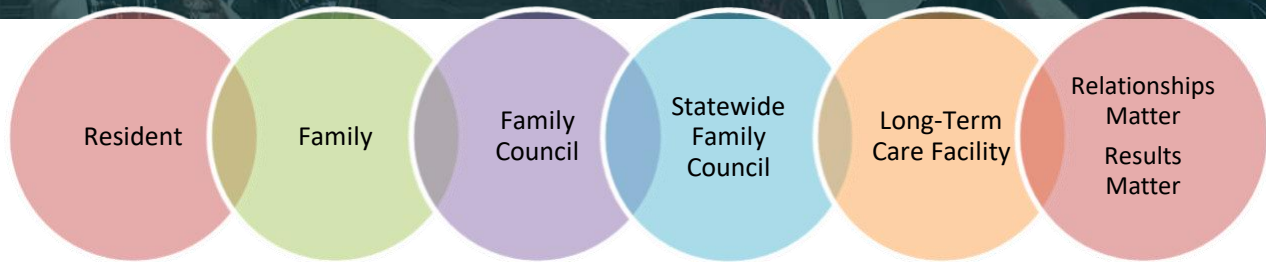


Connecticut Statewide Family Council



MINUTES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

A Meeting of the CT State Family Council (CTSWFC) was held on February 27, 2024, via Zoom. The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chair Amy Badini and all in attendance were welcomed

- 1. ROLL CALL:** Amy Badini Chair, Rick Kaeser Vice-Chair, Kathleen Gerard, Irma Rappaport, Dr. Mara Karpel and Lori Gibson
2. Motion to approve Minutes for January 23, 2024 meeting was made by Rick, seconded by Amy and approved by voice vote.
3. Guest Speaker: Mairead Painter, Connecticut's Long Term Care Ombudsperson
Mairead discussed the current legislative agenda. Testimony is needed for the upcoming hearing by the Committee on Aging and Disabilities on Thursday Feb 29 at 10AM. Key provisions of the bills, including HB 5046, also referred to as 'Governor Lamont's bill' were covered by Mairead and discussed. We can testify remotely, or submit written testimony. We agreed to forward the link provided by Dan Beem to our distribution list.

Mairead mentioned another hearing scheduled for Tuesday, March 6th. Highlights of provisions in bills that will be raised at that hearing, including HB 5001, also referred to as 'the House Speaker's bill', were discussed. Details have not been released yet, but we agreed to forward to our distribution list when that information becomes available.

The National Aging Conference will be held in San Francisco in March. Mairead asked if any of us are interested in attending.

A brief question and answer session followed with Mairead.

CONNECTICUT STATEWIDE FAMILY COUNCIL

4. New Business

‘Digital Council’ – Amy & Rick related ideas for enhancing the role of the CTSWFC and how we can have more impact that were discussed at a meeting on Feb 15 with Mairead and Dan Beem, Community Ombudsman. We informally called the concepts, collectively, a ‘digital council’. Discussion followed on ideas to enhance communication by reaching larger audiences, getting out messages more frequently and providing useful, information that is available, including those available on other organizations websites. Developing messages & putting them on social media, existing newsletters, and other media. We could develop QR code link to our website and putting it on our flyers posted at nursing homes. Forwarding podcasts and posting links to relevant topics.

Open Forum – We received an email from an assisted living family council member asking for a template for a consent form. Family members need to get permission from nursing home residents to represent them in a family council. Rick provided a template that was based on a form used by another family council.

Rhode Island legislative initiatives include formation of a Workforce Standards Board, a Transparency Bill and a Residents Rights Bill, that includes the right to install a camera in a resident’s room. Some of these provisions are modeled after Connecticut laws.

One of our members will be testifying at the hearing on Feb 29th. Rick agreed to forward the announcement from Dan Beem to our distribution list and encourage our members to submit testimony.

We discussed inviting a LTC Facility Activities Director to speak at a future meeting.

The National bill, the Essential Caregivers Act (formerly known as HR 3733) has not yet been re-introduced.

Dr Mara’s latest podcast is on ‘Hospice’.

5. **OLD BUSINESS:** Pending Legislative Issues – no further discussion.

6. Motion to adjourn made by Rick, seconded by Amy was passed by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Next meeting will be on March 26, 2024 at 7pm

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Kaeser, Recording Secretary, pro-tem