**Governor’s Commission on Intellectual Disability**

**December 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

The Governor’s Commission on Intellectual Disability met on December 18, 2019 at the Executive Office of Health and Human Services.

Present were: James Brett (Chair), Amy Carnevale, Marjorie Cohen (phone), Aaron Stone, Anne Fracht, Joanne Jaxtimer (phone), George Ford, Doreen Cummings (phone), James Cassetta (phone), Jane Ryder, Elizabeth Morse, Christopher Thompson, Marianne Meacham and Victor Hernandez.

Chairman Brett opened the meeting at 4:10pm. On a motion by Amy Carnevale and seconded by Aaron Stone the September 25, 2019 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Commissioner Ryder opened the discussion by first reviewing the topics summited by the members of the GCID.

DDS General Counsel Marianne Meacham provided an update on the updated photo release policy/form. The approval can be used generally and/or for a specific use. It can also be used for the same image and/or for multiple media targets. In order to meet privacy & HIPPA laws, the form will have to be renewed annually. Therefore it could conveniently be completed at the annual ISP. Some members raised the concern that the form itself could be confusing to complete, Ms. Meacham suggested that work could be done with the service coordinator on explaining the form to individuals and guardians.

James Cassetta asked if there were any updates regarding the staffing issue. He stated that his vacancy rate is at 30% and not abating. Commissioner Ryder acknowledges that it continues to be a huge issue and the Secretary’s office has been leading discussions on this on many levels. EOHHS has constituted a workgroup on this and the upcoming ALTR rate reviews are also intended to assist with this. The Arc of MA Is also exploring how salaries and benefit packages can be more attractive to recruit and retain staff. DDS is also looking into extending the Urban Youth Collaborative Program (UYCP), where summer college age interns work in DDS programs, from a summer program to a year round program.

Doreen Cummings inquired GCID could have a role in the allocation of the tax revenues generated by the Cannabis sales in the state. It was determined that the tax revenues are directed by statute

Commissioner Ryder updated the Commission on our technology initiative. Earlier this month, DDS announced our DDS Technology Forward Initiative. Our goal is to create more opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities to live and work in their communities through the use of remote support, assistive technology, and telehealth. DDS leadership heard a presentation from John Martin, the former Director of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD). While in Ohio, John led core initiatives, such as designing and implementing Ohio’s Technology First Executive Order. It will be a way to offer support to our individuals that would not be intrusive and assist to increase their independence. When presented to the Governor, he was very interested and hopes to highlight it in his budget address.

On a motion by Ms. Fracht and seconded by Mr. Stone the meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm.