

Minutes
Training Subcommittee of the Standing Committee
on Guardians Ad Litem and Attorneys for the Minor Child
in Family Matters
April 25, 2018

The Training Subcommittee of the Standing Committee on Guardians Ad Litem and Attorneys for the Minor Child in Family Matters met in the second floor conference room located at 100 Washington Street, Hartford, CT, on April 25, 2018.

Those in attendance: Ms. Liza Andrews, Policy Director, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Attorney Susan Hamilton (as designated by Attorney Christine Rapillo); Attorney Justine Rakich-Kelly

Absent: Judge Elizabeth Bozzuto

Also in attendance were Ms. Frances Wickstrom from the Child Protection Unit of the Division of Public Defender Services and Attorney Damon Goldstein from the Judicial Branch's Court Operations Unit.

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 AM by Susan Hamilton.

I. Review and Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting was made by Justine Rakich-Kelly and seconded by Liza Andrews. The minutes of the meeting held on March 7, 2018 were approved unanimously.

II. Update on Pre-Service Training for Guardians Ad Litem and Attorneys for the Minor Child in Family Matters

The Subcommittee members reviewed the content outlines of Dr. Eric Frazer, Kristine Rivera of the Department of Children and Families, and Attorney Justine Rakich-Kelly. Justine Rakich-Kelly will contact Dr. Suzanne Sgroi, Attorney Robert Madden, and Attorney Jeffrey Michelson about getting their content outlines to the Subcommittee.

Susan Hamilton will contact Dr. Frazer to get some additional information about his presentation. It was suggested that Kristine Rivera be asked to speak about DCF involvement in cases as part of her presentation. It was also suggested that Attorney Jodie Oshana join Kristine Rivera in co-presenting the child development portion of the curriculum.

The Subcommittee members and Ms. Frances Wickstrom then engaged in a logistical discussion of the pre-service training scheduled for June 13-15. Ms. Wickstrom indicated that advertising for the pre-service training began on April 6 and the qualified individuals will be able to register beginning May 1. Registration will be on a first come, first served basis.

Participants in the pre-service training will be required to sign in and sign out of each day's session to ensure that they were present for the entire day. Presenters will be asked to provide any materials they will be using as part of their presentation 2 weeks in advance of the training. Participants will be provided a link to a page where the materials will be available electronically and can be also be printed.

Members of the Subcommittee will provide an update on the pre-service training to the full Standing Committee at its May 15 meeting.

III. Schedule of Future Meetings

This Subcommittee will meet again on May 23, 2018 at 9:30 am. The location of the meeting is to be determined.

Susan Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 10:29 AM.