Rep. Toni Walker began the meeting by voting on last month's meeting minutes, which is unanimously accepted.

Bill Carbone thanked the JJPOC work groups for their work on their recommendations on achieving strategic goals. He advised that the work group recommendations will be presented today and the two reports from Center for Children’s Advocacy on educational barriers and from the Child Health and Development Institute of CT on the overlap between mental health and juvenile justice systems will be next week. The recommendations from these reports will be emailed out by Monday, January 25th and there will be a discussion on them at our January 28th meeting.

Laura Downs began her presentation on the JJPOC work groups and introduces the co-chairs.

Hon. Bernadette Conway spoke on behalf of Sen. Winfield and the Incarceration Work Group as the co-chair and presented their recommendations to the committee.

Erica Bromley spoke on behalf of the Diversion Work Group as the chair and presented their recommendations to the committee.

Christine Rapillo spoke on behalf of Hector Glynn and the Recidivism Work Group as the co-chair and presented their recommendations to the committee.
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Brian Hill spoke on behalf of Jamie Mills and the Cross-Agency Data Sharing Work Group as the co-chair and presented their recommendations to the committee.

Laura Downs talked about the next steps that follow the JJPOC Work Groups after the recommendations are discussed and eventually adopted.

Rep. Walker thanked Laura and the work groups for all of their work. Sec. Ben Barnes thanks the JJPOC Work Groups as well and says they are very strong recommendations.

Sen. Bartolomeo discussed some concerns over the resources for specific recommendations and asked how binding the voting is over these recommendations. Sen. Winfield responded by explaining that the task force and the subcommittees cannot bind the legislature to do anything but they can present the best way to move forward and the direction in which this state should be moving in. He suggested that the right thing to do is to vote to push the legislature in the right direction for the children of this state.

There was a discussion on closing CJTS and other options for these children. The training school model and mental health treatment was also discussed.

Rep. Walker said that we need to grow and adjust for the sake of our children and although it will be hard and she hears the concerns of the committee, she believes that this can be done, just like RtA was accomplished.

Francis Carino spoke to some concerns on the incarceration recommendations providing scenarios that he has seen a multitude of times where the incarceration recommendations would conflict. Hon. Bernadette Conway addressed his concerns and explained where these recommendations came from. Rep. Walker said she is sure we can come up with a compromise.

Sen. Dante Bartlomeo expressed her concerns over some of the incarceration recommendations and made suggestions for edits. Rep. Walker informed her of the reasons behind recommendations by the Incarceration work group and that these can be amended as we go through the process.

Each individual recommendation is explained by Bill Carbone to be voted on by the committee. Rep. Walker addressed the issue of amendments to the recommendations. The committee voted
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on whether there shall be any amendments to the recommendations and it is overruled. The next meeting will discuss the two reports and if there is time, discussion on changes to these recommendations. Before the final bill is presented, there can be suggestions and changes to the final plan but at this time there will be no amendments to the recommendations.

There is a hand-raised vote on the following recommendations:

Incarceration
Recommendation #1- passes, 2 votes for no
Recommendation #2- passes, 3 votes for no
Recommendation #3- passes, 2 votes for no

Diversion
Recommendation #1- passes, 1 vote for no
Recommendation #2- passes, unanimous

Recidivism
Recommendation #1- passes, unanimous
Recommendation #2- passes, 1 vote for no
Recommendation #3- passes, 1 vote for no

Cross-Agency Data Sharing
Recommendation #1- passes, 2 votes for no
Recommendation #2- passes, unanimous
Recommendation #3- passes, unanimous

The next meeting will be next Thursday on January 28, 2016 at 2PM. This meeting will take place to discuss and vote on the reports from CCA and CHDI that will be sent out electronically.