

Nursing Supply & Demand Council Minutes  
 Tuesday, February 23, 2021  
 1:00 p.m.  
 via virtual Zoom Meeting

Call to Order

Chair Bronwyn Doyle called the meeting of the Nursing Supply & Demand Council to order at 1:02 p.m. on February 23, 2021, via Zoom.

Roll Call

The roll was called by Ms. Cara Landry, Executive Assistant. A quorum was established.

Members Present	Members Absent
Karen Lyon, LA State Board of Nursing*	Jill Gautreau, LA School Nurses Organization*
Sandra Brown, Southern University System*	Jennifer Badeaux, Nurse Anesthetists*
Mellynn Baker (designee), Board of Regents*	Nathalie Walker, LA Council of periOperative Registered Nurses
Wes Hataway, LA Nursing Home Association	
Kenneth Alexander, LA Hospital Association	
Wendi Palermo, LCTCS *	
Christina Constanza (designee), LA State Board of Practical Nurses	
Wendy Bailes, LA Council of Administration of Nursing Education	
Bronwyn Doyle, LAICU *	
Ahnyel Burkes, LA State Nurses Association*	
Leanne Fowler (designee), LA Association of Nurse Practitioners*	
Wendi Palermo, LCTCS	
Cheryl Taylor, LA State Black Nurses Organization	
Jana Semere, LA Organization for Nursing Leadership	
Gail Gibson, Office of Public Health	

\* Members of the Executive Committee

\*\* Ad Hoc (Non-Voting)

Approval of the January 27, 2021 Minutes

**Chair Bronwyn Doyle called for a motion for the approval of the January 27, 2021 minutes. On the motion of Kathy Baldrige, seconded by Wendy Bailes, the Nursing Supply & Demand Council approved the motion to accept the minutes.**

## Announcements/Consent Agenda

N/A

### Discussion about 2020 NSDC Annual Report (due in March of 2021)

Chair Doyle reminded the Council of the pre-work requested at the conclusion of its last meeting. Council members were to review the 2020 NSDC Annual Report draft. Dr. Wendy Bailes initiated the discussion, stating that the recommendations are divided into three sections: supply of education, supply in terms of current workforce and demand, and COVID-related needs. She opened the floor for any comments. Dr. Wendi Palermo commented relative to continuing or renewing some of the emergency rules that were put in place due to the pandemic. Ms. Karen Lyon added that the LSBN had voted to end the emergency ruling allowing early graduations, but the Board also voted to renew some of the emergency protocols. She mentioned that one of the renewed emergency rules allowed for the use of disaster permits for RNs who are retired or inactive so that they can return to assist with administering/supervising the administering of COVID vaccines. Ms. Gail Gibson commented that another barrier that needs to be addressed is the lack of diversity within the admission of nursing students, which then directly impacts the lack of diversity in the workforce. Discussion continued with the suggestion to establish an additional subgroup of this Council with a focus on diversity in nursing. There was also discussion about the need to increase the number of nurses stationed in hospitals located in rural areas of the state. This was echoed by many members of the Council as well as Senator Bagley, who recently spoke to some NSDC members regarding this issue. Lengthy discussions were held surrounding Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) and the barriers CNAs face when achieving certification. Discussion continued concerning the lack of data available for collection regarding the tracking of CNA employment and certification. Many Council members supported the need for a “transition to practice” program to aid nurses who need extra assistance adjusting to working at the bedside after leaving the classroom. It was also mentioned that a collaboration between nursing executives and nursing educators would be beneficial to discuss best practices and the issues driving the recommendations set forth in today’s meeting. In closing, Council members asked that Ms. Cecile Castello, Director of Health Standards for the LDH, and Ms. Ashley Garcia, LDH, be invited all future NSDC meetings to continue discussions on the collection of CNA data.

**Chair Bronwyn Doyle called for a motion that the Council approve the 2020 NSDC Annual Report. On the motion of Wendy Bailes, seconded by Cheryl Taylor, the Nursing Supply & Demand Council voted to approve the 2020 NSDC Annual Report.**

### Public Comments

No public comments were made during the meeting.

### Next Meeting Date

Chair Doyle stated that the next Council meeting will take place in late March and that Ms. Cara Landry will correspond with the members to choose the exact date.

### Adjournment

With no further comments or discussion, the meeting was adjourned.