

# **Child Advocate Search Committee**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**October 6, 2015**

**3:00 – 4:00**

**State House, Room 128**

### **Members Present:**

**David Bazar, Esq.**

**Karen Beese**

**Dr. Bonita Cade, Esq.**

**Judge Michael Forte**

**Janet Gilligan, Esq.**

**Judge Karen Lynch Bernard**

**Dr. Isadore Ramos**

**Brother Michael Reis**

**Dr. Roxanne Vrees**

### **Members Absent:**

**Diane Crabtree**

**The Open Session of the Child Advocate Search Committee was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Andrea Iannazzi, Special Counsel to Governor Raimondo and Dr. Roxanne Vrees, Acting Chair, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meetings Act. A quorum was established.**

**Dr. Vrees asked the Committee to introduce themselves and the organization they represent.**

**Dr. Vrees asked the Committee to nominate a Chair and Vice Chair.**

**Brother Michael Reis nominated Dr. Vrees as Chair, seconded by Judge Michael Forte. The Committee unanimously voted Dr. Vrees as Chair of the Search Committee.**

**Brother Michael Reis nominated Judge Michael Forte as Vice-Chair, seconded by Judge Lynch Bernard and Janet Gilligan. The Committee unanimously voted Judge Forte as Vice-Chair of the Search Committee.**

**A discussion was held regarding the job duties of the Child Advocate, the composition of the Office, and a time frame for the search.**

**The Committee reviewed the previous job posting from 2010 and a draft job posting from the Department of Administration. It was noted that state law requires the Child Advocate to be a Rhode Island resident, a member of the bar in good standing, and have a minimum three years of experience as an attorney.**

**Dr. Bonita Cade joined the meeting at 3:23 p.m..**

**A motion was made by Judge Michael Forte to post the position on**

**the first available date for a two week period. The motion was seconded by David Bazar and unanimously supported by the Search Committee.**

**A discussion of future meeting dates was held. The Committee agreed to meet on October 27th at 2:30 p.m. and November 13th at 2:30 p.m. in State House Room 128.**

**At 4:00 p.m., David Bazar made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Karen Beese. The Committee unanimously voted in favor of adjournment.**