



The Commission on
Women, Children, Seniors, Equity & Opportunity

CWCSEO

Connecticut General Assembly

CWCSEO Full Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 14, 2024

10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Location: Legislative Office Building, Hearing Room 1B

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81728032727>

Members present: Alan Tan, Karen Jarmoc, Sylvia Ho, Bruni Pizarro, Joan Barrare

I. Welcoming and Convening Remarks from Co-Chairs

Co-Chair Alan Tan convenes the meeting and provides opening remarks.

Co-chair Karen Jarmoc provides opening remarks.

II. Remarks from Steven Hernandez

Steven provides remarks mentioning how proud he is of the team. Mentions how powerful the positions we have in the legislature are.

Steven mentions that this work is relational and consistency being incredibly important.

Steven provides time for board member questions, and mentions he is excited to see Jim Taburro here to provide remarks on the hiring status of the new executive director.

Steven thanks the board and the co-chairs for their work over the years.

III. Hiring Update and Q&A from Jim Tamburro, Director, Committee on Legislative Management

Co-chair Jarmoc introduces Jim Tamburro, Director, Committee on Legislative Management.

Jim Tamburro mentions that he is a huge supporter of the CWCSEO, and says it is great to see the number of employees here at the CWCSEO.

Jim mentions he is going to start interviewing for the positions tomorrow. Deadline was at the end of February, and there was 77 applications and took close look at 18 of them, and they are going to interview 10 applicants.

First round of interviews are going to be with Caroline Bateman, Andrea Walker, Paressa Goodwin.

Second round interviews will be with Jim over the next couple of weeks.

Interviews will run over the course of the next few weeks.

Jim opens it up for questions on the hiring process.

Karen Jarmoc mentions that all advisory board members do not play a role in the hiring process.

Sylvia Ho asks question on if they can provide gender and racial profiles of the people being interviewed.

Caroline Bateman mentions we do not ask that as part of the application process so we cannot provide that.

Steven Hernandez asks what are you hearing in terms of supports for the continued support of the cwcseo?

Jim answers: he cannot speak the legislature but he can speak for the OLM and says the support from OLM is tremendous. Jim has said that a merger with the other commission has not come up.

Werner Oyanadel asks a question about process and submitting the hired person for approval.

Jim says we go for approval, and then we go back to the other candidates we have.

Caroline mentions she would like someone in place by late May.

Alan asks question about the board appointments.

Jim says we have had discussions with leadership and working on a timeline on how to move forward to fill vacancies.

Karen mentions that there was a great Exec committee meeting recently and mentions that she wants a succession plan for new leadership of the board.

Rosemary Lopez asks question about appointed members and members with expired letters.

Jim mentions that he is looking at the entire process on reappointments and new appointments.

IV. Legislative Update

Karen welcomes Christian Duborg to the team.

TJ provides legislative update highlighting school climate.

Christian Duborg provides introduction of himself and what his position is and discusses school breakfast and lunch program.

Werner Oyanadel provides a legislative update and highlights the importance of healthcare for undocumented individuals, Husky programs, and housing bills.

Joan Bararre asks questions about evictions and resources to support people with evictions.

Werner mentions that the demand is so high and that many people are unaware of the process.

Rosemary Lopez discusses language access, intimate partner violence bills, and FGMC bills and the tremendous work that is being done on this bill.

Denise Drummond mentions disability justice and the work that is being done with disability justice services and a panel discussion. It also mentions the creation of a bureau for individuals with disabilities.

Megan Baker provides update on grandparent bill, presumptive eligibility and caregiver bills, and the importance of having language access within all of our concepts.

Michael Werner talks about family caregiving, spousal compensation, and mentions that family caregiving is a priority at the federal level. Also mentions work that is being done with the statewide senior center working group.

Melvette Hill provides an update on family policy. Mentions benefit cliffs pilot program bill that recommends a benefits cliffs pilot program. Mentions there is a benefits cliff pilot already happening in the two-generation space.

Karen asks a question about the Dalio Report.

Melvette mentions this is an extensive report on youth identified as being homeless and why youth are disconnected.

Joan asks question on two gen and mentions she is interested in knowing how many youth that are disconnected are youth parents.

V. Adjournment

Alan Tan adjourns the meeting.