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**Massachusetts Department of Public Health**

**Minutes of the Trauma Systems Committee**

**Meeting of Wednesday, November 29th, 2018**

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, 400 Worcester Rd

Framingham, MA

**Date of Meeting:** **Wednesday, November 29th, 2018**

**Beginning Time:** 10:10 AM

**Ending Time:** 12:01PM

**Committee Members Present:** The following (13) appointed members of the Trauma Systems Committee attended on May 23, 2018, establishing the required simple majority quorum (9) pursuant to Massachusetts Open Meeting Law (OML): DPH Assistant Commissioner Dr. Elizabeth Chen (Chair); Dr. Reginald Alouidor, Denise Buckley; Sara Burgess; Todd Correia; Erin Daley, Dr. Jonathan Drake; Brendan Hayden, Dr. Peter Masiakos; Dr. Timothy Emhoff; Dr. Michael Murphy; and Dr. Brian Patel.

1. **Routine Items**

Dr. Chen called the meeting to order at 10:10AM and thanked everyone for coming. Dr. Chen asked if anyone else was recording the meeting. The group confirmed that no one was recording. Dr. Chen reminded the members of the open meeting law, and confirmed quorum.

Dr. Chen stated that there were questions at the last meeting about public comment periods and why the public comment period was not conducted at the last meeting. She then introduced Rebecca Rodman, Deputy General Counsel for the Department to review open meeting law and allow for questions from the committee.

Ms. Rodman stated that a public comment period requires notice to be compliant with open meeting law. She added that a spur of the moment public comment period runs against Open Meeting Law rules which requires notice be given for anyone who may be interested in participating.

Ms. Rodman continued that the Committee members are representatives of the community serve that role as special state employees. She asked if there were any questions.

Dr. Emhoff stated that he would like the comment period to be a standing agenda item.

Ms. Rodman stated that the role of the committee is to represent the community. She added that if you open up discussion to the broader community that it should be focused.

Dr. Murphy asked if it is possible to give notice on the web of the public comment.

Ms. Rodman confirmed that is exactly what the intent is.

Dr. Masiakos asked if there was a way for the public to know who the Committee members are.

Dr. Chen stated that it is possible to put their contact information online.

Dr. Chen asked if there were more questions about the open meeting law topic, seeing none, she thanked Ms. Rodman for her time.

Dr. Emhoff asked if there was a decision about the public comment.

Dr. Chen stated that it would be topic focused and would be posted on the web.

Dr. Emhoff asked about who sets the agenda and if the Committee will have input in agenda setting.

Dr. Chen said that the chair sets the agenda. Dr. Chen clarified that there was time set aside later in the meeting to gather input on the agenda from the committee members.

Dr. Chen asked Ms. Rodman to come back to the room. She asked Ms. Rodman whether open meeting law specifies anything about setting the agenda specific to public comment period.

Ms. Rodman emphasized that it is up to the discretion of the chair if there will be public comment at all. It is about notice, and that this committee has a specific reason for being and specific topics to opine on, and that is where the focus should be.

Dr. Emhoff expressed that he believes the Committee will be run better if everyone is allowed to come and express their viewpoint

Ms. Rodman stated that not everyone can come to meetings when the Trauma Systems Committee meets, and by limiting it to topic, members of the public can choose when the topic is most relevant to them.

Ms. Buckley asked if there were focused item on the agenda, would there be open discussion on it.

Ms. Rodman confirmed that if it is on the agenda and noticed to the Community, then there can be a public comment on it.

Dr. Patel stated that he thinks there is a benefit to having open comment, but as a compromise, that if there is a presentation, there is a public comment tied to that presentation.

Dr. Chen agreed, and that is something that the Department will do going forward.

Dr. Chen asked to turn to the August 29th meeting.  Dr. Chen asked if there were changes to the minutes. Seeing none, Dr. Chen asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

* Motion: Brenden Hayden
* Second: Sara Burgess
* All in favor: 11; opposed: 0; Abstained: 1 (Dr. Salim)

Dr. Chen asked to turn to the May 23rd meeting minutes.  Dr. Chen reminded the Committee that at the August meeting, there was discussion that the May 23rd meeting did not reflect some of the conversations surrounding the letter sent by DPH.  Dr. Chen stated that after reviewing the recording, the minutes were updated accurately to reflect what was said.

Dr. Emhoff stated that he wanted to clarify that he wanted a slight change to the minutes to reflect that he wanted to ask that the state have a data process that is a subset of the national trauma database.

