

Illegal Tobacco Task Force Minutes

Meeting Date: May 25, 2016

Meeting Time: 2:00 pm

Meeting Location: 100 Cambridge Street, 2nd Floor, Conference Room A

Board Members Present: Kajal Chattopadhyay (Co-Chair), Steve Fennessy (Co-Chair), David Solet, Michael Sweeney, Thomas Bocian, Christy Fedor, Shawn Collins.

Call to Order:

- Mr. Chattopadhyay called the meeting to order at 2:05pm.
- Mr. Chattopadhyay briefly discussed the recent arrest in Holyoke that created some positive press and attention for the Illegal Tobacco Task Force.
- Task Force members were given the opportunity to review the previous meeting minutes. Mr. Solet made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Sweeney seconded the motion. The Task Force voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Discussion of Draft Report Edits:

- Mr. Chattopadhyay called the Task Force members' attention to the draft report to the Legislature. Since the last meeting, Mr. Chattopadhyay says he'd been working to incorporate all edits and comments into the latest draft.
- Together, the Task Force went through the draft report page by page. Additional comments and grammatical revisions were considered by Task Force members and recorded by Mr. Chattopadhyay who will make the final changes.
- After the discussion of the report, Mr. Solet made a motion to approve the report as revised. That motion was seconded by Mr. Sweeney. The Task Force approved all the revisions and the report by unanimous vote.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Mr. Chattopadhyay informed the Task Force that the principal theme of the June meetings will be to focus on and discuss the proposed legislative changes.
- Kevin Brown of DOR requested that questions regarding the proposed changes be submitted prior to the meeting so DOR is able to provide answers and feedback at the next meeting.
- Mr. Sweeney indicated he would like to take a hard look at the forfeiture provisions and discuss them with the Task Force.
- Future meeting dates were discussed and tentatively scheduled pending room availability.
- Mr. Chattopadhyay closed the meeting, calling for a vote to adjourn. Mr. Solet made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sweeney. The Task Force voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 2:43pm.