State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

CONNECTICUT DATA ANALYSIS TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY BOARD
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 2200
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Meeting Minutes

Friday, December 16, 2022

Meeting is called to order at 3:00 PM by CDO (Chief Data Officer) Scott Gaul.

The Following Members were present:

Scott Gaul, Thad Dymkowski, Seth Klaskin, Bree Berner, Michelle Riordan-Nold, Frank Gentile.

Scott Gaul called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

Scott Gaul asks to amend the agenda to allow for a representative from the GIS network to speak at the meeting.

Thad Dymkowski motions to amend the agenda. Motion is seconded by Seth Klaskin

Scott Gaul asks if there are any objections to the amendment of the agenda.

Scott Gaul discusses the agenda for the meeting, with remarks from GIS network present after introductions, followed by discussion of the plan, other business and then concluding with adjournment of the meeting.

Scott Gaul speaks on the GIS network and new 5-year GIS plan alongside the state data plan. He then introduces Mike Towle president of the CT, GIS network.

Mike Towel introduces himself and comments of State Data Plan.

Mike Towel provides recommendations to the State Data Plan, for individuals who are making changes or updates to the plan to consider. He states that there should be a Vision, Mission, and Goals that are clearly defined in the State Data Plan

Scott Gaul agrees with Mike Towel that the document needs a "Refresher" as it has been edited a great deal.

Scott Gaul moves to the next item of the agenda, Discussion of the State Data Plan.

Scott Gaul Reviews State Data Plan, providing an overview on what the plan will cover, as well as a timeline for the end of 2022.

Scott Gaul Reviews draft of goals and merits for the 2023-2024 State Data Plan

Scott Gaul reviews Revisions to the 2023-2024 State Data Plan. As well as areas to emphasize in the 2023-2024 State Data Plan

Scott Gaul calls on Michelle Riordan-Nold for any comment on Assets or projections

Michelle Riordan-Nold Comments on Data analysis and population estimates stating how funding for the state is based on population analysis, emphasizing the importance on this being done correctly.

Scott Gaul asks if there are any their questions or comments on areas to emphasize on the final draft of the 2023-2024 State Data Plan

Michelle Riordan-Nold emphasizes greater awareness on all the census data products

Alfredo Herrera recommends acknowledgement of the change between county and county equivalents.

Thad Dymkowski, agrees with Mike Towle but asks not to overcommit themselves to goals that are unachievable

Seth Klaskin Comments on Mike Towles statements on implementing measurable goals, but agreeing with Thad on not reaching too far.

Scott Gaul responds to comments on implementing goals into the state Data Plan stating it is difficult based upon the structure of the plan.

Seth Klaskin, Disagrees with Scott Gaul, stating that the board can set the policy and leaving the enforcement to implementation to enforcement and policy individuals.

Scott Gaul agrees with Seth Klaskin, saying he wishes to provide rational for why he may not follow through on certain aspects of the board's decisions.

Thad Dymkowski comments on Seth Klaskin, agreeing with him and stating how the board puts forward advice for other individuals to help make judgement call

Frank Gentile states how he hopes to see quality of the data collect, emphasizing the census in towns and cities.

Scott Gaul Agrees with Frank on the importance on the quality of the census data especially in regard to the distribution of resources based upon the accuracy of the data.

Seth Klaskin comments on question from Scott Gaul, states how agencies should be breaking the inertia, and asking human services agencies to provide two data sets

Scott Gaul comments on the boards powers to call agencies or call hearings on a specific topic if an individual or agency is "Sitting on the sidelines", and asks what might be missing from the 2023-2024 plan.

Thad Dymkowski comments on his concerns of how collaboration is missing between state departments in terms of data sharing.

Alfredo Herrera states how he believes stronger wording on outreach and advocacy with data usage. As well as reaching out beyond strictly state agencies.

Seth Klaskin, Comments on pushing agencies to provide data sets that can be automated

Scott Gaul says when state opened data portal, any information that was not confidential should be published, and data portal turned into a dumping ground.

Alfredo Herrera added how some of the data added to the data portal should have some kind of purpose or it will be seen as a burden.
Thad Dymkowski speaks about the unknown, unknowns. And how data that might not be relevant no, could be useful later on, that an individual viewed as irrelevant. Using Covid-19 pandemic as an example.

Seth Klaskin agrees with Thad and how all information may be relevant to someone as some point. Asking to review data sets before automation.

Scott Gaul comments on how he appreciates all the comments, and says he is glad for the opportunity

Michelle Riordan-Nold comments on a good lace to start with high value data sets

Alfredo Herrera says he is a fan of the idea of acknowledging data sets even if they are not downloaded. But says reason that a data set might be withheld is because no group has an interest in it at the time.

Michelle Riordan-Nold adds to the list that they should work towards state funded programs developing data sets or other data programs that can be downloaded

Thad Dymkowski wants to "take into consideration that just because they have it does not mean that they need to offer it". says there is a responsibility to the data collecting abilities

Scott Gaul: Gaul says that they do "have a catalog online of all data the state agencies collect, but they do not contain census data because it is not collected by the state"

Michelle Riordan-Nold says that the board can invite agency officers to learn about their planning process and have them speak to the board and set realistic goals.

Alfred Herrera says believes that Michelle's idea would help foster a culture of cooperation.

Scott Gaul says that he thinks it is useful for the agencies to know that there is use for the data.

Scott Gaul asks for any further comments or suggestions on plans as it stands. And based off this meeting plans to develop a revised draft and send to the board so they can finalize it.

Scott Gaul asks if there is any other business to discuss, which there was none.

That Dymkowski calls for a motion to adjourn. The motion is seconded by Michelle Riordan-Nold.