**MCB Statutory Advisory Board Minutes**

**August 12, 2022**

Present SAB:

Joe Abely, Chair

Kim Charlson

Amy Ruell

Susan Foley

Present MCB:

David D’Arcangelo, Commissioner

John Oliveira, Deputy Commissioner

Michael Saccone, Director of Communications

Nathan Skrocki, Director of Policy and Compliance

Loran Lang, General Counsel

Regina DiMarzo, EA to the Commissioner

Samantha Linden, Director of Training

Approximately 15 members of the public also attended.

June meeting minutes approved by SAB.

The meeting was recorded.

Commissioner Update:

* FY22: Fiscal position remains strong.
	+ Will any funds revert back to the state? –

Yes. One that was unforeseen this year was $400,000 for a study/jumpstart for short form and long form surveys that was not able to be completed. (PAC Money from 2020)

* FY23 Budget:
	+ What comprises the make-up of the increase in 0001 over the FY22 GAA?

HHS and A&F moved the rent cost into this line item which is a large majority of the increase. There has also been some movement in personnel and admin changes and costs.

* + For all accounts does MCB have sufficient resources to fulfill the budget?

We have the resources. The challenge is regarding the language on nonprofits and technology etc. This is creating a barrier. MCB has reached out for clarification.

* Update on consumer survey -
	+ Multiple formats will be available to consumers.
* Update partnership with National Industries for the Blind (NIB) –
	+ In office meeting 3 consumers have gone through the program (1 has completed and the other 2 will complete by the end of August). NIB considering reaching out to other states to include with MCB to bring in more consumers.
* Update on plan for DOR to get information on blindness status directly.

Waiting on DOR. We have been in contact with the assessors. DOR agreed that our ID card will suffice for abatement.

Program Updates:

* Dashboard on Registrations, Process, and Outcomes –
	+ YTD 1,317 as of 8/9/22. We have already exceeded the EOY number for 2020 and 2021.

Discussions:

 Introduction of MCB’s new Director of Communications, Michael Saccone.

Questions/Comments:

Participant David Kingsbury made a request for possibly organizing a town hall on voting procedures for accessible online ballots.

 MCB is open to organizing a town hall or special event.

Participant Debbie comment regarding funding.

Discussion and explanation of the reason behind that including Covid 19’s effects on utilizing programs. As well as discussion about earmarks, state funds, and VR allotment money and what it can/can’t be used for.

Participant Nona had some comments/questions regarding the short and long form surveys and the questions being asked.

Commissioner reviewed some of the questions included on the short form and discussed that some of the questions are required as part of federal grant requirements. The long form goes further in depth.

Next meeting: Friday, September 9, 2022, at Noon