss information to lobby the legislature at that meeting, but rather to discuss the progress of legislative bills that concern STEM.

**VII. Update on Status of the Recognition Events For 2019** (For possible action)

Brian Mitchell

Mr. Mitchell updated the council on the statutory duty of the recognition events for 2019. He said a partnership had been established for this year's events with Desert Research Institute (DRI). He thanked Tracey Gaffney of OSIT for all her work in helping to put this partnership together. He said this year is DRI's 60th anniversary of their founding and because these events are required to take place at an institution of higher learning, the event will piggy-back with another event taking place with DRI which is on May 3, 2019 this year, and the recognition event will be co-located with them within the existing DRI activities. He pointed out it will benefit DRI as well for our students to be showcasing their STEM projects and accomplishments at their event. He said the recognition event will be taking place during the Las Vegas Science and Technology Festival, and in honor of DRI, this year's theme will be "Environmental Challenges in Nevada." He said there will be approximately 9 different environmentally related subject areas currently worked on by DRI, which students will be able to choose from. He added that he and Ms. Stegman are currently part of a group that is working on a similar science and technology festival week for Northern Nevada. He said for the Northern Nevada Student Recognition Event, a partnership with DRI's northern campus is in place with the same goals and activities as in Southern Nevada.

Ms. Gaffney commented that information and details on these two events have been posted on the STEMhub website at <https://www.stemhub.nv.gov/> and have been Tweeted out to council members. She asked that members of the council share this information and direct others to the website in order to get the challenges started.

Mr. Mitchell commented that this partnership with DRI will be a mutually beneficial relationship for both parties and said he expects it to really springboard these recognition events and give them the boost in attendance that we are looking for.

**VIII. Consider Agenda Items for the Next Meeting** (For possible action)

Co-Chair Mark Newburn

Co-Chair Newburn pointed out that several items for the next agenda had already been discussed to include: 2019 Spring Meeting - 1) Update on legislation, and 2) Discussion on schools that have passed muster for recognition for the Governor STEM School Designation.

Co-Chair Newburn added to please contact him prior to the next meeting for any additional agenda items requested to be added.

**IX. Public Comment** (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item.)

Judy Kraus, a teacher at Hyde Park Middle School in Las Vegas, announced that Hyde Park was selected by the College Board as one of only ten Pre-Advanced Placement (AP) middle schools in the nation. She said the application process lasted two years and that Hyde Park's Governor's STEM School Designation, together with its partnership with Clark High School (another Governor Designated STEM School), was an important component of the school's application to the College Board.

**X. Adjournment**

Co-Chair Mark Newburn

Co-Chair Newburn adjourned the meeting at 4:29 P.M.

DRAFT