

Draft Meeting Minutes

Date: 12.3.2024

Location: virtual

Attendance

Open meeting law virtual meeting, staffing and council members in attendance.

Council members in attendance:

- Gavin Bart
- Brandy Brink
- Autumn Dillie
- John Donovan
- Beth Elstad
- Wendy Jones
- Pamela Lanhart
- Jeffrey Lind
- William Messinger
- "Bill"
- Suzanne Nash
- Lynne Redleaf
- Anderson Saint Georges
- Kimberly Stokes
- LaTricia Tate
- Fiyfaz Karim

Absent:

- Colin Cash
- Travis Winship

Office of Addiction and Recovery (OAR), Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) staff:

- Jennifer Blanchard
- Cat Rohde
- Jeremy Drucker
- Jose Phipps
- Dr. Catherine Diamond

Welcome and Roll call

- **Members and guests were welcomed:** Beth Elstad – Co-Chair provided opening remarks and announced her resignation from the council.
- **Roll call:** Roll call was taken
- **Review of Agenda:** Agenda and objectives for the meeting were reviewed
- **Approve minutes:** Members voted to approve the October 2024 minutes

Public comment

- No public comment

Office of Addiction and Recovery updates

Jennifer Blanchard, Deputy with the Office of Addiction and Recovery, provided an update including:

- MARRCH Conference
 - There was much interest in the Governor’s Advisory Council by conference attendees.
 - Many of the individuals in attendance were professionals working in the field.
 - The biggest takeaway was that many conference attendees did not know what the Office of Addiction and Recovery (OAR) did.
 - Many individuals were interested in OAR and the Governor’s Advisory Council.
 - Specifically, what does the Advisory Council do?
 - What are the priorities, and how does one engage with the Council and OAR?
 - It was recommended that OAR and the Governor’s Advisory Council have a greater presence at the 2025 MARRCH Conference.
- 2911 Rule rewrite
 - The proposed rules have been drafted and will be made public on December 12th, 2024.
 - It’s a public meeting so people can participate or observe.
 - After the New Year, the Department of Corrections will potentially return for a follow-up meeting.
- 1115 Reentry Waiver
 - Application has been posted for public comment.
 - There are several ways individuals or groups can provide feedback, attending one of the two public hearings (Dec. 10 and Dec 11). You can also submit written comments via email which the due date is December 26th, 2024.
 - Additionally, a workgroup was required as part of the Statute, Office of Addiction and Recovery (OAR) is named in the workgroup, J. Blanchard will represent OAR, Brandi Brink from the Governor’s Advisory Council will also be a member of the workgroup representing the Minnesota Association of Recovery Community Organizations.

Minnesota Department of Health use of Cannabis dollars

Dr. Catherine Diamond presented on Overdose and Substance Use Prevention. Dr. Diamond leads the Injury and Violence Prevention section at the Minnesota Department of Health. The injury and violence Prevention section will also create a new Substance Use Prevention unit focusing more on primary prevention.

- It is understood that there is no straight line between prevention, treatment and recovery. MDH is looking at public health and how to support public health with a population view of services, programs, and policies.
- The work is centered on the social-ecological systems model, where there is a need to address many different levels to have an impact.
- In the 2023 legislative session, there was legislation that was passed that legalized adult-use cannabis.
- MDH was tasked with multiple initiatives as well as other agencies.
- \$5.5 million to create a grant program to address substance use prevention, recovery and treatment.

- MDH is charged with developing the grant program with the specific task of addressing prevention and recovery, with a smaller portion of the fund used for treatment.
- MDH gathered feedback from the council on proposed use of the funding.

Finalize legislative priorities for the Year-end report to the Governor and subcabinet

- The Council moved into the final steps of developing their legislative priorities by reviewing results of a follow-up survey used to refine recommendations that came forward during the October 1 Council meeting. The Council then used an online interactive tool to identify top priority recommendations and gather additional input to inform the Year-end report. After the meeting the Council will receive a final survey and will be asked to vote on the final draft of recommendations. Any recommendation that receives a two-thirds vote will be included in the Year-end report. Members will also be asked to share any additional feedback they would like considered for inclusion in the report. Imagine Deliver, a community-based consulting firm focused on creating solutions and services alongside the people who use them, were contracted to write the report on behalf of the Council. The report will be available in January. .

Next Steps

- Council members to receive and complete a follow-up survey
- Future focus on implementation and monitoring progress

Next Meeting and adjourn

The Advisory Council meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. Next meeting details include:

- **Date:** Tuesday, February 4, 2025
- **Time:** 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- **Location:** virtual