

Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect
Friday October 24th, 2014, 11:30 a.m.
Michigan Hall of Justice
925 W. Ottawa Street, Lansing, MI 48915

MINUTES

Members Present: Chair Kenneth Tacoma, Carol Hackett Garagiola, Designee for Director Corrigan, Shannon Lowder, Terrance Gilseman, Susan Hull, Linda Hallmark, Robin Eagleson, Robert Sykes, Julie Nakfoor Pratt, Lori Budnik, Luann Forbes, Jennifer Pintar, and Larry Watkins . DHS: Steve Yager, Colin Parks, Sheldon Kinney, Erika Engel, Dr. Herman McCall. SCAO: Noah Bradow and Kate McPherson. PAAM: Julie Welch

Members Absent: Danita Echols, Lisa Wenger, Fred Gruber, Gary Anderson, Betsy Boggs.

1. Welcome

Judge Tacoma welcomed the members and DHS representatives to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

2. Consideration of the Minutes

Corrections made to minutes.

Motion by Judge Robert Sykes Jr. for Task Force to approve minutes from GTF meeting on 07/18/2014.

Motion 2nd by Linda Hallmark. Full Task Force motion carried unanimously.

3. Financial Report

S. Kinney gave the financial report. Copies of the current budget were provided to all Task Force members. The new reporting format was provided with monthly ledgers reporting all items paid. Previous reporting method was not accurate with balance. Future reports will include new ledgers.

Motion by Robert Sykes to accept the budget report as received and filed.

Motion 2nd by Julie Nakfoor Pratt. Full Task Force motion carried unanimously.

4. DHS Update

Steve Yager reported for DHS:

- Title IV E Audit.
- Child & Family Service Review.
- SB 890 – Adoption Subsidy.
- SED Waiver.

5. Committee Reports

Training Committee – Julie Nakfoor Pratt

Protocol - There are issues that have come up with regard to using logos. Sheldon will send out the letters when this has been resolved.

Training - Met with CWTI and other agencies. The plan is to create an online training catalog with the goal of offering training with no duplication. SCAO will be developing the online catalog. Colin Parks continues working on the Mandated Reporter training. The PowerPoint will be online for use. He will put a funding request proposal together to present at the December 2014 meeting.

The Training Committee does not recommend the Task Force use the online service from Texas due to the cost of the program and future funding to maintain the service.

Judge Tacoma requested that Sheldon Kinney contact Texas informing them we are not interested in the online service.

Citizen Review Panel – Robin Eagleson

The Committee has made site visits in Grand Rapids, Flint, and Alpena, and Marquette. We are hearing many overlapping themes. They are close to writing the report but will be holding off until after March 2015 when they speak with a tribal group first in Mt. Pleasant and then a statewide group. They would also like a conference call with Catherine Luby, Administration for Children and Families. A draft of the committee report will be completed by May 2015.

Summit Committee – Judge Hallmark

Judge Hallmark requested an increase in the Summit budget to \$35,000.00.

Motion by Robert Sykes to raise Summit budget to \$35,000.00.

Motion 2nd by Robin Eagleson. Motion carried.

A request was made for Mr. Kinney to travel to Alpena to hear a potential speaker for the 2015 Summit. Approval was received.

The Summit is moving along in the planning stages. The topic of Primary and Secondary Trauma has been chosen. The date of May 21st and 22nd, 2015 and location of the Grand Traverse Resort have been secured, as well as a preliminary schedule.

Legislative Committee – Judge Sykes

The committee did not meet prior to the Task Force meeting. The direction of the committee is uncertain, as well as its authority to advocate. At this point, we will continue to focus on the legislation. Mr. Kinney will arrange for a conference call between Judge Sykes, Judge Tacoma, and Catherine Luby, Administration for Children and Families to discuss what the committee and the Task Force is able to work on. Our funding cannot be used for the purpose of lobbying.

