



MINUTES

Governor's Child Foster Care Advisory Commission

March 16, 2020

Call-in Meeting

Members:

- Timothy Colahan
- Caroline Cruz (not present 9-10)
- Robin Donart
- Pamela Heisler
- Alan Linhares
- Jessica Lloyd Rogers
- Charlie McNeely
- Tracy Powell

Guests: Rebecca Jones Gaston

Staff: Rosa Klein, Kali Scolnick, Katherine Bartlett

Time	Task	Notes
9:00	Logistics Robin and Alan discussed logistics for the phone call meeting.	Lead: Chairs
	Approvals May meeting minutes: Motion to approve – Alan Second – Jessica Aye – All Motion approved July meeting minutes: Motion to approve – Alan Second – Jessica Aye – All Motion approved Bylaw Changes: Motion to approve – Alan Second – Tracy Aye – All Motion approved	Lead: Chairs

	<p>Annual Report and Recommendations: Motion to approve – Tracy Second – Alan Aye – All Motion approved</p>	
9:25	Adjourn until 10:00	
10:00	<p>Rebecca Jones Gaston and Rosa Klein</p> <p>Introduction of the Director an Joel Metlin Updates on DHS Initiatives Updates from Rosa Q&A</p> <p>Robin – as a commission we are looking at what are the gaps, particularly around foster parent and recruitment so we can make rec in those areas</p> <p>Currently hiring and on boarding champions (on ground recruiters and supporters for family support). The r & r of foster parents is an ever-evolving are proactive. We want to make sure we are recruiting families that reflect the children we are serving. As far as “gaps,” How do we make on boarding more efficient. In OR the reimbursement rate for child care. i.e car seats – give up front and don’t reimburse. Thinking through the need for respite care. Looking at policy, rules and statutes that make a formal and informal respite provider system more difficult. Minimize out of pocket expenses that foster parents have.</p> <p>Joel – as the champions come on board, we will provide them with some tools but expect them to come up with specialized work plans for their specific communities. Would be great to have them work with your group as they continue this work – they need connections.</p> <p>Rosa addressed CW budget request from the legislature. They will have to use other agency funding to back fill. Rosa has call this afternoon about what we can get approval to back-fill (use money that was intended for other purposes).</p>	Lead: Chairs & Rosa

	<p>Q: Jessica – Working with Billy Cordero RE visitation. Hearing from foster parents across the state that they must continue with visitation regardless of the COVID-19 emergency.</p> <p>RJG – Fluid situation but need balance to ensure that family continuity. Want to make sure we are mindful of the care and well-being of all of those we serve.</p> <p>Robin - Gathering info, learning systems – now looking to identify area where we can make recommendations and provide meaningful supports in the CW system. Monitor things overall. Ensuring that there is no stagnation in the system. Continuing to put forward recommendations and finding successes in the CW system moving forward.</p> <p>Alan – My hope for the commission is that we have the tools we need to monitor things in DHS like our statute asks us for. Monitor to make sure the changes that we make right now are key.</p> <p>We have had incredible turn-over. Mostly on frustration for not having the resources we need to function. Need to have a staff but doubt that with the state of the stock market that will ever happen.</p> <p>Rosa – the way the commission is structured has been a hindrance. One of the things that could help, we could combine the CWAC who advise Rebecca directly, and CFCAC. Use CWAC staff to staff the commission. Add things from previous bill ask like expanding numbers.</p> <p>Pamela – the commission was founded at a tumultuous time, things were tense. Once the meeting had met, the tension has dissipated.</p> <p>Rosa – need decision by end of April</p>	
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11:00 adjourn