

Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council Ad Hoc Bylaws meeting

The Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council held a public meeting on 03/05/2024. The meeting was virtual from 4PM-5PM.

Members Present

Dr. Deondra Asike, MD
Dr. David Gorelick, MD, PhD
Dr. Leigh Vinocur, MD
Karrissa Miller, MPH
Dawn Berkowitz, MPH
Sara Barra
Jason Semanoff
Jocelyn Bratton-Payne
Dr. Madhumi Mitra, PhD
Dr. Leah Sera, PharmD

Members Not Present

Dorothy Lennig
Nora Urbietta Eidelman
Senator Benjamin Kramer
Delegate Terri L. Hill, MD
Dr. Elizabeth Kromm, PhD
Martin Proulx

MDH Staff Present

Dana Moncrief
Snehal Gawhale
Sabrina Chase

I. Meeting called to order by Dr. Deondra Asike 4:00PM

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Deondra Asike, Council Chair, at 4:01 PM on March 5, 2024. Dr. Asike extended a warm welcome and expressed gratitude to the Council members in attendance. Dr. Asike provided a comprehensive overview of the meeting agenda. Dana Moncrief took roll call, a quorum was not initially present, so approval of meeting minutes was deferred to 4:52.

II. Bylaws Overview 4:08 PM

Dana Moncrief provided an overview of the bylaws, reviewing the purpose of each section.

III. Bylaws Discussion 4:10PM

Dana Moncrief let the Council know she had received comments from two members. The review started with these comments, allowing for discussion among the entire Council. Ms. Moncrief also noted a change from “by-laws” to “bylaws” throughout the document for consistency (removing the hyphen). The Council decided to vote on each comment as it was discussed.

- A. Article 4: Membership, Section 4.1.2 Terms, 4.1.2.5: Question about how term limits are determined. Dana explained this comes from the Governor’s Appointments Office. Council discussed adding additional language, “..., as determined by the Governor’s Appointments Office.” David Gorelick moved for

the motion to approve, Karrissa Miller seconded. A majority of the members voted in favor of the change, with one abstention (Jason Semanoff).

- B. Article 5: Meetings, Section 5.1 Frequency, 5.1.1: added "... either in person, virtually, or hybrid." David Gorelick called a motion to approve, Leigh Vinocur, seconded. A majority of the members voted in favor of the change, with one abstention (Jason Semanoff).
- C. Article 5: Meetings, Section 5.7 Voting, 5.7.1: Questions arose regarding if private ballots should be included in the bylaws. After discussion, it was determined to leave the language and not make any changes. Members expressed the view that further discussion was needed around private ballots at a later time. The Council did decide to add "or hybrid" to the language. David Gorelick called a motion to approve the language, Leah Sera seconded. A majority of the members voted in favor of the change, with one abstention (Jason Semanoff).
- D. Article 6: Workgroups and Ad Hoc groups, Section 6.3 Legislative Action: David Gorelick recommended removing, "of the members." and ending the sentence after quorum. The Council agreed. David Gorelick moved for the motion to approve. Karrissa Miller seconded. A majority of the members voted in favor of the change, with one abstention (Jason Semanoff).
- E. Article 6: Workgroups and Ad Hoc groups, Section 6.5 Discontinuation: The Council discussed if there should be an 'and' or 'or' in the list of requirements for discontinuing workgroups. The Council agreed that at the end of 6.5.1, the language should be changed from "and" to "or" and leave the rest of section 6.5 the same. Leah Sera moved the motion to make this change. Karrissa Miller seconded. A majority of the members voted in favor of the change, with one abstention (Jason Semanoff).
- F. Article 7: Amendments, Section 7.1.3: There was a discussion surrounding how versions of the bylaws should be recorded. The Council agreed that both version number and date of approval should be noted as changes are made and approved. Dawn Berkowitz moved the motion to approve this change. Karrissa Miller seconded. A majority of the members voted in favor of the change, with one abstention (Jason Semanoff).
- G. Article 8: Staffing. There was discussion surrounding the word "will" vs "shall" regarding the Department of Health providing staffing and technical assistance to the Council. Consensus was to change the wording from "will" to "shall". Leigh Vinocur moved the motion to approve this change, Karrissa Miller seconded. A majority of the members voted in favor of the change, with one abstention (Jason Semanoff).

There was further discussion around Article 3: Duties and Functions, particularly around 3.1.1 - use of the word "addiction" vs "dependence", as "dependence" is the appropriate term. It was decided that since the statute uses the word "addiction" the Council will keep the language as-is and keep the bylaws in alignment with the statute. The Council discussed making recommendations to the legislature to update language in statute with more appropriate terminology.

Final discussion focused on Article 4: Membership, Section 4.6 regarding quorum numbers and workgroups. No changes were necessary.

A final vote was made to approve the bylaws with the amendments discussed. David Gorelick moved to approve the bylaws, Karrissa Miller and Leigh Vinocur both seconded. A majority of the members voted in favor of the change, with one abstention (Jason Semanoff).

IV. Meeting Minutes Approval

4:52PM

Given there was not a quorum at the beginning of the meeting, approval of the February 6, 2024 meeting minutes were deferred to the end. David Gorelick made the motion to approve the minutes, with Leigh Vinocur seconding. The Council voted unanimously to approve the February 6th minutes.

V. Public Comment

4:55PM

The meeting was open for public comment. No one from the public attended the meeting.

VI. Meeting Adjourned

4:57PM

DRAFT