



**2021-2023 Communications Subcommittee
Virtual Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2022
3:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

Presiding: Char Reavis– Chair

COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE Chair, Char Reavis	
MEMBERS	
Attendance	
Gary Allsup	Char Reavis
Johnny Johnson (Chair Commissioner of the Year Award)	George Perez
Guests: Thomas Jefferson, Lucille Boss, AJ Jones	
Absent	
John Benton	Sam Bergami
Alanna Conard	Brenda Honeycutt
Delois McKinley-Eldridge	Joycelyn Straight

Communications members will draft and/or provide article topics for the Commissioner’s Corner of the *Journal of Housing and Community Development* magazine. Assist in revamping the commissioner’s research page; Identify and recommend ways to communicate more effectively who NAHRO is and what NAHRO represents to our peers throughout the country, communicate NAHRO membership information, showcase Commissioners’ Handbook at the Mentors Booth & First-Time Attendees (at in-person national conference); and create/implement communications plan.

Commissioners of the Year Group - This group functions within the Communications Subcommittee. Commissioners of the Year Group members will encourage regions to submit regional commissioner award nominees for the national commissioner award consideration and judge and select yearly award recipient.

Chair Char Reavis called the meeting to order and the members discussed the items on the Communications tabbed [objectives](#) sheet.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner of the Year

The group reviewed the "Commissioner of the Year" goal and associated tasks. Commissioners noted concerns about the submission form format, and asked NAHRO staff to consider accepting nominations via fillable PDF or Word document.

Q: Do nominations have to come only from the region? No. **Qualifications:** Each nominee must be an individual or associate member of National NAHRO, have contributed in the areas of community leadership, advocacy, and public relations as well as to the activities of NAHRO and cannot be employed by the Housing Authority and serve as Commissioner simultaneously.

Commissioner Engagement

Committee members discussed ways to engage fellow commissioners at in-person conferences:

- Resume Mentor’s table at Registration to encourage attendance at first-time attendee meeting, and the plenary session that will include awarding of the Commissioner of the Year award, to stop by the National Conference Commissioners Booth, to encourage purchase of Commissioners Handbook, etc.
- Resume list/iPad to collect contact info/interests as well as a list of commissioners Mentors listed by region
- First-time attendee meeting often has commissioners, perfect opportunity for introduction and, perhaps, offer additional networking after the meeting with Mentors.
- consider workshop for EDs to encourage Commissioner engagement (a possible session/roundtable topic for the commissioners track sessions – National Conference).

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

Joe Grisson	(RVP)	NCRC
Richard Laferte	(RVP)	NERC
Karina Mason Rorris	(RVP)	PNRC
VACANT; Commissioners Committee Chair Lucille Boss, to be appointed	(RVP)	PSWRC
VACANT	(RVP)	SERC
Willie Haynes	(RVP)	SWRC

Chair Char Reavis will reach out to Regional Commissioner VPs below asking them to e-mail regional councils and state chapters requesting they submit nominations by mid-July. We are making the request now because many councils/chapters only meet quarterly. Commissioners Regional Vice Presidents.

The Roster is on the Commissioners Committee page. login, click on [link](#) , then click on committee roster.

Staff Liaison LaTonya Rajah

- Add time to the full committee agenda to focus on how to navigate the NAHRO webpage during May 2 full committee meeting with q/a.
- A reminder request for any roster changes will be incorporated into every meeting agenda and minute notification emails.
- Subcommittee inquiries forwarded to NAHRO regarding:
 1. Scheduling e-blasts to Commissioners from the Commissioners Committee to highlight Commissioner of the Year nominations and other Commissioner related items of interest.
 2. Change Commissioner of the Year nomination submission form from online to a PDF as concerns have been expressed that regional nominations for regional commissioner awards, which contain the same information on the national online form, can be submitted easier by emailing existing information via PDF instead of transferring information from regional submission to the online form for national award consideration.
 3. Possibility of having a Commissioners' database.