**Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee**

December 11, 2017

3:00PM-5:00PM

Transportation Building, Boston

**Minutes**

**JJAC Attendance:** Chair Bob Gittens, Vice Chair Cecely Reardon, Commissioner Peter Forbes, Michelle Bloomer, Mark Booher, Ruth Budelmann, Jeff Butts, Wesley Cotter, Margie Daniels, George Johnson, Kimberly Larson, Gaetano Mortillaro, Bridget Mussafer, Janelle Ridley.

**EOPSS Attendance:** Angela Davis, Kevin Stanton, Andrew Polk, Patricia Bergin, Jim Houghton, Samantha Frongillo.

**Guests:** Sana Fadel (CfJJ)

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approve Meeting Minutes (June12 & Sept. 11, 2017)
3. FY18 Three-Year Plan Priorities & Recommendations
4. Fiscal Update
5. JJDPA Re-Authorization Updates
6. Recognition of Chair Gitten’s Service to JJAC
7. Welcome New Chair

**Handouts:** Agenda, Minutes, FY17 Three Year Plan Goals and Objectives

Bob Gittens welcomed those in attendance and attendees introduced themselves.

A **motion** was made to approve the **June Meeting Minutes**. The motion passed. Dr. Mark Booher noted a word missing from the second page of the **September Meeting Minutes**. A **motion** was made to approve the minutes with the suggested revision. The minutes were approved.

Andrew Polk gave a brief overview of FY18 Formula Grant application and **Three-Year Plan** preparation. He informed the JJAC that OGR has identified 5 priority areas for the Plan and asked for member’s input. The suggested priorities are: Separation of Juveniles from Adult Inmates, Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC), Trauma-Informed Practices, Delinquency Prevention, and Substance Abuse.

Going over the FY17 Plan – used as an example of what to consider in preparation for the FY18 Plan - Andrew reviewed last year’s priorities and activities including: the Separation priority relating to the Commonwealth’s non-compliance with the Separation core requirement of the JJDPA, the DMC priority which is also a core requirement of the JJDPA, the Juvenile Justice Data priority (for which there has been progress and which does not need to continue to be a priority), the Trauma-informed Practices priority, the Juvenile Competency priority, and the Juvenile Diversion priority. EOPSS is recommending removing Juvenile Data, Juvenile Competency and Juvenile Diversion from the FY18 plan.

With regard to include Substance Abuse as a priority in the new plan, Cecely Reardon mentioned that DYS is not detaining many youth with opioid problems. Ms. Reardon stated that gun violence and gangs are showing a significant impact on youth. Commissioner Peter Forbes added, they aren’t seeing a lot of youth with opioid issues but they are seeing a lot of youth engaging in marijuana use. They often classify them as high-risk for opioid abuse down the road. Kevin Stanton informed the committee that substance abuse, especially the opioid epidemic, is Governor Baker’s priority for all Executive Branch Agencies and that substance abuse prevention would be a good focus.

Mr. Polk asked members input on trauma-informed practices being included in the Plan. Ruth Budelmann described the trauma informed practices training that was sponsored by the Essex County District Attorney’s Office with JABG funding. OGR and Ms. Budelmann believe it would be a good training to replicate in other counties.

Further discussion regarding the priority areas for the new three year plan and related activities would be discussed at the next Executive Subcommittee meeting.

Mr. Polk gave a brief update on the pending bills for **re-authorization of the JJDPA** in Congress. The main contention is how to phase out the valid court order (VCO) exception to the Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders core requirement. It is possible that the re-authorized JJDPA will have stricter requirements than the current version.

Mr. Polk provided a **fiscal update**, discussing the award amounts from the past three years and the amount of funds available to subaward. EOPSS hopes to release an Application for Grant Funds (AGF) early in 2018 with an anticipated start date for subgrantees of July 1, 2018. Also discussed were the Formula Grant program areas that were previously voted on and chosen by JJAC for future inclusion into the new **AGF process**. There was also discussion about funds that will likely revert due to the non-compliance penalty relating to the sight and sound problems in several of the court holding facilities. Potential different remedies for the problem were discussed. Glenn Daly suggested using the funds to hire a consultant who could help determine whether “time-phasing” adult and juvenile cases in the courts where there are problems.

**Chair Gittens announced his resignation as Chair of the JJAC** due to work conflicts. JJAC members and EOPSS/OGR expressed their appreciation for his service. Chair Gittens spoke of the gratification he received from serving as the Chair.

**Ruth Budelmann was announced as the new chair of the JJAC.**

The meeting was adjourned.