



2021-2023 Advocacy Subcommittee  
Virtual Meeting Minutes  
February 8, 2022 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

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**Presiding: Renee Smith– Chair**

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Chair greeted the subcommittee members who reviewed and agreed on the objectives as set forth in the suggested list by Committee Chair Lucile Boss with one suggestion.

**Goal A: Maintain NAHRO’s position as the preeminent organization for the development and implementation of responsible housing and community development policy by vigorously advocating for legislation, regulations, core programs and innovative initiatives.**

**MAJOR OBJECTIVE 1 - Obj. 1. Advocacy Subcommittee - work with Legislative Network Advisory Committee (LNAC) and Congressional Relations** - establish measurable goals and all Commissioners to meet goals.

- Actively engage in development of an annual advocacy work plan that includes targeted legislative campaigns with measurable outcomes, a focus on updated social media and effective visuals, and a rapid response team ready to respond to media, Congressional, and administration inquiries. The work plan will also include targets for action alert campaigns, an expanded August recess, and a working group to position NAHRO to connect with Presidential campaigns to influence their housing platforms and build relationships with potential transition teams and HUD staff.

Work with Congressional Relations to send XX letters to Congress and The White House by [DATE] for XX purpose(s) (e.g., additional funding for universal vouchers, emergency housing vouchers, resident services, etc.). Ensure letters are sent by Commissioners from each region.

**Obj. 2. Advocacy Subcommittee to work with LNAC/ Congressional Relations.** - establish measurable goals and provide Advocacy training for Commissioners, whether online, in person, or through other resources. (advocacy subcmte. Felt this should be consolidated with Obj. 1)

**Goal B: Strengthen NAHRO's role as the leading resource in developing the professional expertise and credibility of housing and community development practitioners.**

**Obj. 2. Advocacy Subcommittee to work with LNAC.** - develop a modern program to train and educate NAHRO members on advocacy basics, and to establish measurable goals. This will include training for Leg Net Leadership team who represent all NAHRO regions and other Leg Net members, allowing these members to not only be experts in advocacy, but to act as mentors and trainers for their colleagues.

**Goal E: Strengthen NAHRO as a thought-leader by improving communication, networking, information exchange, and knowledge transfer with and among members, partners, and stakeholders, and by enhancing the experience of members and next-generation professionals.**

**Obj. 2. Advocacy Subcommittee (Commissioners Track Group)** - create substantive, relevant topics, and sessions for the national conference track and for sessions under different tracks.

- Propose 3-5 sessions via calls for proposals and/or submissions by the Commissioners Committee (consider sessions not selected, including but not limited to: budgeting/"is there money for this?"; COVID-19 lessons learned; educational empowerment; etc.)
- Promote NAHRO Certification programs

**ADVOCACY SUBCOMMITTEE**

Advocacy members will work at Commissioner’s Mentor’s booth at the National Conference and advise new and veteran commissioners how to access/navigate the Advocacy Action Center online and via the app - NAHRO Advocacy, conference app - YAPP; send advocacy letters to our legislators through the Advocacy Action Center at designated times. Partner with Legislative Network on other ways to enhance advocacy efforts.

**Commissioners Track Group** - This group functions within the Advocacy Subcommittee Commissioners Track Group. When reinstated, Co-chairs will serve as contacts for the commissioner’s track sessions on the National Conference Planning Committee, review session topics from the call for session proposals and advise committee on session topics. The Group can also submit sessions during the call for proposals. Whether reviewing proposals or submitting them, group members will ensure timely, relevant sessions are represented in the Commissioners session track and benefit all levels of commissioner experience with a focus on advocacy, communication, professional development, and adult literacy.

<b>ADVOCACY – 12</b> <b>Recurring Meeting Schedule:</b> <b>Every other month – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday</b> <b>Beginning April, 2022</b> <b>1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time</b> <b>Day will be established via Doodle Poll</b>	
<b>CHAIR: Renee Smith</b>	
<b>MEMBER - attendance</b>	
<b>Carleen Cumberbatch</b>	<b>Willie Haynes</b>
<b>Brenda Honeycutt</b>	<b>Dirk Hoek</b>
<b>Thomas Jefferson</b>	<b>Cody Schuler</b>
<b>Commissioners Track Group</b>	
<b>Co-chairs: Joe Grisson/Char Reavis</b>	
<b>MEMBERS</b>	
	<b>Karina Mason Rorris</b>
	<b>Gary Valentine</b>
<b>Adrian "AJ" Jones</b>	
<b>Absent:</b>	<b>Joe Grisson, Richard Laferte, Char Reavis</b>