



State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Commission on Children

Connecticut Commission on Children Minutes of Meeting

Legislative Office Building, Room 1-B
Hartford, Connecticut

Tuesday, June 12, 2007
10:00 a.m. – Noon

Voting members present: Judith Busch (by phone), George Coleman, James P. Cordier, Senator Jonathan Harris, Alison Hilding (by phone), Josh Piteo, Mary Grace Reed, Laura Lee Simon, John Yrchik (by phone).

Ex-officio members (or designees) present: Department of Education (George Coleman), Department of Social Services (Sylvia Gafford-Alexander), Department of Public Health (Norma Gyle), Department of Correction (Mary Marcial), Department of Mental Retardation (Commissioner Peter O'Meara), and Office of Policy and Management (Anne Foley).

Members absent: Chief Court Administrator (Hon. William J. Lavery), Department of Children and Families (Rudy Brooks), Representative Andrew M. Fleischmann, Mary K. Fox, Dr. Alex Geertsma, Senator Mary Ann Handley, Representative Michael Lawlor, Attorney General (Susan Pearlman) and Leslie Wolfgang.

Vacancy: Appointee of Senate minority leader

Invited Guests: Representative Marie Kirkley-Bey, Child Advocate Jeanne Milstein

Commission staff present: Elaine Zimmerman, Ashleigh Backman, Thomas Brooks, Elizabeth Brown, Rachel Crotty, Patricia Estill, Dawn Homer-Bouthiette, and Rachel Levy.

Handouts: Agenda; Election of Commission Officers for 2007-2008; 2007 Budget Update; An Act Concerning the Healthfirst Connecticut and Healthy kids initiatives; PlayBook for Prevention; Invitation to 2007 Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) graduation ceremonies; A Children's Stock Portfolio: One Smart Investment; Updated list of Commission members (April 2007).

Meeting Convened

Chair James Cordier called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Election of Officers

The Commission voted unanimously, by voice, to elect the following members – nominated at the May meeting – as Commission officers for 2007-2008:

Chair:	James Cordier
Vice Chair:	George Coleman
Secretary:	Alison Hilding
Treasurer:	Josh Piteo

Discussion of the Legislative Session

The Commission held a wide-ranging discussion of legislative issues facing children, with guest contributions by Rep. Marie Kirkley-Bey and Child Advocate Jeanne Milstein. Among the topics: children’s mental health, children with special health care needs, children of parents in prison, and moving 16- and 17-year-olds out of the adult criminal justice system. Anne Foley, representing the Office of Policy and Management, distributed the OPM report “2007 Legislation Impacting Connecticut Children,” which is attached here.

Prevention Media Campaign

Laura Lee Simon gave an update on the prevention media campaign.

Adjournment

Mr. Cordier closed the meeting at noon.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Grace Reed
Secretary