

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HEALTH

Board Meeting Date: January 21, 2020

Location: Brookline Public Health Department, Library

Members: Anthony L. Schlaff, MD, MPH, Chair
David Hemenway, PhD
Patricia Maher, APRN, MA MS
Peter Moyer, MD MPH
Gretchen Stoddard, MPH – not in attendance

Agenda Item	
Call to Order	6:03 PM
1. Welcome	Introduction of ACPH Members and other attendees
2. Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mission/Vision Statement<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Dr. Schlaff suggested adoption of the Health Department’s mission statement.○ Revisions could include advisory members’ roles including offering interdisciplinary advice, hearings, balancing the WA process and responding to warrant articles.○ In the past, ACPH members were called upon when there was concern of an unsafe water source.• Website Updates<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Members were asked to submit headshots for the website.○ Term expiration dates were also requested. Dr. Schlaff and Pat Maher believe they will need to reapply this year.• Formalize engagement for WA<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Dr. Schlaff wants the protocol for WA to include questions on the effects to health, population being effected, impact of the WA, data, etc.○ Dr. Schlaff will work on writing up the WA process for ACPH.○ Dr. Jett will draft the framework for WAs relating to Public Health and ACPH will provide input.○ Issues with the process last year during WA19 hearing.○ Members would like to adopt a 2 stage process for controversial WAs.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Open testimony, presentation of the WA (explanation of what article means),

- preliminary deliberation will happen during the first stage. “Hearing and possible vote”
 - The second hearing will be scheduled for deliberation and vote.
 - The Council would like to vote on the final WA and engage petitioners early.
 - Town Meeting is May 19th
 - Begin review of the first WAs in March, last in April.
 - Get petitioners on the ACPH agenda in February, expect to hold hearings for March and April meetings.
 - Accomplishments in 2019, plans for 2020
 - No discussion on accomplishments in 2019.
 - Peter requested reconvening the commission between Fallon, Health, Police and Fire to track EMS services.
 - Data is being sent to Town Administration.
 - Dr. Jett, Police and Fire have been meeting with Fallon and said he would loop Peter into the meetings as a representative for ACPH.
 - Dr. Moyer motioned to become ACPH representative for this commission. Dr. Schlaff was in favor, seconded by Pat Maher and all were in favor.
 - Dr. Moyer accepted the appointment.
 - Discussion of the budget and new marijuana money which will fund Substance Abuse positions and a Community Health Specialist.
 - Dr. Jett and ACPH members want to find ways to be proactive instead of reactive.
 - Two new marijuana shops opening. Select Board will have a commission for deciding how to spend the money. ACPH Members can advocate for public health funding.
 - Pat Maher suggests a part-time epidemiologist to measure health impacts and outcomes.
 - Dr. Schlaff suggests expanding the substance abuse program.
 - Dr. Hemenway suggests meeting in the summer or fall to begin planning ways to become more proactive.

- Dr. Schlaff suggests looking into resources from NACCHO on innovations in public health.
 - Pat Maher wants to look into the ways climate change and public health intersect.
 - Dr. Schlaff suggests an approach with an equity lens.
 - Pat Maher is part of the affordable housing committee as a representative for ACPH.
 - Mini 5G Cell Towers
 - Dr. Jett was approached with questions regarding the health effects of 5G.
 - Not sure if this is harmful to health.
 - Clint Richmond, chair of the Green Caucus provided a resource – ehhi.org. They have a page on cell phones.
 - 5G waves are shorter than microwaves.
 - Another attendee offers knowledge of how 5G is effecting the emergency weather forecasting system, preventing accuracy.
 - It is difficult to measure the effects. There is no data available.

3. Other Business

- Discussion on Racism and Public Health Forum
- Pat Maher requested more information about what is going on in the community; current complaints and issues.
- Dr. Hemenway needs to attend the next annual open meeting training.
- Discussion on the possibility of posting the last inspection at food establishments.
- Discussion on the explosion on Cypress Street last year, fixing gas leaks. The cause for this explosion was an electricity build-up.
- Upcoming ACPH Meetings: February 25th, March 24th, April 28th. Other possible meetings: May 5th and May 12th
- Clint Richmond would like to focus on some of the possible health effects of PFAS, pesticides, flame retardants, etc.

Meeting Adjourned

7:46 PM