

**MICHIGAN DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE
PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
June 14, 2019**

***** Approved *****

Members Present:

Hon. Thomas Cameron
Jeffrie Cape
Hon. Elizabeth Pollard Hines
Sue Snyder
Dr. Cris Sullivan, Chair

Members Absent with Notice:

James Fink

Staff Present:

Jess Averill
Michael Bobbitt, Board Secretary
Debi Cain, Executive Director
Jordan Kennedy
Gail Krieger
Karen Porter
Angela Povilaitis

Guests:

Stephanie Beyersdorf - Michigan Supreme Court - State Court Administrative Office
Rachel Carr - Uniting Three Fires Against Violence
Kathy Hagenian - Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence
Mary Pollock - American Association of University Women of Michigan
Kathleen Walker - Northern Michigan Children's Assessment Center

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

C. Sullivan convened the June 14th, 2019 Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board meeting at the Michigan Historical Library - Lake Superior room in Lansing, Michigan at 2:00 p.m.

BOARD CONSENT

Review of June 14, 2019 agenda and approval of May 10, 2019 meeting minutes.

MOTION: Moved by E. Hines to approve the June 14, 2019 agenda and to approve the May 10, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by J. Cape. Motion Carried.

CHAIR'S REPORT

K. Hagenian presented S. Snyder with the Visionary Voice Award recognizing her outstanding work to end sexual violence. The award was the result of a nomination on behalf of the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence as an award from the National Sexual Violence Resource Center.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – GENERAL OVERVIEW OF WORK TO DATE

D. Cain noted that a request for proposal for STOP funding will soon be going out. New grants will be starting for the new fiscal year on October 1, 2019. Erin Frisch is the new Chief Deputy that the Board will

report to.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

A. Povilaitis reported on proposed legislation that would codify the admissibility of expert testimony regarding intimate partner battering and its effects in criminal proceedings, by either prosecution or defense.

MOTION: Moved by T. Cameron to take a neutral position on the domestic violence expert witness draft and suggest changing the language in the second paragraph to include “If the proponent of the evidence establishes it’s relevancy and admissibility under this rule.” The term intimate partner battering should also be changed to intimate partner violence. Motion seconded by E. Hines. Motion carried.

A. Povilaitis discussed updating the Board’s General Principle on Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect. It was suggested to change paragraph two of the General Principle to read:

- Adults in certain mandated professions as listed in the Child Protection Law, who have reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or child neglect by a parent, legal guardian, or any other person responsible for the child's health or welfare or by a teacher, a teacher's aide, or a member of the clergy are required to report the abuse or neglect.
- Other adults and children who have reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or child neglect by a parent, legal guardian, or any other person responsible for the child's health or welfare or by a teacher, a teacher's aide, or a member of the clergy may report it to appropriate authorities.
- Care should be taken when reporting abuse or neglect to minimize the risk of harm to and protect the safety of the child and reporter.

MOTION: Moved by J. Cape to adopt the new Board General Principle per above regarding Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect. Motion seconded by S. Snyder. Motion carried.

J. Averill discussed a proposal to create a Campus Sexual Assault Commission to research and develop recommendations, guidelines and/or model practices for responding to and preventing campus sexual assault in Michigan.

The duty of the Campus Sexual Assault Commission will be to create a report for the Legislature highlighting its work and recommendations on responding to the topic of campus sexual assault.

MOTION: Moved by E. Hines to support the creation of a Sexual Assault Commission and place the item on the Board’s list of legislative priorities. Motion seconded by J. Cape. Motion carried.

G. Krieger said the Domestic Violence Blueprint for Safety model is an enhanced coordinated community response model that can be used by any community to link criminal justice agencies together in a coherent, philosophically sound domestic violence intervention model.

MOTION: Moved by E. Hines to officially endorse the Blueprint for Safety as a promising practice and support the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan’s efforts to promote the local adoption of the model. Motion seconded by J. Cape. Motion carried.

A Povilaitis discussed draft substitute bills HB 4003, 4004 and 4005 regarding the legal age for entering a marriage contract.

MOTION: Moved by T. Cameron to support substitute drafts HB 4003, 4004, but remain neutral on HB 4005. However, the Board is allowed to move to support after all Board members are consulted and it is determined that the Board's concerns with "void" and "voidable" language in HB 4005 are addressed. Motion seconded by S. Snyder. Motion carried.

A Povilaitis spoke about a draft bill pertaining to child abuse and vulnerable children. Staff requested affirmation to work with the bill's sponsors with direction from Board positions and guiding principles. The Board gave approval.

Board members acknowledged that they had an opportunity to review other bills of interest to the Board's constituency that had been introduced since the Board's May 10, 2019 meeting.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by S. Snyder to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by J. Cape. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Bobbitt
Board Secretary