



Jeri Burton: President

Tricia Methner: Exec. Vice President; Eva Love: VP, Outreach

Madalena Robertson: VP, Social Media; LiNor Briley: Treasurer;

Sue Burtch: Secretary

Nevada NOW meeting 1-12-2020

Call to order: 2:37pm

2020 Board Elections: Board introduced (as above) - no new nominations - board elected unanimously

Treasurer's report: (includes part of November 2019 and all of December 2019) beginning balance: \$3621.89 - income \$561.11 (NOW donation and donation for St Jude's Ranch) - expenses: \$1221.92 (squarespace, National NOW, Library rental, holiday party, BB Progressive summit table, printing of "Alice and Me" tickets, donation to St Jude's Healing Center) ending balance: \$2934.00

LiNor made a motion to officially move \$176.25 to Nevada NOW PAC account (deposit error by bank) motion 2nd by Sue Burtch - unanimously moved - no objections.

Secretary's report: as always, minutes are on website for member viewing

VP Outreach, Eva Love: introduced new volunteer registration form. This is going to be a big year, things will be moving fast, and we will be moving at full throttle. Lots to do and we need as much help as possible to get it done!!

President's message: tickets for Alice and Me event(March 28th) are available and on sale now!!! Jeri and Zoe are going to Virginia this week for historic vote - Virginia will be the 38th state to ratify the ERA!!! Went over list of upcoming events (attached). Maria Teresa from BB Progress talked about upcoming summit (Nevada NOW will be tabling there - January 25th and 26th). February 7th, Jeri and Sondra Cosgrove will be in Carson City for reenactment of the

signing of the 19th Amendment. February 8th, National Federation of Democratic Women Western Regional Conference at the Tropicana Hotel - 8am-4pm - cost is \$75.00 includes breakfast and lunch. This is a new chapter started in June 2019. Nvedw.com

Tracey Puckett: Caucus Gala 15th - same day early voting begins. Tickets available on website clarkdems.com

March 5th: 10am - celebrating 19th amendment - historical 5th street marker will be installed.

Guest Speakers:

Elynne Greene, Manager, Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force; Assemblywomen Connie Munk and Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod; Kimberly Mull, MSVM, Survivor Leader & Policy Expert

Elynne: States that during next legislative session, all of our voices will be heard on this issue. Appreciates that we want to know more.

First, we need to use a different lens - need to dispell the myths - this is not white men kidnapping with zip ties - there are no telltale signs. Most are groomed, not abducted - when someone is groomed, they feel they are free to leave - but there are emotional “chains” - bonds continue even after rescued or hospitalized: a survivor in the hospital, with her organs shutting down and heavily sedated wanted to know “when is he coming for me” and not “I hope he doesn’t find me”

Task force is multi diverse - including community members, survivors, business members, activists - look at from all perspectives - mental, physical and financial

This issue can be generational - victims getting pregnant at the same time - raising future pimps and victims.

Steering committee oversees task force - state, local, federal, community survivors

Programs and processes help close the gaps - but can also create bigger challenges

Work with parole officers

“Trick Rolls” victim robs instead of provide sex - financially no different than 10 sex acts - felony crime - theft/robbery more valuable - still get arrested but gets advocate

“Changing the face of what we look at”

Graphic images trigger victims and gives false sense of reality

So many challenges victims have to face to become a survivor

Feb/March: legislators will get together - take a look at laws passed and understand impact - either law doesn’t do anything or it backs into another. Advocates and survivors are at the table - we have good laws but there’s room for improvement and there are a few that need to be fixed

No such thing as a juvenile sex worker or prostitute - all are victims

Careful to have infrastructure and resources to make this happen

Need to take a closer look at businesses - office of licensing. "How to notice" survivors state at many points they went unnoticed.

Legislative Panel Discussion - where are we??

Connie Munk: background is in mental health and so that is her focus - has sponsored many sexual assault bills to help the mentally ill.

