



State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Commission on Children

Minutes of Meeting

Connecticut Commission on Children

10 a.m. to Noon, Tuesday, November 9, 2010
2nd-floor Conference Room, 18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford

Voting members present: M. Alex Geertsma, Laura Lee Simon, James P. Cordier, Mary K. Fox, Robert Francis, Andrew D. Gibson, Jordan Grossman, Alison Hilding, Josh Piteo, Barbara J. Ruhe, and Ron D. Ward.

Voting members absent: George A. Coleman, Mary Grace Reed, Representative Andrew M. Fleischmann, Senator Jonathan A. Harris, Senator Andrew J. McDonald, Justine Rakich-Kelly, Representative Toni E. Walker, and John Yrchik.

Ex-officio members present: Michelle Hayward, Department of Correction; Norma Gyle, Department of Public Health; DeAnna Lia, Department of Children and Families; and Anne Foley, Office of Policy & Management.

Ex-officio members absent: Attorney General, Department of Developmental Services, Department of Education, Department of Social Services, and Chief Court Administrator.

Commission staff present: Elaine Zimmerman, Thomas R. Brooks, Kevin Flood, Dawn Homer-Bouthiette, Edie Luciano, Mary Kate Lowndes,

Meeting convened

Chairman Geertsma began the meeting by introducing new board members Robert Francis and Jordan Grossman. They were greeted warmly by the rest of the Commission.

Discussion of children's issues across agency and constituency

The board held a wide-ranging discussion on children's issues to be addressed in 2011, with the following questions used as jumping-off points: How will the budget shortfall impact children and families in health, safety and learning? What opportunities are there in federal financing? What issues need improved coordination? What policy directions are likely for children in the 2011 legislative session?

Preparation for the anti-bullying forum

Director of Policy and Research Analysis Thomas Brooks updated the Commission on preparations for a November 22 forum on bullying, which the Commission is organizing with the Governor's Prevention Partnership. Mr. Brooks noted that interest in the event is such that online registration had to be closed about a week after it began because all the seating in the main room and two overflow rooms had been reserved.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.