

Long Term Care Planning Committee

July 11, 2023
Meeting Minutes

LTC Planning Committee Members in Attendance: Melissa Morton, Chair, Office of Policy & Management (OPM); Amy Dumont, Department of Social Services (DSS); Kelley Kendall, Department of Developmental Services (DDS); Erin Leavitt-Smith, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS); Kim Hriceniak, Department of Public Health (DPH); Commissioner Amy Porter, Department of Aging and Disability Services (ADS); Jessica Rival, Office of Health Strategy (OHS); Michael Santoro, Department of Housing (DOH); William Seals, Department of Children and Families (DCF); Laura Watson, DOH; Senator Lisa Seminara; Senator Heather Somers.

Others Present: Heather Ferguson-Hull, OPM

Excused Absence: Margy Gerundo-Murkette, Department of Aging and Disability Services (ADS)

Called to order by Melissa Morton at 10:02 AM

1. Approval of minutes from March 14, 2023 Planning Committee meeting

Motion to approve made by Michael Santoro. Seconded by Amy Porter.

Abstentions: William Seals and Amy Dumont

All in favor

2. Updates and Announcements

- ❖ Introduction of new members from DCF and DSS

Ms. Morton introduced two new committee members. Amy Dumont from DSS is serving as an interim member of the committee, replacing Jennifer Cavallaro. William Seals is the new member representing DCF, and he is replacing Stephanie Bozak.

- ❖ Legislative Update

Ms. Ferguson-Hull presented a brief overview of some of the major Long-Term Services and Supports-related legislation that was passed in the 2023 Legislative Session. The full written update can be found [here](#).

3. Member Updates and Announcements

Commissioner Porter briefly shared her perspectives on the 2023 legislative session: felt there was great energy, and that the expansion of services was a positive development. She stated that ADS has hired a Senior Center Coordinator: Claire Cote, previously worked in a different position within the State Unit on Aging at ADS. In addition, Commissioner Porter shared that ADS has already begun the paperwork to hire a Dementia Services Coordinator, a position that was created in PA 23-48.

4. Long-Term Care Advisory Council Comments

Ms. Morton noted that members of the LTC Advisory Council were unable to attend today's meeting, as they are preparing for the Governor's bill signing ceremony for PA 23-30 and PA 23-48. Ms. Morton talked about the complementary nature of the work of the LTC Advisory Council and the LTC Planning Committee. She noted that the state agencies who are involved in the Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) sphere are represented on the LTC Planning Committee, and that LTSS private providers and advocacy groups serve on the LTC Advisory Council. These two groups work in tandem, to keep public and private partners apprised of developments in this area. Ms. Morton added that the triennial LTSS Plan developed by the Planning Committee would not be possible without the support and feedback from the Advisory Council, and she encouraged LTC Planning Committee members to attend LTC Advisory Council meetings as they are able. The next meeting of the Advisory Council is scheduled for July 19, 2023, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. Ms. Morton also noted that the Advisory Council is led by Steven Hernandez and Michael Werner from the Council on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity.

5. Other Business

No additional items were raised. Ms. Morton asked if any members of the public would like to make a comment. No comments were offered.

6. 2023 Meetings

Tuesday, September 12th -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM – Via Microsoft Teams

Tuesday, December 12th -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM – Via Microsoft Teams

Vote to adjourn:

Motion made by Michael Santoro. Seconded by Amy Porter.

All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 10:42 AM

Full meeting recording can be accessed here:

https://youtu.be/6_54dB-G748