**MCDHH Statewide Advisory Council Meeting Agenda**

**Zoom - Remote**

**December 19, 2024**

**5:30 – 7:30 PM**

**SAC Members present:**

**Dottie Griffith (DG)**

**Brock Cordeiro (BC)**

**Jessica Rich (JR)**

**Zinma Camelio (ZC)**

**Linda Sakin (LS)**

**MCDHH Staff:**

**Heather Daley (HD)**

**Sehin Mekuria (SM)**

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| **Agenda Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action Item** |
| Welcome | Established Quorum *(A quorum was confirmed with 5 out of 8 members present.)*  Communication Protocols  Review of Agenda |  |
| Review of Minutes from November 21, 2024 | Acting Chair BC presented the minutes from November 21, 2024 meeting for approval.  LS requested a correction to include her name in the attendance list.  Motion to approve the corrected minutes was made by ZC and seconded by JR.  Motion carried unanimously. |  |
| **Chairperson’s Report** | No Chairperson’s report was presented. |  |
| **Legislative Task Force Report -**Tracking Bills for 2023 - 2024 | BC provided an overview of the upcoming legislative session:  \*\*Deadlines for bill filings, co-sponsorships, and budget submissions were shared in the meeting chat due to persistent audio issues.  **Overview of the 2025-2026 Legislative Calendar** *(194th General Court)*   * A new spreadsheet will be created in February 2025, following the filing of legislation for the upcoming 2025-2026 Legislative Session. * **January 1, 2025**, is the start of the 1st Annual Session of the 194th General Court * **January 17, 2025**, at 5:00 PM is the deadline for State Senators & Representatives to file new bills   + Co-sponsoring may continue until the measure is reported by the initial committee * **January 22, 2025**, is the deadline for Governor Healey to file her new state budget * **May 14, 2025**, is the last day for the House Committee on Ways and Means to report the General Appropriation Bill * **November 19, 2025**, is the last day for formal sessions of the 1st Annual Session * **December 26, 2026**, is the last day of session of the 1st Annual Session * **January 7, 2026**, is the first day of the 2nd Annual Session * **January 28, 2026**, is the deadline for Governor Healey to file her new state budget * **February 4, 2026**, is the last day for reports to be made from Joint Committees (except Health Care Financing) a.k.a. “Joint Rule 10 Day” * **March 25, 2026**, Joint Rule 10 Deadline for Health Care Financing on matters referred to them prior to the 4th Wednesday of February * **May 13, 2026**, is last day for the House Committee on Ways and Means to report the state budget * **July 31, 2026**, is last day for Formal Sessions * **December 31, 2026**, is the estimated last date for the 2nd Annual Session of the 194th General Court |  |
| **Commissioner’s Report** | Presented by SM, CFO at MCDHH, on behalf of the Commissioner.  No additional questions were raised about the Commissioner's report. |  |
| **SAC Members** | BC asked, *"How can we engage the community more effectively with SAC? What are the roadblocks to greater engagement? What is the 'word on the street' about MCDHH and/or SAC?"*  **Key Insights Shared from the Chat:**   * ZC shared that a significant roadblock to greater engagement is the lack of follow-through after engaging the community in person. This is an area that requires improvement to maintain the connection. * ZC also noted that there isn't much awareness or "word on the street" about MCDHH, especially SAC-DHH. Many people are aware of MCDHH as an entity, but SAC-DHH is not widely recognized. * ZC expressed gratitude for the new Child Specialist, Aiden Lavallee, who is helping support her child with hearing loss in private school challenges and 504 Plan meetings. * ZC shared that the VLOGs that she had been asked to speak on, in partnership with MCDHH, have not yet been implemented. She emphasized the need for consistent and ongoing follow-through after initial community engagement activities. * ZC mentioned that the interpreter services offered by MCDHH are the most visible and widespread aspect of the organization, with examples such as the BSO Holiday Pops concert and the Boston Ballet's Nutcracker production. * ZC recommended sending out an anonymous survey to engage more members of SAC-DHH and gather insights on why many members have left over the years. This could help identify areas for improvement and increase member retention. * ZC also noted that military veterans are generally unaware of the MCDHH website and could benefit from targeted outreach. * HD suggested continuing the conversation about community engagement at the next meeting when the full SAC membership is present.   All agreed to postpone this discussion to the next SAC meeting. |  |
| **SAC Announcements, Next Meeting** | Brock Cordeiro entertained a motion to adjourn. With no objections, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.  **Announcements**  The next SAC meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 16, 2025** at **5:30 PM.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | ~~1~~ | ~~September 19, 2024~~ | | ~~2~~ | ~~October 17, 2024~~ | | ~~3~~ | ~~November 14, 2024~~ | | ~~4~~ | ~~December 19, 2024~~ | | 5 | January 16, 2025 | | 6 | February 20, 2025 | | 7 | March 20, 2025 | | 8 | April 17, 2025 | | 9 | May 15, 2025 | | 10 | June 12, 2025 | |  |