



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR NANCY WYMAN

The SustiNet Health Care Cabinet

Monday, September 12, 2011
Meeting Minutes

Cabinet Attendees: *Nancy Wyman, Lieutenant Governor, Chair; Ellen Andrews; Patricia Baker; Benjamin Barnes; Phil Boyle; Roderick Bremby; Jeannette DeJesús; Alexis Fedorjaczenko; Bonita Grubbs; Steven Hanks; Kevin Lembo; Terrence Macy; Frances Padilla; Margaret Smith; Linda St. Peter; Robert Tessier; Alfreda Turner; Laura Morris; Joanne Walsh; Tory Westbrook; Fredericka Wolman; Peter Zelez*

Absent: *William Handelman; Deborah Heinrich; Jeffrey Lucht; Jewel Mullen; Patricia Rehmer*

Lt. Governor Wyman opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees and having Cabinet members introduce themselves.

Lt. Governor Wyman nominated Patricia Baker for Vice Chair. Special Advisor Jeannette DeJesús seconded the motion, and Cabinet members voted to appoint her.

Alexis Fedorjaczenko spoke of Public Acts Nos. 11-58 and 11-53 and the impact they will have on this Cabinet's work. PA 11-58 can be accessed by clicking [here](#), and PA 11-53 can be accessed by clicking [here](#). Tia Cintron, the Project Manager for the Insurance Exchange Planning Grant, provided a brief overview of PA 11-53 and the Health Insurance Exchange. To access the slide that was shown during her presentation, click [here](#).

Special Advisor DeJesús and Ms. Fedorjaczenko described the newly formed Office of Health Reform and Innovation. They presented slides which can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

Special Advisor DeJesús spoke of establishing work groups to assist the Cabinet in reaching its goals. The work groups suggested are:

Delivery System & Payment Reform Innovation
Business Plan Development - established by statute
Health Technology
The Connecticut Initiative
Statewide Multi-Payer Data Initiative - established by statute
Consumer Advisory - established by statute

Special Advisor DeJesús asked Cabinet members to contact the Office by the end of the week to indicate which work groups they would be willing to participate in. She and Lt. Governor Wyman will organize work groups according to members' interests and areas of expertise.

Ellen Andrews commented that the scope of the first work group is huge, and will take a lot of time to accomplish. Special Advisor DeJesús agreed, and added that the hope is that the group will develop a map of efforts that are happening in the state that the Cabinet can draw from. She added that the group can define what can and cannot be accomplished within a relatively short time frame and then move on from there.

Bonita Grubbs asked if this Cabinet will be drawing from information that has already been gathered by the Sustinet Board of Directors, and also where health equity issues will fit into the work group scenario. Special Advisor DeJesús replied that each group will determine what information will be used going forward. She encouraged the groups to be creative and use all available resources. Lt. Governor Wyman and the larger group will have the final decision on setting goals and priorities for each group. Special Advisor DeJesús added that health equity permeates all work groups, and she encouraged members to integrate those issues when developing work group plans.

Frances Padilla suggested drawing from the work of Sustinet in order to avoid unnecessary duplication and also to ensure that everyone is on the same page. She recommended inviting co-chairs of various Sustinet task forces and committees to Cabinet meetings to provide overviews of the scope of their work and conclusions that were drawn. She added that this should be done early in the work group process to assist with structuring work. Special Advisor DeJesús said there will be speakers from various state agencies and other groups attending Cabinet meetings in the near future, agreeing that it would be valuable to include Sustinet representatives. She pointed out that there is constantly new information available regarding health reform, and it is important to look at all of it with awareness that this is a rapidly evolving field. Comptroller Kevin Lembo agreed with Ms. Padilla that much work has already been done. He added that presentations should be prioritized early, because much of the defining work already done was developed as a result of agency briefings. He added that this is an ever changing field, and although some of the work won't be relevant now, much of it will be absolutely instructive. Comptroller Lembo also asked whether work groups would include outside participants. Lt. Governor Wyman replied that she hoped the groups would be filled with Cabinet members. Lt. Governor Wyman also recommended using Sustinet information as a base and building upon it. Special Advisor DeJesús suggested that each group create task lists, identify group deliverables, and identify expectations, with a focus on action and accomplishing deliverables. Lt. Governor Wyman emphasized the need to move quickly in forming groups.

Lt. Governor Wyman pointed out that there are two vacant spots on the Cabinet, one representing health information technology and the other an advanced practice registered nurse. She expressed hope to fill these spots quickly.

Comptroller Lembo asked for a list of Cabinet members including contact information. Special Advisor DeJesús said there will be much information posted on OHRI's website www.healthreform.ct.gov. Ms. Padilla suggested that the Cabinet develop a set of operating principles, and asked members to think about three to five principles to guide how the work is done, so that all members are on the same page.

Meeting was adjourned. Future meetings will be held on **10/13/11, 11/10/11 and 12/8/11.**