

Presiding: Renee Smith, Chair

Chair Smith welcomed members, greeted guests, noted meeting quorum, and asked for **Motion to Approve Minutes – April 7 and June 21 2024 , moved by Zella, seconded by AJ Jones. 1 abstention. Motion carried.**

Subcommittee Highlights

Advocacy Subcommittee, Chair, AJ Jones reporting

- Get out the vote (GOTV) distribute the flyer noted on the NAHRO [website](#) to respective agencies. Distribute at agency events and highlight via social media. Informational tool on activity of each party.
- Collaborations/partnerships – to include MOUs (memorandum of understanding) with agencies and other entities/organizations. Encourage your agencies to outreach to at least five agencies. Seek out COCs, United Way, local City Hall, County Clerks and colleges.

Communications Subcommittee - Fred Banuelos, reporting

- Subcommittee Chair Jake Joseph, drafted a Commissioners Handbook timeline workplan for revisions. **Members will review and discuss at the October 18 subcommittee meeting.**
- Discussed **how to introduce commissioner information to those who are not members.** Craft message to executive directors encouraging the purchase of the current handbook for onboarding and general knowledge and when updated, highlight the availability of new handbook edition.
- This segues into **making commissioners aware of NAHRO's professional development offerings for commissioner trainings, attending conferences and participation in networking activities.** Reasons for a lack of participation can be budget, etc.
- **Encourage regional vice presidents for commissioners, state/chapter presidents, and their respective service officers to highlight availability of the handbook as a valuable tool in the commissioners' resource kit.**
- Develop a commissioners handbook content survey. Seeking input from national NAHRO staff, committee members, and focus groups. **Get copy for the subcommittee to review, make recommendations, then expand the conversation for more input.**
- Some states require commissioners' certification training. PA and NJ require it and NJ enacted legislation mandating the training. **If there are other states interested in following suit, we need to open up that conversation and compile all of the legislation on this topic.** As more states require it, it will assist those who have not to craft legislation using the language of those who now have it.
- Johnny Johnson, Commissioner of the year jury chair announced this year's Commissioner of the Year recipient- Adrian AJ Jones, Chair, Fresno Hsg. Authority, Fresno, CA

DEI Subcommittee - John Morgan, reporting

How to empower residents?

1. Create a resident empowerment assessment.
2. Develop communication between the housing authority, board commissioners and residents.
3. Develop to provide commissioners information in the manner in which they can receive it, i.e. ,hard copy, emails, texts, phone, etc.
4. Positive reinforcements- taking uplifting stories and relaying that to the residents.

Governance Subcommittee – Gary Allsup, Chair reporting

- This is a newly formed group so they are seeking to find their starting point. They began with creating foundations for principles and guidance for commissioners across the country.
- Recognizing the fiduciary responsibilities and scope. (Board of Directors)
- Protecting the stakeholder's interest. (resident, developers, city, general public - balance so everyone is on the same page).
- Compliance with legal and contractual policies of the agency.
- Speak to officials who appoint commissioners whether that is mayor, city council, governor, etc. and advise who should be appointed as commissioner.
- Get to know HUD officials in the local offices in your area.
- Research should be done re: governance structure/style.
- Incorporate some of this information into the next edition of the commissioners' handbook online.

Suggestions:

- Current Commissioners' handbook is available on the NAHRO website and is a helpful tool for your local officials.
- Include commissioners' handbook in the price of commissioner fundamentals course.

Regional Reports

NERC - Next meeting – Feb, 2025, Connecticut state requirement to have commissioner training.

MARC - Summer meeting, New Jersey.

MPRC - Colorado NAHRO - commissioners training – May, Quarterly commissioner network meeting

Recruiting tool – board evaluations

NCRC - Conference – Ohio, Michigan will host next NCRC conf.

SERC - Next conf. in November Montgomery, AL

SWRC -June Conference, St. Louis, Next meeting: Texas, February. MO is creating a commissioner database across the state.

PSWRC -Conf. May 28-30, 2025 in San Jose, CA

Commissioner of the Year

Johnny Johnson announced that Adrian "AJ" Jones is the 2024 Commissioner of the Year recipient.

Commissioner Champions

Selected from at least two out of seven criteria, Chair Smith and Vice chair Fred Banuelos established champions a quarter from any region.

Four champions were recognized at Orlando meeting:

1. AJ Jones – presented on National Conference Panel
2. Lizette Mill – helped to create a National Conference session
3. (2) guests attending meeting, recently received their NCC certification.

Commissioners Booth

1. Ruffled: two Commissioner Handbooks, two \$50 gift cards

Suggestion: Provide a monetary gift to the Commissioner of the Year.

Having no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.

Attendance:

Renee Smith, Fred Banuelos, Gary Allsup, Sam Bergami, Dorothy Carty Daniel, Johnnie Jackson, Johnny Johnson, AJ Jones, Anthony Sawyer, Joe Grisson, Lizette Mill, Fermika Smith, Joycelynn Straight, Susan Ulrich, Gary Valentine, Elsie Brown, Zella Knight, Carol Branham, Henrietta Snipes, Emmett Robbins and John Morgan.

Guests: Scott Urmey, Port Huron Housing Commission, Port Huron, MI; Arthur Sampson, Housing Authority of the City Ville Platte, Ville Platte, LA; Greg Johnson, Lafourche Parish Housing Authority, Raceland, LA; Christine Schwerniger (sp), Modesto, CA; Beka Harrison, Harrison Housing Authority, Harrison, Arkansas; Gary Singer, Youngstown Metropolitan Housing Authority; Sandra Boutell and Michael Baker, Belding Housing Commission, Belding, MI; Chris Brown, Housing Authority of East Baton Rouge Parish, Baton Rouge, LA; Lena Charles and Wanda Skinner, Housing Authority of the City of Ville Platte, Ville Platte, LA, Janet Awkard-Rogers, Harrisburg Housing and Redevelopment Authority, Harrisonburg, VA; Larry Rogers, Harrisonburg, VA and Denise Blackson, District of Columbia Housing Authority, Washington, DC.

Absent: Phil Bernal, Carleen Cumberbatch, Delois McKinley-Eldridge, Willie Haynes, Thomas Jefferson, Dirk Hoek, Skye Kessler, TomiRene Hettman, George Perez, Angela Reed, Jan Murphy, Miguel Garcia, Jake Joseph, Dee Dee Chambers, and William Mayes.

NEXT MEETING IS VIA ZOOM

November 4, 2024, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m., eastern time

Check your Outlook calendars for link or contact [La Tonya](#) for it.
