

Community Violence Prevention Task Force

Meeting Minutes
November 22, 2024
10:00 am - 11:30 am

Date of meeting: Friday, November 22, 2024
Start time: 10:00 am
End time: 11:05 am
Location: Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

Member Votes		Vote 1*	Vote 2
1	Robbie Goldstein – Department of Public Health (DPH) (<i>chair</i>)	X	X
2	Kevan Barton – YouthConnect, Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston	X	X
3	Paul Brennan – Lawrence General Hospital	X	X
4	Clementina Chéry – Louis D. Brown Peace Institute	-	-
5	Gregg Croteau – United Teen Equality Center (UTEC)	X	X
6	Thea James – Violence Intervention Advocacy Program, Boston Medical Center	X	X
7	Keesha LaTulippe – Bureau of Community Health and Prevention, DPH	X	X
8	Dwight Robson – Roca	X	X
9	Monalisa Smith – Mother’s for Justice and Equality	X	X
10	Laxmi Tierney – MassHealth	-	-
11	Danayjah Yassen – Old Colony YMCA, Safe Corners	X	X
12	Vacant – Representative #2 of gun violence prevention grant through DPH	-	-

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

Proceedings

Commissioner Goldstein called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. He welcomed members and explained that the Task Force’s meetings are subject to the Open Meeting Law and that any votes taken during the meeting would be conducted via roll-call vote.

Commissioner Goldstein noted that as draft minutes are traditionally approved at a group’s following meeting and the 11/22 meeting would be the Task Force’s final meeting, he proposed that the Task Force authorize him to review and approve the draft minutes from the 11/22 meeting on their behalf, so that they may be posted to the Task Force’s webpage. Members did not have any comments or objections to the proposal.

Vote 1 to approve the 11/8/2024 meeting minutes: Commissioner Goldstein requested a motion to approve the minutes from the Task Force’s previous meeting on 11/8/2024. Dr. James introduced the

motion, which was seconded by Mr. Barton and approved by roll-call vote (see detailed record of votes above).

Commissioner Goldstein noted that a draft of the Task Force's report had been shared with members on 11/20, which had been developed based on members' comments during the four previous meetings. He explained that written feedback was then solicited from members, which staff incorporated into the updated draft that the Task Force was reviewing during the meeting. Commissioner Goldstein emphasized that members' feedback was critical to the development of the group's report, which attempted to summarize the views of the Task Force's 12 members.

Commissioner Goldstein facilitated a discussion of the draft report, noting that the majority of members appeared to be leaning in the direction of not recommending that the state pursue the Medicaid funding opportunity for community violence prevention (CVP) work at this time, based on the potential challenges in operationalizing this funding opportunity. While members spoke in support of the draft report as written, they offered various suggestions to emphasize the complexity of the Medicaid reimbursement system; the limited time that the group had been given to consider this particular federal funding opportunity; the need for expanded evaluation of CVP work; and the challenges CVP service providers may face due to the shifting federal landscape in the coming years.

In closing, Commissioner Goldstein noted that his staff would incorporate members' feedback from the meeting into an updated draft of the report to be shared later that afternoon. He explained that members wishing to share additional written comments could submit their feedback by Monday, 11/25. His office would then incorporate any additional comments received into a final draft of the report, which would be submitted to the Governor and Legislature by Monday, 12/2, the deadline specified in the statute.

Vote 2 to adjourn the meeting: Commissioner Goldstein requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Brennan introduced the motion, which was seconded by Dr. James and approved by roll-call vote (see detailed record of votes above).

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 am.

Meeting Materials

1. Draft 11/8/2024 meeting minutes
2. Draft report