

**Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect
Friday December 11th, 2015, 11:00 a.m.
Hall of Justice
925 Ottawa Street, Lansing, Michigan 48909**

MINUTES

Members Present: Chair Kenneth Tacoma, Robin Eagleson, Julie Nakfoor Pratt, Carol Hackett Garagiola (Member Designee for Director Lyon), Jennifer Pintar, Robert Sykes, Jr., Fred Gruber, Shannon Lowder, Susan Hull, Betsy Boggs, Kelly Ramsey, Melinda Deel, Danita Echols, Gary Anderson, Veda Thompkins. DHHS: Sheldon Mayer, Colin Parks, Bruce Noll. SCAO: Elizabeth Henderson. MSU Student Assistants to Gary Anderson: Annie Brandicourt, Joshua Bishop. Oakland County Court: Ryan Deel.

Members Present via Conference Call: Lori Budnik.

Members Absent: Lani Forbes, Linda Hallmark.

Also Present via Conference Call: John Hohman newly appointed member and Task Force Chair effective January 1, 2016.

Public: Jim Casha, Patricia Mitchell, From Representative Runestad's office, Krista Jones.

01. Welcome

Judge Tacoma called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. Members and guests present introduced themselves. The new appointees and re-appointees who were present and beginning their terms January 1, 2016 were introduced.

02. Public Comment

In attendance was a parent discussing CPS policy with regard to removal and termination of parental rights.

Also in attendance was a parent from another country discussing the effects of prenatal alcohol exposure.

03. Consideration of Minutes

Motion by Robert Sykes Jr. for the Task Force to approve minutes from the GTF meeting held on 10/16/2015.

Motion 2nd by Shannon Lowder. Full Task Force motion carried unanimously.

04. DHHS Update – Sheldon Mayer

The Task Force was informed that the process for requesting updates from and submitting questions to MDHHS has been changed. Sheldon Mayer will send an email request to the Task Force four weeks prior to the next scheduled meeting. The Task Force members will submit request for updates or questions at that time to allow MDHHS time to collect needed information and to have the responses approved. The goal is to more effectively utilize time during Task Force meetings for providing MDHHS updates and answering Task Force questions.

05. Financial Report – Lani Forbes/Sheldon Mayer

A written report was provided to the members of the Task Force. Currently there are no funds available for additional funding request(s) at this time. All funds in FY 2016 have been committed.

Motion by Robin Eagleson for the Task Force to approve the financial report.

Motion 2nd by Robert Sykes Jr. Full Task Force motion carried unanimously.

06. Committee Reports –

Training Committee – Julie Nakfoor Pratt

SCAO will be the host of the online training clearinghouse and it will go live January, 2016. Currently those offering training which will appear on the clearinghouse are PAAM, SCAO, CWTI, and Michigan State University. It is anticipated additional training providers will be added to the clearinghouse.

Protocol Committee – Julie Nakfoor Pratt

The protocol workgroup has been established and has met. The next step of the Protocol Committee will be to establish an advisory group which will have the task of overseeing the revisions made to the protocols. The next meeting date of the workgroup has been set for January 16, 2016.

Project Funding Evaluation Committee – Sheldon Mayer

Currently, funds are not available for agencies to apply for funding requests. In the event circumstances change and funds become available, applications will be accepted and reviewed at that time.

Citizen's Review Panel – Robin Eagleson

The draft report without the CRP committee recommendations was provided to the full Task Force prior to the meeting. The committee requested feedback on the report from the Task Force members. The responses to the report will be accepted by the CRP committee until December 31, 2015. The full report will be presented to the Task Force with recommendations and released for distribution to MDHHS for response around January 15, 2016.

The future of the Citizen's Review Panel Committee will be to continue with the panel discussions every three years from the date of public release of the last CRP report to see what has worked, what has not worked, as well as what changes have taken place. Primary and secondary trauma will continue to be an interest for the CRP along with any other subjects that may come about during discussions.

Judge Tacoma asked if a member had been selected to attend the National CRP conference in 2016. A member had not been identified at this time but the committee will review and make a selection with regard to attendance at the National Conference.

Legislative Committee – Robert Sykes Jr.

No report was made at this time and no request for review of legislation has been received.

Mental Health Standards Committee – Shannon Lowder

The Cyber Insurance which has been required by DTMB for all counselors contracted with MDHHS will no longer be required in 2016.

The exception request from DTMB for the Relias contract has been approved and the contract is anticipated to be completed by December 31, 2015 with a start date of January 1, 2016.

A request was made for Director Nick Lyon to attend a Task Force meeting in 2016 to address the Task Force. Carol Hackett Garagiola requested she be notified about the topics the Task Force would like Director Lyon to address and she will make the request.

Child Protection, Well-Being, and Permanency Committee – Fred Gruber

A draft outline for an Education program dealing with the issues that impact on the school experiences and educational outcomes of court

wards was provided to the full Task Force. A request was made to SCAO to develop a training program which would cover these topics. SCAO will check to see if such a program could include parents, school social workers, teachers and administrators in its target audience. If not the GTF, working through its Training and CPWBP Committees would consider funding this project.

07. Report and Discussion – Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children – Carol Hackett Garagiola

Carol Hackett Garagiola presented for Task Force consideration suggestions for the role of the Governor’s Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect in implementing some of the recommendations of the *Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children* that was submitted to the Governor and the legislature on June 17, 2015. Judge Tacoma suggested establishing a committee to review and prioritize these suggestions and present a plan to the full GTFCAN regarding the Task Force role in implementing the Child Sexual Abuse Task Force recommendations.

08. New Business –

The March 11, 2016 meeting was canceled and rescheduled for February 19, 2016 at the Hall of Justice.

09. GTF Coordinator Report – Sheldon Mayer

Sheldon Mayer thanked the outgoing members of the Task Force for their dedication and service.

10. GTF Chair Report – Kenneth Tacoma

Judge Tacoma expressed his gratitude to the Task Force and stated it had been a privilege being the chair and working with the Task Force members. He additionally noted the accomplishments of the Task Force since his appointment.

11. GTF Future Meeting

February 19, 2016 at the Hall of Justice

12. Adjourn

Motion by Robert Sykes Jr. to adjourn the meeting.
Motion 2nd by Susan Hull. Full Task Force motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned.