



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

Members Present: Brent Berger, Christopher Burt, Marla Caplon, Desiree de la Torre, Crystal DeVance-Wilson, Sarah Emami, Travis Gayles, Michelle Hawkins, Lenna Israbian-Jamgochian, Jessica Kronstadt, and Jason Woo.

Members Absent: Alana Aronin, Brenda Brooks, Jessica Chung, Maya Das, Terri McGuire, Linda McMillan, Tonya Saffer, and Fabienne Santel.

Staff Present: Ellen Segal, Karen Thompkins.

Guests: Dr. James Bridgers and Amina Faizan.

1.0 Call to Order and Welcome

- The meeting was called to order at 6:13 p.m.

2.0 COH Minutes and Next Meetings

- There was no quorum, therefore, our June minutes will be approved at the September meeting.
- The next COH meeting is our COH retreat. It will take place September 19, 2019 at the Dennis Avenue Health Center, 200 Dennis Avenue, 1st Floor Large Conference Room. The retreat will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (tentative).
- The following meeting will take place October 17, 2019 at 401 Hungerford Drive, Conference Room 1A and 1B, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

3.0 Health Officer Report – Dr. Travis Gayles

- Dr. Gayles introduced the new Deputy Health Officer, Dr. James Bridgers Jr.
- The new Health and Human Services Director is Raymond L. Crowel. He has been the Behavioral Health Chief at Montgomery County DHHS for the past ten years.
- Healthy Montgomery is engaging in a new effort. They will be looking at the four lenses to include social determinants of health, equity, access to care, and data.
 - It will be grouped into five categories to include chronic diseases, injury prevention, maternal and child health, behavioral health, and infectious diseases.
 - Chronic disease includes diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and cancer.
 - Injury prevention was started partly due to the high pedestrian fatality issues.
 - For infectious diseases an epidemic plan will be put in place funded by Federal and State funds.
- There is restructuring and reorganizing going on at PHS. We are trying to bring services for promotion and prevention together.
- Healthy Montgomery gave a panel presentation at the 2019 NACCHO Conference on Health in All Policies.

- PHS is hoping to get Federal funding for HIV/AIDS. We hope to hire a coordinator, do outreach and education across different groups, and provide screening and testing at alternative places and times. This would include provider education as well.
- The Juul workgroup was convened in late winter. Schools, law enforcement officials, and County Council members, and others were present. There have been several incidents of students needing Naloxone treatment after ingesting Juul.

4.0 Old Business

4.0 Workgroup Updates

- **Immunization – Brent Berger:** The Medical Society met with DHHS to discuss immunizations. Dr. Gayles will present at the Medical Society. Dr. Gayles, Mary Anderson (Montgomery County Public Information), Karen Thompkins and Daisey Lukose who manages the Immunization Program were present. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss DHHS efforts and opportunities to promote the flu vaccinations.
- **Data Workgroup – Jessica Kronstadt:** Jessica feels we should coordinate with other commissions to see what their data needs are. She hopes to expand the group once new members come on board.

4.1 Liaison Reports

African American Health Program – Michelle Hawkins

- Their focus is on pregnancy, diabetes, and HIV testing. They are seeking a new place to meet.
 - The University of Maryland Dental School will be opening facilities in Germantown.
 - Hospital educators are hoping to partner with other organizations for community outreach/education.
 - Pat Keating of the Fetal & Infant Mortality Review Board (FIMR) & the Community Action Team (CAT) gave a presentation on improved pregnancy outcomes. There are three zip codes in the County, 20906, 20876, and 20902, that have high infant loss. FIMR looks at outcomes and CAT comes out with recommendations.

Montgomery County Public Schools Food & Nutritional Services – Marla Caplon

- There are six pillars of infrastructure being developed by IT.
- The six pillars tie into developing local school health communities.
- MCPS is working with providers who will support services such as dental and vision.

5.0 New Business

Retreat Committee

- The retreat will be on September 19, 2019 with a tentative time of 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- What we hope to accomplish includes:
 - Go over the role and duties of the Commission and be mindful of what we can do and what will have the best impact.
 - Plan out the year to be ahead of budget deadlines.
 - Meet with County Council at optimal times throughout the year.
 - Focus on larger areas to target and align with Dr. Gayles and the councilmembers agendas.
 - Look at what COH has done in the past that has made a difference and identify how to measure success.
 - What can we do to strengthen the health department?

~Adjourn