

DAIL Advisory Board Meeting Minutes January 11, 2024, 10:00am – 12:30pm

Microsoft Teams Phone/Video Conference

Attendees:

Board Members: Lynn Cardozo, Jane Catton, Eliza Eager, Kim Fitzgerald, Joseph Greenwald, Tom Hamilton, Nick McCardle, Delaina Norton, Steve Pouliot, Rachel Seelig.

State Employees: Monica White, Megan Tierney-Ward, Rebecca Silbernagel, Dylan Frazer, Elizabeth Cronin, Jennifer Garabedian, Kirsten Murphy, Ross MacDonald, Diane Dalmasse, Ginny Clark-Ziske

Guests: Susan Aranoff, Kaili Kuiper, Janet Nunziata, Jackie Cassino,

Quorum met.

Motion to Approve December 14,2023 Minutes: Jane Catton- Chair

First: Kim Fitzgerald

Second: Steve Pouliot

Minutes: Approved

New Business: Chair appointment still pending from the Governor's office. At this time the Acting Chair will be Jane Catton with Kim Fitzgerald assisting and filling in as needed.

Ginny will check in with Governor's office and report back to Board Members with answers to these questions:

How long is the term for Chair of Board?

Is the Board able to discuss and set term limits for the Chair and decide on operating procedures regarding this?

Meeting Framework & 2024 Dates: Jane Catton, Acting Chair: With the beginning of the New Year lead us in refreshing our roles and functions. Roles to guide our work as well as important aspects of roles and functions. The Board discussed bringing agenda Items that would be beneficial over the course of the year, and Board Member responsibilities.

Recruitment needed- We currently have 13 Board Members; guidelines state the Board should have no less than 19 no more than 24. Recruitment will be discussed in a future meeting.

Meeting times and formats were discussed. The board chose to have two meetings per year in-person. One in the spring and one in the fall. Virtual meetings will be held all other months. There will be no meeting in August.

Future agenda items will be brought to the next board meeting or submitted prior via email to the Chair of the Board.

The Board discussed items concerning DAIL that are brought to a public forum, could possibly be brought to DAIL Advisory Board prior to being presented to the public, so that that Board may provide input before presentation to the public.

DAIL Advisory Board members expressed their desire to have time allotted in meetings for discussion among the board.

DAIL Commissioner Transition: The Board expressed gratitude and well wishes to Commissioner White as she closes out her last days with DAIL and begins her next adventure.

Commissioner Monica White expressed her thanks to the Board and their availability, passion, and commitment to Vermonters and to the Commissioner.

Deputy Commissioner Tierney-Ward will be Interim Commissioner while the interview and hiring process is underway. There are several applications and interviews will begin next week. Kim Fitzgerald will be joining as a panel member on the first round of interviews providing representation for the DAIL Advisory Board.

Commissioner Monica White and Deputy Commissioner Megan Tierney-Ward did testify yesterday on House and Senate Appropriations- Budget adjustment has been posted and available for review.

Kirsten Murphy mentioned that regulations are out for comment right now.

Important for the Board to be aware of the comment period closing time period.

Comments on AL/RC regulations are due by 01/17/24.

Susan Aranoff mentioned how Budget adjustments are impacting community – Able Accounts allow people with disabilities to save money. Vermont like many states for Medicaid usually claw back those accounts after someone's death. The State Treasurer in their budget adjustment is requesting to remove Vermont's claw back of monies statute.

DD Council submitted comments to the House Human Services Committee regarding this.

Thank you to the Treasurer.

Conflict of Interest Case Management: Dylan Frazer, Deputy Director of Medicaid Policy • AHS and Angela Mcmann: Power point presentation given.

Covid 19 in Long Term Care Facilities-Update: Liz Cronin, Covid Strike Team: Slide Show presented.

Community of Vermont Elders: Jane Catton shared that Community of Vermont Elders is undergoing dissolution currently. The Community of Vermont Elders Board has made the final decision to vote to dissolve the entity. This decision is incredibly painful, incredibly sad, not seeing any other opportunities to make change that was realistic or sustainable for financial stability. The advocacy that Community of Vermont Elders provided is the biggest loss to Vermonsters.

Motion to adjourn meeting: First: Kim Fitzgerald, **Second** – Lynne Cardozo

Meeting adjourned at 12:24pm