

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION ON HEALTH

Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2018

401 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, Maryland

Members Present: Brandie Armijo, Brenda Brooks, Maya Das, Desiree de la Torre, Dr. Travis Gayles, Michelle Hawkins, Lenna Israbian-Jamgochian, Jessica Kronstadt, Linda McMillan, Tonya Saffer, Fabienne Santel, Ashim Subedee, and Jason Woo.

Members Absent: Sean Bailey, Marla Caplon, Jessica Chung, Heather Deckert, Kenneth Goldstein, Kathy Mann Koepke, Sheela Modin, and Jacqueline Smith.

Staff Present: Ellen Segal and Karen Thompkins.

1.0 Call to Order and Welcome

- Chair Lenna Israbian-Jamgochian called the meeting to order at 5:09 p.m.

2.0 COH Minutes and Next Meetings

- A motion to approve the July 2018 minutes was made by Jessica Kronstadt and seconded by Jason Woo. The minutes were approved unanimously by voiced consent.
- The next COH meeting will take place October 18, 2018 and the following meeting is November 15, 2018 at 401 Hungerford Drive, Conference Room 1A and 1B, Rockville, Maryland, 20850.

3.0 Data Workgroup Recommendation Letter

- The Data Workgroup presented their recommendation letter to be sent to the DHHS Director for incorporation into transition documents for the next administration.
- Members voted unanimously via voice consent to approve the recommendation letter and to forward it to the DHHS Director.

4.0 Health Officer Update Presentation – Dr. Travis Gayles, Chief, Public Health Services

- There will be four new County Council members. There will be two new Health and Human Services Committee members. Craig Rice has shown interest in staying on.
- Public Health Services (PHS) is working on documentation that will bring the new councilmembers up to speed and show return on investment of Public Health Services.
- Changes may be made to the Service Area Chief's as these are appointed positions.
- There have been cuts to grants from the State. The cancer grants saw a \$267K cut. The TB program has seen cuts by the State. Three staff members were cut from the grant, leaving them to be paid from County funds.
- PHS is looking into forming and sustaining partnerships such as the University of Maryland.
- The Silver Spring Health Center rolled out the Babies Born Healthy program which links help according to the most needed zip codes.
- Health Planning and Epidemiology has had a few great accomplishments which include:

Approved: October 18, 2018

The PHS Annual Health Report which was released in May, a report on infectious diseases and a zip code health report to be released.

- School Health Services will implement condoms in schools beginning October 1st.

5.0 COH Survey

- The results of the Pre-Retreat Survey were reviewed with members. For more details, see the PowerPoint presentation.

6.0 COH FY19 Priorities and Recommendations for the Upcoming Year

- The COH discussed the possibility of meeting only 6 times a year in person, having workgroups meet on the alternate months when the entire COH is not meeting.
- Keep writing letters to the County Executive, but also meet with County Council members to educate and strategize. Commission members should meet one-on-one with councilmembers.
- Review County services and look at data to see what is working and recommend changes when appropriate.
- It was agreed that COH could go through recommendations from the past five years to see what the outcome of the actions was.
- Bring in programs from other jurisdictions that have been successful.
- On October 16, the COH will give the annual update to County Council sitting as the Board of Health. The topics will include data and behavioral health.
- The BH Workgroup is finalizing their recommendations and will continue their work in the coming year. The group recommended having a liaison to the Strategic Alignment Workgroups.
- The Data Workgroup will continue their work post recommendation to the DHHS Director.
- The Access to Contraception Workgroup will regroup and will align their work to the Health Officer's initiatives.

7.0 Other Updates

- The COH Nominating Committee is in the process of interviewing potential members to fill vacancies.
- Recommendations for new COH members will go to the County Council by mid-October before the current term ends. November 27th is the last meeting of the current County Council.