

Palliative Care Advisory Council

April 4, 2025 | 9:30-10:30am

Meeting Minutes

Members present: Barbara Cass, ToniAnn Marchone, Karen Mulvihill, Kerry Moss, TJ Hamre, Tracy Wodatch, Jennifer Kapo.

Others present: Chuck Williams, Eileen O'Shea, Virginia Day, Wendy Jiang, Natalie Shurtleff, Billy Nolan.

Introduction

- Karen Mulvihill called the meeting to order at 9:33am.
- Karen motioned to approve the minutes; Tracy seconded.
 - The minutes from March were edited to reflect spelling errors in participant names and a corrected end time. The revised minutes were passed.

Public Comment

- Natalie Shurtleff brought up a bill proposal for a tax credit for individuals supporting family caregivers. The bill passed out of the aging committee and was referred to finance, revenue, and bonding.
 - The bill is [HB 7007](#): AN ACT PROVIDING AN INCOME TAX DEDUCTION FOR INDIVIDUALS CARING FOR ELDERLY PERSONS, CHILDREN OR DISABLED PERSONS.
 - Natalie let individuals know that they can share a message with their legislators in support of the bill and provided a link with their language ([here](#)).
- Wendy Jiang shared an update on the white paper series on palliative care at the Yale law school. She is hoping to have the papers ready in the summer.
 - She also congratulated the members on the pediatric palliative care taskforce's report.
 - The report can be found [here](#). ToniAnn Marchone will also send the report to the group.
- Eileen O'Shea shared an update on the state coalition for palliative care/regional hospice. There is energy in the state to get involved in palliative care advocacy.
- The group discussed resources they would like to put on the council's website.

Legislative Updates

- ToniAnn shared updates on the recommendations made by the pediatric palliative care taskforce. This bill is [SB 1540](#) and was referred to the Appropriations Committee on April 1.

MOLST Update

- Barbara Cass reminded the group that the witness signature requirement was removed from the MOLST form. The MOLST Advisory Council is currently working on revising the training program for MOLST, alongside the policies and procedures and revised MOLST form.

- The group is still hoping for a June rollout of the training.
- The group discussed challenges with the use of orange DNR bracelets.

Committee Updates

- Re: administering IV medications at home, Karen and Billy Nolan connected with Rod Mariott, the director of Drug Control at the Department of Consumer Protection. Karen would love to have him speak to the council to better understand the barriers to infusion services.

Long-Term Care Project

- The long-term care ombudsman program is hosting a residential care home (RCH) four-day conference series.
- Karen is speaking on June 2, 2025, at this series, as a part of the group's goal to increase education and awareness about palliative care.
- The group discussed other ways to further their advocacy and get involved.

Closing

- The meeting adjourned at 10:30am.