

Child Support Task Force Minutes

Wednesday, February 22nd, 2017

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Room 300N, State Office Building

100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, St. Paul, MN

Members Present: The following task force members were present on Wednesday, February 22, 2017:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jimmy Loyd, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Senator Melissa Wiklund	<input type="checkbox"/> Senator Mary Kiffmeyer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tammie Campbell, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative Peggy Scott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative Laurie Pryor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Vang	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeffrey Jorgenson
<input type="checkbox"/> Melissa Rossow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Kontz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jodie Metcalf
<input type="checkbox"/> Melinda Hugdahl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pamela Waggoner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rachel Sablan

Other Meeting Participants: Charlie Petersen, facilitator; Kathleen Heaney (for Melissa Rossow); Anna Andow (for Melinda Hugdahl)

DHS Staff: Brynn Rhodes, Bruce Erickson, Jennifer Sommerfeld, Shaneen Moore, Bennett Hoffman, Julie Erickson, Tara Borton, Jill Olson, Andrew Abruzzese, Denise Lundgren, Shauna Hoelscher, Elizabeth Rusinak Mowers

Other Attendees: Dr. William Comanor, presenter

1) Welcome: Agenda review and introductions of the group

2) Updates: Assistant Commissioner for Children and Family Services, Jim Koppel, spoke to the Task Force to thank them for their commitment and also clarify that video recording by members of the public or press may happen and our commitment to operating under the Open Meeting law means we will allow it to continue. He also clarified that DHS retains audio recordings of the meetings and will be filming the two meetings with the economists to make available for Task Force members who are unable to attend.

3) Review of January meeting minutes:

- Minutes approved:
 - The January meeting [minutes](#) were approved and will be posted on the Child Support Task Force [website](#).
- Action Items:
 - 1) Elizabeth sent the list of questions that the group came up with to the economists.
 - 2) A member of the public asked a question that a Task Force member asked to be researched and answered regarding money that is collected for someone who is on public assistance: does the state recoup the full amount of public assistance through the collection of child

support? And if not, under what authority does the state allow the child support collected to be passed on to the parent rather than kept back to recoup the public assistance expenses incurred by the state? Elizabeth prepared a response in a [memo](#) sent to the group and posted on the website.

4) Presentation by Dr. Comanor: The majority of the meeting was devoted to Dr. Comanor's presentation on his research on the various economic models for calculating the cost of raising a child to use as a basis for revising the current MN Child Support Guidelines. Dr. Comanor's [report](#) can be found on the Task Force website.

5) RFP Evaluation Discussion

- The group had a brief discussion regarding the RFP evaluation process and timeline and selecting a member of the Task Force to be a part of the evaluation team. Pamela Waggoner and Jason Smith both expressed interest in being on the evaluation team and the other Task Force members agreed to have them represent the Task Force on the team.

6) Action Items:

- **Action Item:** Elizabeth will update the website with a link to the most recent [USDA report](#) on the cost of raising a child.
- **Action Item:** Elizabeth will update the website with a link to the [Census Bureau website](#).

7) Public Comments:

- There were two members of the audience who gave public comments to the group:
 - Diane Anderson
 - Tim Kinley

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Next Meeting will be held on March 29th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in room 300N of the State Office Building.