



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION ON HEALTH**  
**401 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, Maryland**  
**June 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Alana Aronin, Brenda Brooks, Christopher Burt, Desiree de la Torre, Crystal DeVance-Wilson, Michelle Hawkins, Lenna Israbian-Jamgochian, Jessica Kronstadt, Kathy Mann Koepke, Linda McMillan, Fabienne Santel, and Jason Woo.

Members Absent: Brandie Armijo, Brent Berger Marla Caplon, Jessica Chung, Maya Das, Sarah Emami, Travis Gayles, Terri McGuire, Tonya Saffer, and Kelley Timpa.

Staff Present: Karen Thompkins

### **1.0 Call to Order and Welcome**

- The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

### **2.0 COH Minutes and Next Meetings**

- A motion to approve the May 2019 minutes was introduced and approved by voiced consent.
- The next COH meeting will take place July 18, 2019 at 401 Hungerford Drive, Conference Room 1A and 1B, Rockville, Maryland, 20850. The COH does not meet in August.

### **3.0 Old Business**

#### **Workgroup Reports**

- Immunization. Brent and the President of the Medical Society will be meeting with DHHS staff to discuss flu immunization outreach efforts.
- Tobacco. There was a hearing held on June 20, 2019 by the County Council's Education and Culture Committee and the Health and Human Services Committee on vaping in schools. Dr. Gayles testified before the committees as well as the school system. Dr. Gayles had issued a press release on April 16, 2019 about vaping among adolescents. The [testimony](#) and [supporting documentation](#) may be found online.
- Data. The workgroup will consider data efforts and interests by other BCCs and will also wait for new COH members as the group is now represented by one individual.
- Access to Contraception. The workgroup is waiting to connect with Dr. Gayles to consider future initiatives.
- Behavioral Health. The letter to support strategic alignment has been sent to County Council.

#### **Retreat Committee**

- The retreat will be on September 19<sup>th</sup>
- The committee has not met yet. Michelle and Desiree will join Chris and Sarah on the committee as Kelley Timpa has resigned from the COH.

- Karen will look into securing space at Dennis Avenue since Ingleside at King Farm is no longer an option.

#### **Liaison Reports**

- Children, Youth and Families. The mental health report that they have been developing is close to being completed.
- Mental Health Advisory Board. Members received feedback regarding communicating with County Council. Being very specific about requests and sharing information is very helpful. Everymind (formerly the Mental Health Association) has received additional funding.
- Aging. The COA last met on June 4<sup>th</sup>. They are close to finalizing their gap report. They received guidance from the state of Maryland about Assisted Living Facilities and the gap report.

#### **4.0 New Business**

- The Nominating Committee received two nominations for new officers: Desiree de la Torre for Chair and Chris Burt as Vice Chair. Each provided a few words about their interest and qualification for the positions. The nominations were accepted and approved unanimously by the members. The new officers will begin serving at the July meeting.

#### **5.0 Other**

- Members decided to form a school health workgroup as there are several topics of interest that would impact youth. Members include Michelle, Chris, Crystal, Alana and Desiree.
- Kathy discussed the efforts of the Commission on People with Disabilities to address safety concerns regarding floating bus stops. The Commission may request a letter of support from the COH. Kathy's term with the Commission is coming to an end and a replacement has not been identified to attend COH meetings.
- Crystal DeVance-Wilson will serve as an alternate to the Healthy Montgomery Steering Committee and replace Tonya Saffer. Tonya's term with the COH will end June 30<sup>th</sup>. An updated list of liaisons will be sent out to the members.
- The retreat will be discussed in more detail at the July meeting.

**~Adjourn**