4 hospitals do rape testing, std testing, and morning after pill for \$23 - bill passes for clinics to have pamphlet for victims

Shannon Bilbrey-Axelrod: AB139 Marriage Age Bill - intended to make marriage illegal under 18 - difficult to get - there are marriages in state where one party is age 12.

It was okay for 16-17 year olds to get married if they had parental permission and went before a "Judge" who was suppose to look out for best interest of child

Statistics: 60 year old men marrying 14 year old - forced marriages - trafficking

Final bill read must be at least 17 and go before a district judge (could take 6 months) and state why they can't wait until age 18

Pimps marry their victims so they cannot testify against them

AB120 defines trafficking not just for funding but also for goods and services

Kimberly Mull: from Texas - victim of trafficking, domestic violence, survivor - married at age 20 - dreamed of going to college. Went to a Soroptimist meeting on trafficking and went from victim to survivor and wanted to make a difference.

2016- lobbyist on domestic violence issues - worked with Senator Spearman - 2019 worked on Human Trafficking bills here in Nevada and around country. Does policy work, multi state and nationally

Next legislative session: Try to get funding for homes and resources needed for victims, put education in schools for students and teachers - currently "willy nilly" - there's very specific ed in Calif and Utah organization is developing and funding, work with Senator Spearman on the "equality model"

Question: anything happening on National level - Violence Against Women Act being held up by Republicans in Senate - they don't like the gun portion involving husbands and boyfriends and don't like the Indigenous women being included

Legislative Wish List: (Axelrod): always looking for touch points with republicans in order to get bipartisan support - like with human trafficking and sexual violence - need to be non-partisan issues now more than ever

(Kimberly) Funding! No state funding for sexual assault programs - 90% comes from federal dollars. Doesn't understand why there's no state funding - in Nevada, we get half a billion dollars in tourism but no money for victims (literally money coming in for men to have sex with children but no money to spend on the victims)

Issues with arresting the “customers” - they claim they didn’t know the girl was a minor (break into a vending machine it’s a Class B felony - Pay for sex with a minor and it’s a Class D felony, basically a ticket)

(Elynne) Target buyers -operations are funded through a federal grant - the Sands Corp has put up signs “Prostitution is illegal in Clark County and you will be arrested” 1st LV Strip corp to do so - signs in public places including airport with human trafficking hotline - right now it’s a ticket with no extradition - Bills we pass have to have dollars for funding - because unkept promises to victims are demoralizing. Due diligence in business education (again, need funding)

Question to Kimberly: “Should prostitution be illegal?” answer: yes - this then went in to a discussion/debate

Bottomline: higher percentage of women being forced in to prostitution than first revealed - we need to change how we treat them in custody

A legislative study is being developed to find, as a community, ways to give choices

Elynne: education awareness is important - learning about the topic (like today) is important and if you can take one thing and pass it on to another (and so on and so on). We need to dispel the myths - this issue has many layers - topics within topics - Look for volunteer opportunities such as the Rape Crisis Center (volunteer training info on website)

It’s not just big corporations or hotels that need training (housekeepers to executives - it’s also 7/11 workers that may have regular young customers at the same time daily - It’s cable service companies that have access to homes without the need of a warrant. Get people aware and be part of the battle

Jeri Burton: (trying to close meeting) we are promoting membership (35 per year) we get a portion of it and it helps fund events, helping candidates - we are also looking for volunteers to help with events, canvassing, etc.

Liz Becker: her daughter was a victim - we can’t fix the damage, we need to prevent from happening - focus on the people making people victims.

Foster Care Parent (didn’t get name) has foster parented many kids - need funding, funding, funding - especially for victims of trafficking - need specialized care that’s very expensive and has high success rate and is better than juvenile detention

Next meeting: February 16th

Adjourned at 4:31pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Burtch, secretary, Nevada NOW