Dr. Chen stated that the minutes will be amended to Dr. Emhoff’s clarification and requested a motion to vote on the minutes with the clarification updated.

* Motion: Brian Patel
* Second: Michael Murphy
* All in favor: 12; opposed: 0; Abstained: 0

Dr. Chen introduced Elizabeth Kelley as the new Bureau Director of Health Care Safety and Quality and welcomed her to the Department.

Dr. Chen provided an update on the Department response to explosions in Lawrence, North Andover, and Andover, including the HAAN alert network, monitoring through the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Management, and having OEMS issue waivers for alternate transport.

Dr. Masiakos asked if anyone was having issues with Carbon Monoxide poisoning or space heater burns as a result of people living in homes where there is no gas or heat.

Dr. Fillo responded that she would look into regional spikes in the area and get back to the Committee at the next meeting.

Dr. Chen continued on with Department updates stating that Massachusetts General Hospital received one of two 3 million dollar grants for disaster medicine to demonstrate how a new regional response system can meet regional needs.

Dr. Chen continued on to update the Committee on the Mobile Integrated Health Program. She added that she still intends to have conversations with Committee members.

Dr. Chen introduced Bekah Thomas and Jeanne Hathaway from the Injury Prevention Division.

Bekah Thomas and Jeanne Hathaway presented on the work of the Injury Prevention Division.

After their presentation, Dr. Chen thanked both Bekah and Jeanne for their presentation.

Ms. Thomas stated that their team has been looking at various prevention techniques used in hospitals, including reporting to the RMV if a physician believes that an individual should not be driving. Ms. Hathaway stated that she doesn’t believe that is working. She added that the law does not require reporting but allows a physician to report if they feel as it.

Dr. Masiakos stated that he has looked at this but asked if people know that physicians are able to report this data. Much of the group responded that they did not know that physicians can do that.

Dr. Masiakos mentioned that there is an expert in the audience on elder driving reporting and requested that he be able to address the group.

Dr. Chen agreed that we should be able to hear from this expert but we should not engage in a debate based on this experts comment.

Dr. Mahoney from Tufts Medical Center addressed the group and stated that due to that 2010 Safe Driver Law, his team started an initiative where they report all drivers who were admitted for a 24 hour period. At that time, they reported all drivers who presented with a driving injury. In 2013, out of the 135 drivers they reported, the majority of those drivers were impaired due to alcohol. He added that they tried to look at data to determine if their reporting decreased recidivism of those drivers who were driving impaired, but HIPAA requirements prevented him from obtaining that data.

Ms. Thomas concluded her presentation.

Dr. Chen thanked Ms. Thomas and Ms. Hathaway and requested an update from the Trauma Registry Research Group.

Dr. Masiakos asked Dr. Millham to give the update for the group. Dr. Millham reported that there are 6 statisticians to put the data together. The project is waiting on IRB approval, and hopeful that there will be approval soon.

Dr. Chen asked Dr. Fillo to do the Trauma Data Presentation. Dr. Fillo presented some of the highlights from the slides. Dr. Fillo shared that 16 out of 17 trauma designated centers have submitted 2016 data, 16 have submitted 2017 data, and 14 have submitted Federal Fiscal Year 2018 data.

Dr. Fillo presented the data on Gun Shot Wounds, specifically self-inflicted gunshot wounds. Dr. Fillo stated that for 2015, there were 21 cases of self-inflicted gunshot wounds that also had an ambulance trip associated with it.

Dr. Fillo presented trauma rates in slides 45-52. She noted the 2016 and more current data has a more sensitive indicator for alcohol related accidents, which influences the motor vehicle count because it shows both alcohol above the legal limit, and also if there were only trace levels of alcohol in the system.

Dr. Emhoff asked what the difference between the data Dr. Fillo presented and what the IRB hopes to accomplish.

Dr. Fillo clarified that the data shared was from the State Trauma Registry. Dr. Millham’s group is seeking to link the data to multiple data sources. Dr. Fillo added that the Department is focusing on a public health perspective in sharing the data.

Dr. Fillo added that what is shared from the Department is aggregate, de-identified data, but the research group proposes to see more identifiable data.

Dr. Chen announced that it was 12:00 and it was time to end the meeting and that because we were unable to get to a discussion on future agenda items, she encouraged the group to email future agenda items to Pooja.

Dr. Chen asked for a motion to adjourn.

* Motion to Adjourn: Dr. Masiakos
* 2nd: Dr. Drake
* All those in favor: 12; opposed: 0; Abstain: 0

Meeting was adjourned at 12:01PM.