

Alzheimer's Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2020
3:00-5:00 pm

Date of meeting: Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Start time: 3:00 pm

End time: 5:00 pm

Location: Virtual Meeting (WebEx)

Members participating remotely		Vote 1*	Vote 2	Vote 3	Vote 4
1	Secretary Elizabeth Chen – EOE (chair)	X	X	X	X
2	Susan Antkowiak – Alzheimer's Association - MA/NH Chapter	X	X	X	X
3	Michael Belleville – Alzheimer's Advocate	X	-	-	-
4	Andrew Budson – VA Boston Healthcare System	X	X	X	X
5	Tricia Farley-Bouvier – MA House of Representatives	X	X	X	X
6	Jonathan Jackson – MGH	X	X	X	-
7	Rhiana Kohl – Caregiver	-	-	X	X
8	James Lavery – DPH (designee of Commissioner Bharel)	X	X	X	X
9	Barbara Meehan – Alzheimer's Advocate/Formal Caregiver	X	X	X	X
10	Hector Montesino – Alzheimer's Advocate	X	X	X	X
11	Linda Pellegrini – UMass Memorial Medical Center	X	X	X	X
12	Heather Sawitsky – Fox Hill Village Homeowners Corp.	X	X	X	-
13	James Wessler – Alzheimer's Association	X	X	X	X
Members not in attendance					
14	Maura Brennan – Baystate Health	-	-	-	-
15	Robin Callahan – MassHealth (ret.)	-	-	-	-
16	Patricia D. Jehlen – MA Senate	-	-	-	-
17	Bernice Osborne-Pollar – Caregiver	-	-	-	-

* (X) Voted in favor; (O) Opposed; (A) Abstained from vote; (-) Absent from meeting or during vote

Proceedings

Secretary Chen called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. She welcomed members and noted that all votes taken during the meeting would be conducted via roll call.

Secretary Chen explained that a dedicated email account has been created for members of the general public to provide comments and questions for the Council to consider.

Vote 1 to approve the 10/15/2020 minutes: Secretary Chen requested a motion to approve the minutes from the Council's last meeting on October 15, 2020. Mr. Lavery introduced the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Wessler and approved by roll-call vote (see detailed record of votes above).

Secretary Chen reviewed the wording of the additional goal and implementation strategy related to identifying and evaluating options to ensure that scoring on relevant projects includes Age-friendly and dementia-friendly criteria that had been proposed by the Council during October's meeting. No objections were raised by Council members and Secretary Chen noted that the goal and implementation strategy would be included in the Council's Annual Report in March 2021. For additional information related to the goal and implementation strategy, please refer to the presentation on the Alzheimer's Advisory Council's [Meeting Materials – December 1, 2020 webpage](#).

Ms. Meehan, co-lead of the Caregiver Support and Public Awareness Workgroup, presented the workgroup's recommendations and implementation strategies around the second of the workgroup's two goals: Identifying Approaches to Improve Awareness of the Pathways to Available Supports and Services for Dementia Caregivers and their Care Partners. Ms. Meehan reviewed the proposed implementation strategies, such as culturally-appropriate public service announcements. For additional details on the workgroup's recommendations and implementation strategies, refer to the presentation on the Alzheimer's Advisory Council's [Meeting Materials – December 1, 2020 webpage](#).

Michael Belleville left the meeting at 3:35 pm.

Following the presentation, members discussed various interventions to provide support for families caring for someone with dementia and encourage their engagement with supports such as the Alzheimer's Association.

Vote 2 to adopt the Caregiver Support and Public Awareness Workgroup's recommendations: Secretary Chen requested a motion to adopt the two recommendations of the Caregiver Support and Public Awareness Workgroup. Ms. Pelligrini introduced the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Wessler and approved by roll-call vote (see detailed record of votes above).

Dr. Budson presented the Research Workgroups goals, recommendations and implementation strategies for 2021-2022. The group's recommendations focused on increasing diversity in Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) research and ADRD researchers, which they noted can limit generalizability to the wider population affected with ADRD and limit perspectives and innovation. Dr. Budson reviewed the group's proposal of a pilot grant program to accelerate these goals. For additional details on the workgroup's recommendations and implementation strategies, refer to the presentation on the Alzheimer's Advisory Council's [Meeting Materials – December 1, 2020 webpage](#).

Ms. Kohl joined the meeting at 4:20 pm.

Vote 3 to adopt the Research Workgroup's recommendations: Secretary Chen requested a motion to adopt the Research Workgroup's recommendations for 2021-2022 around increasing diversity of both research participants and researchers. Representative Farley-Bouvier introduced the motion, which was seconded by Dr. Jackson and approved by roll-call vote (see detailed record of votes above).

Ms. Pellegrini and Dr. Rob Schreiber presented on the work and recommendations of the Quality of Care Workgroup. For additional details on the workgroup's recommendations and implementation strategies,

refer to the presentation on the Alzheimer's Advisory Council's [Meeting Materials – December 1, 2020 webpage](#).

Vote 4 to adopt the recommendations: Secretary Chen requested a motion to adopt the Quality of Care Workgroup's recommendations, which includes developing a collaborative path with IHI in the coming year for the Age Friendly Hospital System. Dr. Budson introduced the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Pellegrini and approved by roll-call vote (see detailed record of votes above).

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.