

MINUTES
Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners Advisory Committee
January 6, 2010

The Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners Advisory Committee met at 225 Spring Street, Wethersfield, in the fourth floor conference room on Wednesday, January 6, 2010, from 2:05 p.m. to 3:55 p.m.

Statutory Members in Attendance:

Linda J. Cimino, Denise S. Covington, Marielle Daniels, Robert Hoffman, Nancy Kushins, Nancy Mayeda-Brescia, Joy Reho, Gregory Shangold, James Thomas

Non-statutory Members in Attendance:

Nicholas Cimmino, Audrey Courtney, Anna Doroghazi, Patti LaMonica, Martin Libbin, Nina Livingston, Lisa Secondo, Michael Soltis, Karen Zott

Statutory Members Excused or Absent:

Michelle Cruz, Judith Rossi, and Sharon Tarala

OVS Staff Present:

Brenda Jordan

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions

Linda J. Cimino called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. and welcomed members. Members introduced themselves.

2. Approval of the Minutes from the December 14, 2009 Meeting

Marielle Daniels stated that some of the hospitals identified for the pilot project in the December 14, 2009 minutes are connected with a health network system. Marielle sought clarification on whether it was intended to discuss with the health network systems whether the identified satellite hospitals are feasible for the health network systems.

Members agreed to amend the minutes to identify the health network system for those hospitals with the exception of the New Britain General Hospital.

Linda asked for a motion to accept the minutes of December 14, 2009, with the clarification. The motion was moved and seconded; the minutes were accepted as presented with the clarification.

Linda added that she plans to contact the identified hospitals and health network systems to provide information about the pilot project and the Committee's interest in working with them.

3. Updates

Linda reported that the Program Coordinator Request for Proposal (RFP) was published on December 28, 2009; sixty-four separate organizations and individuals viewed the RFP on the Judicial Branch website. The closing date for bidders to submit questions is January 7, 2010. Questions that have been answered will be provided to all bidders. The RFP closes on January 21, 2010 at 2:30 p.m.

Lisa Secondo reported that the Office of Policy and Management signed the grant award.

Brenda Jordan provided an update on the distribution of the RFP as recommended by the Committee. Brenda thanked those Committee members who are assisting her in distributing the RFP information.

4. Discussion: Contents of the Memorandum of Agreement

Members reviewed some of the language, terminology, and practices contained in Sections I through V of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and The Hospital. Members amended and deleted some of text in Sections I through V of the MOA, which will be reflected in a Microsoft Word document and distributed to members.

Members also discussed

- The required criteria a certified-SAFE must meet, including whether to retain “participation in the care of at least 10 survivors of sexual assault” and the standard passing grade on a written SAFE exam.
- Whether APRNS would require a collaborative practice agreement with each hospital. Linda stated that she would contact Sharon Tarala for guidance. Linda suggested that the Committee might want to consider embedding the collaborative agreement in the MOA. Nancy Mayeda-Brescia offered to provide sample copies of collaborative agreements.
- Whether physicians might be required to have credentialing at each hospital.
- Malpractice insurance coverage and whether a rider for specialized services is required.
- Whose responsibility it was to secure the sexual assault examination kit until given to the police, and whether the hospital should be required to provide locked refrigeration.

Members agreed to continue discussing the above and to bring other issues that may need clarification to the Committee.

5. Meeting Schedule

The next meeting will be held on January 28, 2010, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and February 25, 2010 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

6. New Business

Linda proposed that the Committee consider naming the project after Gail Burns-Smith, which will be an agenda item for the next meeting. Brenda will forward to members information about Ms. Burns-Smith.

7. Adjournment

Linda adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Brenda Jordan, Recorder