

# Massachusetts Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Disease and All Other Dementias

Meeting Minutes  
February 7, 2023  
3:00-5:00 pm

Date of meeting: Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Start time: 3:00 pm

End time: 5:00 pm

Location: Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

Members participating remotely		Vote 1*	Vote 2	Vote 3
1	<b>Secretary Elizabeth Chen</b> – Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA) ( <i>chair</i> )	X	X	X
2	<b>Susan Antkowiak</b> – Alzheimer's Association - MA/NH Chapter	-	-	-
3	<b>Hugo Aparicio</b> – Boston University School of Medicine	X	X	X
4	<b>Andrew Budson</b> – VA Boston Healthcare System	X	X	X
5	<b>Jatin Dave</b> – Chief Medical Officer, MassHealth	-	X	-
6	<b>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</b> – Mass. House of Representatives	-	-	-
7	<b>Brent Forester</b> – McLean Hospital, Mass General Brigham	X	X	X
8	<b>Patricia Jehlen</b> – Mass. Senate	X	X	X
9	<b>Rhiana Kohl</b> – Caregiver	-	-	-
10	<b>James Lavery</b> – Department of Public Health (DPH)	X	X	X
11	<b>Barbara Meehan</b> – Alzheimer's Advocate/Formal Caregiver	X	X	X
12	<b>Hector Montesino</b> – Alzheimer's Advocate	X	X	X
13	<b>Bernice Osborne-Pollard</b> – Caregiver	-	-	-
14	<b>Linda Pellegrini</b> – UMass Memorial Medical Center	X	X	X
15	<b>Heather Sawitsky</b> – Fox Hill Village Homeowners Corp.	-	-	-
16	<b>James Wessler</b> – Alzheimer's Association	X	X	-

\* (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.

**Vote 1 to approve the 11/1/2022 minutes:** Secretary Chen requested a motion to approve the minutes from the Council's previous meeting on November 1, 2022. Mr. Wessler introduced the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Lavery and approved by roll-call vote (see detailed record of votes above).

Gabriel Cohen from the Executive Office of Health and Human Services presented a brief overview of the Open Meeting Law and Conflict of Interest requirements that pertain to the Council. For additional details, refer to the Open Meeting Law and Conflict of Interest slides within the Council's presentation on the Alzheimer's Advisory Council's [Meeting Materials webpage](#).

Dr. Heather Snyder, Vice President for Medical and Scientific Relations at the Alzheimer's Association provided an overview of recent scientific advances related to treatment for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) and their implications for Massachusetts residents, clinicians, and researchers. Mr. Wessler provided an overview of opportunities and challenges currently facing ADRD research.

Pam MacLeod presented an overview of the Council's draft annual report, which had been circulated to Council members in advance of the meeting. For additional details on the Council's annual report, refer to the presentation on the Alzheimer's Advisory Council's [Meeting Materials webpage](#).

**Vote 2 to approve the Council's annual report:** Secretary Chen requested a motion to approve the Council's annual report. Ms. Meehan introduced the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Pellegrini and approved by roll-call vote (see detailed record of votes above).

In response to a question regarding the open seat on the Council vacated by Michael Belleville's retirement from the Council, Secretary Chen explained that the appointment of an individual to fill Mr. Belleville's seat would be addressed with the new Secretary for the Executive Office of Health and Human Services once she begins. Secretary Chen noted that she feels the voices of those living with dementia such as Mr. Belleville are critical to the Council's ongoing work. Ms. Meehan recommended that the Council seek out a woman living with dementia to fill the seat, as the issues for women living with dementia are unique.

**Vote 3 to adjourn the meeting:** Secretary Chen requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Forrester introduced the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Pellegrini and approved by roll-call vote (see detailed record of votes above).

Secretary Chen adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm.

### **Meeting Materials**

1. Draft 11/1/2022 meeting minutes
2. Council meeting presentation
3. Draft annual report