



# Psychedelic Medicine Task Force Meeting Summary

- Participants listed below.
- Meeting documents with presentation slides provide more detail and are available on the [task force webpage](#).

## Meeting Summary: October 7, 2023, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

### Welcome

Facilitator, Stacy Sjogren, with Management Analysis and Development (MAD), called the meeting to order. She reviewed the rules of engagement for the meeting, welcomed outside observers, introduced task force staff, and gave reference to the task force webpage to find more information. Stacy also reviewed the legislative charge and task force duties found on slides 5-7 in the [October meeting presentation \(www.health.state.mn.us/people/psychmed/docs/oct24slides.pdf\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/psychmed/docs/oct24slides.pdf).

Roll call was taken, and quorum was secured. See voting log at the bottom of this meeting summary for attendance.

### Approve September meeting summary

The task force postponed approval of the September meeting summary until all votes on recommendations were collected.

### Task force logistical business

Dr. Jessica Nielson, task force chair, asked members to share public feedback collected from their respective constituencies. Dr. Nielson created a video and shared it with task force members.

Dr. Ranji Varghese sent surveys to psychiatric practitioners and non-psychiatric mental health practitioners. He received 43 responses back. The consensus was generally supportive of exploring molecules as tools to help with mental health. There was cautious optimism but concern about who would screen, support, and monitor patients. The survey details will be sent to the task force to be compiled in the report. Dr. Varghese added that the issues with Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) registrations were not on their radar and that no one in the state of Minnesota without permission would want to put their license on the line.

## Decision preparation

Dr. Nielson provided an overview of the task force timeline, progress towards legislative duties, information collected about psychedelic medicine policy in other states, and other noteworthy updates, found on slides 10-17 of the meeting presentation.

State Representative Andy Smith provided additional context regarding legislative intent and task force duties. Representative Smith affirmed that the legislature will be making the law. The report is a resource for the legislature. The legislature will take the report as a starting point and do what they believe is best for the people of Minnesota. He recommended the task force not get bogged down in too many details, which will be the duty of the legislature.

Task force members had a discussion about ensuring experts and community members, including those on the task force, continue to stay involved as advocates once the task force dissovles and legislative session begins.

## Break

## Voting on revised recommendations

Dr. Nielson reviewed the process for voting on the revised recommendations found on slides 18-24 of the meeting presentation. Task force members voted on Revised Recommendations 1 and 2 by roll call. See voting log for final vote count.

## Task force report development update

Dr. Caroline Johnson, Psychedelic Medicine Scientific Researcher at the Minnesota Department of Health, provided a report writing update found on slides 25-32 of the meeting presentation.

Task force members participated in Mural activity to provide feedback to the task force report and volunteer for various roles in the report writing process.

## Adjourn

Members of the public were reminded that if they have comments to provide to the task force, they can email [health.psychedelicmedicine@state.mn.us](mailto:health.psychedelicmedicine@state.mn.us).

## Participants

### Task force members

Courtney Amundson  
Helen Bassett  
Guthrie Capossela  
John Connolly

Dr. Margaret Gavian  
 Jeremy Drucker  
 Bennett Hartz  
 Nick Lehnertz  
 Sen. Mark Koran  
 Ari McHenry  
 Dr. Jessica Nielson  
 Kit O'Neill  
 Jill Phillips  
 Donovan Sather  
 Michael Tabor  
 Rep. Andy Smith  
 Dr. Ranji Varghese  
 Adam Tomczik  
 Rep. Nolan West

**Others**

Jessica Burke, MAD  
 Stacy Sjogren, MAD  
 Nick Kor, MAD  
 Kari Gloppen, MDH  
 Dr. Caroline Johnson, MDH

## Next task force meeting

Monday, November 4, 2024, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

## Voting log

Member name	Roll Call <i>Present/absent</i>	Rec. 1 <b>New rec. 1:</b> The Task Force recommends the Minnesota legislature remove criminal penalties for the possession of personal use quantities of mushrooms containing psilocybin. <i>yes/no/abstain</i>	Rec. 2 <b>New rec. 2:</b> The Task Force recommends the Minnesota legislature remove criminal penalties for the possession of personal use quantities and non-commercial (without remuneration) cultivation and sharing of psilocybin-containing mushrooms. <i>yes/no/abstain</i>
Courtney Amundson	Present	Yes	Yes
Helen Bassett	Present	No	No

Member name	Roll Call <i>Present/absent</i>	Rec. 1 <b>New rec. 1:</b> The Task Force recommends the Minnesota legislature remove criminal penalties for the possession of personal use quantities of mushrooms containing psilocybin. <i>yes/no/abstain</i>	Rec. 2 <b>New rec. 2:</b> The Task Force recommends the Minnesota legislature remove criminal penalties for the possession of personal use quantities and non-commercial (without remuneration) cultivation and sharing of psilocybin-containing mushrooms. <i>yes/no/abstain</i>
Guthrie Capossela	Present	Yes	Yes
John Connolly (replacing David Hoang)	Present	No	No
Paula DeSanto	Absent	Yes	Yes
Jeremy Drucker	Present	No	No
Stefan Egan	Absent	Yes	Yes
Margaret Gavian	Present	Yes	Yes
Bennett Hartz	Present	No	No
Sen. Mark Koran	Present	Yes	No
Nick Lehnertz	Present	No	No
Arielle "Ari" McHenry	Present	Yes	Yes
Jessica Nielson	Present	Yes	Yes
Kit O'Neill	Present	Yes	Yes
Jill Phillips	Present	No	No
Kenneth Sass	Absent	No	No
Donovan Sather	Present	Yes	Yes
Rep. Andy Smith	Present	Yes	Yes
Michael Tabor	Present	Yes	Yes

Member name	Roll Call <i>Present/absent</i>	<b>Rec. 1</b> <b>New rec. 1:</b> The Task Force recommends the Minnesota legislature remove criminal penalties for the possession of personal use quantities of mushrooms containing psilocybin.  <i>yes/no/abstain</i>	<b>Rec. 2</b> <b>New rec. 2:</b> The Task Force recommends the Minnesota legislature remove criminal penalties for the possession of personal use quantities and non-commercial (without remuneration) cultivation and sharing of psilocybin-containing mushrooms.  <i>yes/no/abstain</i>
Adam Tomczik	Present	Yes	Yes
Ranji Varghese	Present	Yes	Yes
Rep. Nolan West	Present	Yes	No
Totals	Present: 19 Absent: 3	Yes: 15 (super maj.) No: 7 Abstain:0	Yes: 13 No: 9 Abstain:0