Mental Health Committee – Dr. Shannon Lowder

Dr. Lowder stated DHS was close to making the changes with contracts for evaluators. The Mental Health committee will assist in determining for criteria contract awards. Additionally, the committee is working with DHS to require training will require training for “Coun Counselors” which will be mandatory as part of the contract.

Child Protection, Well Being and Permanency committee – Fred Gruber

Fred Gruber was not present for the meeting and no formal report was provided.

Adoption Committee – Betsy Boggs

Betsy Boggs was not present for the meeting and no formal report was provided.

6. New Business– Judge Tacoma

Sheldon will arrange a conference call with Catherine Luby.

Task Force meetings for FY 2015. We will repeat the meeting months from FY 2014. If everyone is in agreement, we will continue holding the meetings on Fridays and will schedule them for March, July, October, and December. The meeting time will be changed to 11:00 a.m. The intention was to hold this meeting at 11:00 a.m. but due to the public notice being posted with 11:30 a.m. the meeting time was not able to be changed.

Presentation to the Federal Commission (C. Hackett Garagiola)

The presentation included the need for cross-system collaboration to eliminate child abuse and neglect fatalities.

Proposal for “Safe & Together” initiative (C. Hackett Garagiola)

Everyone has a copy of the memo prepared by Steve Yager outlining the initiative. The request is for \$44,000.00 to enter into a contract with David Mandel & Associates.

7. Sexual Abuse Prevention Task Force Report – C. Hackett Garagiola

The Task Force is moving forward and doing well. They are meeting every month from 9am to 3pm. They are currently in the information gathering phase. There are several researchers on the committee who have created a survey. The survey will go out to law enforcement, court, mental health , and other professionals involved in prevention and response to child sexual abuse. There will be approximately four to six weeks to implement the survey.

08. Proposal for funding request – Children’s Law Funding

Judge Tacoma stated this was not necessary as the event was being held today.

09. Funding Proposals

Child Welfare Law Journal – Robin Eagleson

Since 1996 the Governor’s Task Force has been involved with funding the Law Journal. Typically the Task Force Funds half the cost with the Children’s Law Section picking up the other half. Now the journal is electronic the cost should be \$2000.00.

Motion by Dr. Shannon Lowder to provide the requested \$2,000.00.
Motion 2nd by Susan Hull. Motion carried.

Prosecuting Attorney’s Association of Michigan – Erika Engel for Julie Welch

Historically, the Task Force has provided supplemental funding to PAAM. The funding to PAAM through the Department of Human Services has not been increased even though the number of PAAM trainings on protocols has increased. The request is for \$25,000.00 for FY 2015.

Motion by Judge Sykes to provide the requested \$25,000.00.
Motion 2nd by Robin Eagleson. Motion carried.

Juvenile Justice Program Office – Dr. Herman McCall/Erika Engel

The proposal is for the maximum the Task Force is able to provide: \$24,999.00 and would go to fund the 2015 Summit which provides a free two day conference to all who attend. They are open to a lesser funding amount.

Judge Tacoma stated this could not be brought to a vote due to the lack of a quorum. The vote will need to wait until the December 05, 2015 meeting.

Carol Hackett Garagiola asked if her request for Safe & Together funding received a vote. Sheldon checked the minutes and stated it had not. The request was made to table the request for funding until the December 05, 2015 meeting.

Motion by Robin Eagleson to table the proposal.
Motion 2nd by Judge Sykes. Motion carried.

09. GTF Chair Report – Judge Tacoma

Judge Tacoma stated he and the Coordinator Sheldon Kinney would pass on providing a report to the GTFCAN due to time. Additionally he stated he would work with Sheldon to create a template for uniform proposal request to be made to the Task Force. This would then be placed on the web site.

11. GTF Future Meeting Schedule

It was reported the next meeting of the full task force will be December 5th, 2014 at 11:00am at the Michigan Hall of Justice.

12. Public Comment

No public comment.

13. Adjourn

Motion by Judge Sykes to adjourn the meeting.

Motion 2nd by Dr. Watkins. Full Task Force motion carried unanimously.