

DRAFT Minutes of Vermont Child Poverty Council
Room 10
Meeting Date 12/21/2017 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Members in Attendance

Senator Debbie Ingram, Co-chair
Representative Diane Lanpher, Co-chair
Senator Dick McCormack
Representative David Sharpe
Representative Theresa Wood
Mathew Barewicz, Department of Labor
Michele Fay for Carlen Finn, Voices for Vermont Children
Jeff Francis, Vermont Superintendents Association
Karen LaFayette, Vermont Low Income Advocacy Council
Sandy Paritz, Vermont Legal Aid
Ken Schatz, Commissioner, Department of Children and Families

Members Absent

Senator Philip Baruth
Paul Dragon
Dr. Amy Fowler
Dr. Breena Holmes
Paul Dragon

Others

Matt Levin
Erhard Mahnke
Holly Morehouse
Kathleen Hentcy
Amelia Silver
Ashlynn Doyon

Topics Discussed

Approval of Minutes

Representative Theresa Wood moved to approve the 11.16.17 minutes. Senator Dick McCormack seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Mental Health and Childhood Poverty

Charlie Biss, Director, Children and Family Services, Department of Mental Health and Laurel Omland, Operations Chief, Department of Mental Health's Child, Adolescent and Family Unit discussed Mental Health and Childhood Poverty.

☐ Substance Abuse and Childhood Poverty

Sarah Squirrell, Executive Director of Building Bright Futures discussed the Building Bright Futures Substance Use and Opiate Epidemic Task Force and their recommendations.

☐ Parent Child Centers on Substance Abuse, Mental Health and Childhood Poverty

Donna Bailey, Co-Director of the Addison County Parent Child Center, talked about Parent Child Centers' work on substance abuse and mental health issues relate to childhood poverty.

☐ Economic Opportunities to Life Families Out of Poverty

Jan Demers, Executive Director of CVOEO and Kate Larose, Director of Financial Futures, CVOEO discussed their work to lift families out of poverty. Ken Schatz, Commissioner, Department of Children and Families discussed Sarah Phillips, Director - Office of Economic Opportunity written testimony.

☐ Review of Final Report

Katie McLinn, Legislative Counsel, walked the committee through the draft report and gathered feedback from the Council. Senator Dick McCormack moved that the Council accept the report as amended. Senator Debbie Ingram seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

☐ Adjournment