

**Elko Convention & Visitors Authority  
Lodging Committee Meeting  
Zoom (<https://zoom.us/join>)  
Meeting ID: 881 1827 6953  
Password: 350151  
Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 10:30 am  
Minutes**

The Chair reserves the right to: change the order of agenda items, combine two or more agenda items for consideration, remove or delay discussion on an item, and/or recess the meeting and continue at another specific date and time.

**Committee Members:** Toni Jewell, Chairwoman/Maverick Gaming  
Denise Goff, Best Western Elko Inn  
Kathy Estridge, Baymont by Wyndham  
Laurie Nielson, Hampton Inn  
Gina Cortez, TownePlace Suites by Marriott Elko  
Jolene Stone, TownePlace Suites by Marriott Elko  
Michelle Mota, Ledgestone Hotel

**ECVA Staff:** Katie Neddenriep, Executive Director  
Tom Lester, Convention & Tourism Manager  
Amber Merz, Administrative Assistant

1. **Welcome & Introductions;** Toni Jewell, Chairwoman

Lodging Committee Chairwoman Toni Jewell called the meeting to order at 10:36 am.

2. **Public Comments** – Non-Action Item

Pursuant to N.R.S. 241.020, 2 (c) (3) this time is devoted to comments by the general public, if any, and discussion of those comments. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item on the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on a successive agenda and identified to be an action item.

Katie Neddenriep stated for the record that this virtual meeting was being recorded by zoom.us.

3. Approval of Minutes from January 22, 2020 meeting – **Action Item (public comment)**

*Denise Goff motioned to approve the minutes from the January 22, 2020 Lodging Committee meeting. Michelle Mota seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

4. Updates from ECVA staff- **Non-Action Item**

Katie Neddenriep stated that there is not a whole lot to she can update them on. She stated that they should have all received the press release she sent out in March regarding COVID-19 and the closures. She explained that they have been able to make some changes since then. Governor Sisolak issued an updated press release and reopening guide last night and she plans to spend time reading through that to see if it includes any changes or guidance to assist the ECVA. She told the committee that she had been approached by several companies who were interested in holding classes or trainings in the facilities, staff has decided that they will be moving forward with these bookings. They will be sure to implement all social distancing procedures and any other practices laid out by the governor. Katie then told the committee about the Drive Through COVID-19 testing that the County is doing in the ECVA parking lot. She explained that the tests they are doing are the point in time nasal swabs not the antibody tests. They are hoping to test at least 3,000 people during this event. She then told them that as of right now the Elko Chamber of Commerce would be moving forward with the Beer Festival. The Lamoille Canyon marathon and half marathon are also still taking place.

Further discussion took place.

5. Updates from Lodging Committee members – **Non-Action Item**

Chairwoman Toni Jewell asked if any of the Lodging Committee members had any updates.

None at this time.

Hearing none Toni moved to agenda item 6.

6. Discussion on recovery strategy including but not limited to: marketing strategy, partnership opportunities and locals & travelers' sentiments. – **Non-Action Item**

Toni Jewell asked if any of the Committee members had ideas or strategies they would like to share.

Katie Neddenriep explained that she wanted to use this time to talk about what they felt we could do to get back to “normal”. She said she was open to any and all ideas but wanted to be careful to not open everything up to early and upset the locals by attracting out of state visitors who could potentially be at a higher risk of spreading COVID.

Michelle Mota told her that the Ledgestone has been booked mostly by guests from within the state of Nevada. These guests are traveling out of necessity or for business and face many restrictions including a 14-day quarantine if they cross the state line.

Gina Cortez stated that Marriott TownePlace Suites is seeing a 50/50 mix of business guests as well as guests who had decided to travel because they are tired of being locked

up in their house. They had also been getting a lot of calls inquiring about the cleanliness of their property and whether or not they had increased their sanitation schedule.

Katie Neddenriep asked if they were seeing many guests who were worried about everyone wearing masks and social distancing from all other patrons and employees.

Jolene Stone stated that she was surprised how many people were not worried about it at all. She stated that these guests were also very respectful of the ones who were taking extra caution to maintain a distance of 6 feet and wear masks. She stated that they have also had some customers who would ask for counters and card readers to be sanitized before they came near, so they have had to adapt to both kinds of guests.


Toni Jewell stated that all Maverick Gaming properties in Elko will keep their pools closed through the summer. The casinos will open soon though. They are seeing a lot of cancellations.

Katie then told them that if they had a message or update such as a clean stay initiative, they could share it with the ECVA and she would make sure to get it onto social media for them.

Further discussion took place.

## 7. **Adjourn**

*Meeting adjourned at 10:57 am.*

  
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Katie Neddenriep  
Executive Director