

**Commission on Child Protection  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, March 15, 2007**

5:30 pm 30 Trinity St., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room

Present: Carolyn Signorelli; Judge John Turner; Gregory Stokes, Anthony Lazzaro, Paul Chill, Shelley Geballe (by phone).

Public: John Kelley.

The Chair commenced the meeting and it was agreed that the approval of the minutes would be postponed.

The first item on the agenda regarding activities and progress of the CCPA was passed so that matters requiring a vote could be handled while a quorum was present through Shelley Geballe's participation via telephone.

Agenda item 3 regarding whether it was an appropriate time after one year of operation with the CCPA in place to reduce the number of Commission meeting to every other month. Greg Stokes moved to so amend the meeting schedule, Paul Chill and Judge Turner seconded the motion and it unanimously passed. The next meeting will take place the third Thursday of May.

A discussion regarding agenda item 4 "Forming an Executive Board" to meet during the off months concluded with a consensus that such a measure was unnecessary. It was agreed that the CCPA should continue seeking advice and feedback from the Commission or individual Commissioners as needed without a formal Executive Board meeting.

Agenda item 2 regarding Legislative Advocacy was discussed and Judge Turner, Paul Chill and Greg Stokes agreed to testify on behalf of the Commission's legislative efforts. The CCPA needs to confirm upcoming public hearing schedules and notify the Commission so the members can confirm their availability. The CCPA also requested that Commission members contact their appointing authorities and discuss the Commission's needs and legislative agenda with them.

The Commission's exempt employee vacation policy was amended to be consistent with that of the Public Defender's office and unanimously approved pursuant to a motion by Paul Chill and a second by Greg Stokes.

Public Participation procedures were also discussed and it was agreed that there would be set times on the agenda for the public to provide their comments by signing up, but that the Chair would continue to have discretion to direct inquiries towards public participants and recognize members of the public throughout the meeting. Greg Stokes made a motion to adopt such a policy, which was seconded by Paul Chill and unanimously approved.

John Kelley addressed the Commission and indicated that Senator Looney had still not provided an official letter of his appointment to the Commission.

A discussion commenced pursuant to the Chair's inquiry regarding one of the legislative proposals in Bill 1269 to provide loan forgiveness to attorneys who commit to providing representation under the contract in child protection matters. The CCPA indicated that no firm procedure for administering the loan forgiveness pilot had been formulated, but that if the legislature approved funding for such a project, that issue would be addressed at that time.

The Chair asked that the Commission's website be corrected to reflect that he was from Glastonbury and Paul Chill indicated that he did not live in West Hartford, but Andover.

A motion to adjourn was made by Greg Stokes, seconded and approved by all at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Signorelli