

Sex Offender Civil Commitment Advisory Task Force
Tuesday, January 29, 2013
6:00 – 9:00 PM
State Office Building, Room 5

Agenda:

1. Welcome (housekeeping items, minutes)
2. Update on Chair's January 25th Presentation to Legislators at William Mitchell
3. Continuation from last meeting - Review/Discuss Task Force Comments on Procedural and Substantive Issues
4. Public comments

Task Force Attendance:

Hon. Eric J. Magnuson (Chair)
Hon. James M. Rosenbaum (Vice Chair)
Ryan B. Magnuson
Kelly Mitchell (ex officio)
County Atty. Mark A. Ostrem
Comm. Tom Roy (ex officio)
Dean Eric Janus
Hon. Paul Nelson

Roberta Opheim
Rep. Jim Abeler
Donna Dunn
Sen. Warren Limmer
Fred Friedman (ex-officio)
Hon. Kathleen Gearin
Chief John Harrington (ex-officio)
Rep. Tina Liebling

Meeting Minutes:

(This document is a general summary of the Task Force meeting and is not intended to be a detailed transcription.)

Meeting Began: 6:10 PM

Introduction (Overview and Housekeeping Items)

Chair Eric Magnuson made introductory remarks and addressed housekeeping items.

Update on Presentation to Legislators

Chair Magnuson updated the group regarding his presentation on January 25 at William Mitchell School of Law to a group of legislators and legislative staff. He provided a number of materials to the legislators. Both William Mitchell Dean Eric Janus and Chair Magnuson presented.

Review / Discussion of Procedural & Substantive Issues

Chair Magnuson commented regarding where the group left off at last week's meeting and opened the floor for discussion among Task Force members regarding issues such as a centralized panel, standards and process for commitment, burden of proof, etc.

Task Force members speaking on these issues included Rep. Jim Abeler, Sen. Warren Limmer, Judge Paul Nelson, Judge Kathleen Gearin, Ryan Magnus, Roberta Opheim, Vice Chair James Rosenbaum, Public Defender Fred Friedman, Dean Eric Janus, Donna Dunn, Commissioner Tom Roy, County Attorney Mark Ostrem, and Kelly Mitchell.

Chair Magnuson asked Kelly Mitchell and Ryan Magnus to work together to develop language and a proposal for the next meeting on qualifications for defense counsel.

Break: 7:25 – 7:40 PM

Chair Magnuson opened discussion among Task Force members regarding issues such as burden of proof and commitment standards. Task force members speaking on these issues included Roberta Opheim, Judge Gearin, Judge Nelson, County Attorney Ostrem, Vice Chair Rosenbaum, Chair Magnuson, Ryan Magnus, Dean Janus, and Commissioner Roy.

Chair Magnuson asked Dean Janus to summarize his report regarding the sex offender civil commitment statute and case law, which he did. Commissioner Roy and Ryan Magnus commented. Chair Magnuson asked Assistant Hennepin County Attorney John Kirwin to explain his interpretation of the statute and corresponding case law, which he did.

There was Task Force discussion, which included Rep. Liebling, Ryan Magnus, Judge Nelson, Judge Gearin, Roberta Opheim, Commissioner Roy, and Dean Janus. John Kirwin also commented.

Chair Magnuson noted that time for the meeting had run out and that this discussion will be continued at the next meeting. He asked that Task Force members should be prepared to answer the question, how do the statutes need to be changed and why?

Public Comment:

- Thomas Koepke – He has realized that this situation isn't as black and white as he had initially thought. He is concerned about housing and doing his part so he could be a potential "foster house". He has been in contact with DHS and Project Pathfinders. He will become a mentor at Project Pathfinder.

The next meeting is scheduled for:

Tuesday, February 12, 2013 @ 6:00 PM, Room 5, State Office Building

Meeting Concluded: 9:05 PM