

Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC)

Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2019



ATTENDING: Tom Engle, David Eppelshimer, Nicole Bowles, Hemi Pariyani, Ann Marie Paulsen, Jennifer McElravey, Andrea Lara Silva, Karen Reynolds, Shabba Woodley, Larysa Thomas, Larry Boxman, Eileen Derr, Rachel Schutz

ABSENT: Sebastian Lawler, Dick Stenson, Leticia Vitela, Pam treece, Robin Bousquet,

STAFF: Tricia Mortell, Alex Coleman, Vivianna Lindley

Welcome

Annie opened the meeting with an ice breaker.

PHAC Updates

- Cannabis policy and oversight task force is taking members. Let Nicole know if you are interested.
- Boys and Girls club will be providing training for TIC at schools.
- Kaiser is launching a platform for the Tri-County area. A database of service providers to better direct resources to those in need and give better feedback on what is needed.
- Alex will make sure that our newly approved bylaws are posted to the website.
- We are starting on new budget cycle. Commissioners are having a roadshow in November to get community feedback before submitting budget. PHAC members will receive a copy of the budget in November to give input. Sneak-peak: Universal home visiting and Tobacco Retail Licensing will be getting budgets. Budget will not be finalized until May.
 - Tom proposed the budget be added to the November agenda. Alex made note of this.

Approve September Meeting Minutes

September minutes were reviewed, and Jennifer inquired if the STI presentation would be available on the county website. Answer: Vivianna will start adding items to the website very soon.

- Annie made the first motion to approve September meeting minutes and Karen seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposition and the motion passed.

Public Health in Action

Tricia gave an update on vaping. See slideshow for details.

- Two confirmed deaths in Oregon
- Both deaths were from cannabis vape products
- Concerns if the vape products causing deaths are legally obtained or altered by the user
- Vaping products can be smaller and easier to hide making them attractive to youth
- Vaping sickness symptoms are similar to flu symptoms

- Governor Kate Brown signed an emergency order on vaping. Oregon will be adopting rules for a 180-day flavor ban. Consumer warnings will be initiated, and rules adopted for provider reporting. Goal to increase access to FDA approved cessation products (vaping never approved by FDA as a cessation product).

Feedback and questions from PHAC:

- Nicole talked about a 2015 paper on flavors and the ingredient related to popcorn lung. After the paper, the FDA gave vaping companies two years to list ingredients on products.
- Is vaping an issue with youth, or primarily with adults?
 - Vaping is considered an epidemic among youth
 - More youth are initiating nicotine products through vaping rather than combustible products
- What is the threshold for CDC involvement, why did they wait so long to respond?
 - There are certain criteria that must be met before the CDC becomes involved, regarding the vaping illness, there cases weren't concentrated in one area or even one state, so it took some time for all the connections to be made
- How are youth getting access to vaping devices
 - When vaping products were first released they didn't have the same age restrictions as other tobacco products, in Oregon it's only within the last year that the age for purchasing tobacco was raised to 21; there is also black market of sorts among youth since the devices are small, easy to share and easily concealed
- Are there ways to change the design on products so they are less easy to conceal, is this a place where the FDA will step in?

Tricia closed the topic with a statement on Washington County's action plan. We want to send a message that none of these products are OK. The County will be working on flavor bans, zoning restrictions for where products are sold, preventing knock off prices, and restricting advertising. Public Health will also be asking commissioners to improve the policy on smokeless products for County staff.

PHAC Equity/TIC Subcommittee

Alex went over meeting agreements and took feedback.

Feedback and from PHAC:

- People should not be afraid to express their opinion.
 - Tricia mentioned with heavy topics we want people to feel comfortable giving their experience and perspective.
 - The meeting processes go with the agreements and they should be kept together.
- The meeting agreements will be posted for all to see at future meetings. The meeting processes will be added to the agreements for clarity. Alex will send out the meeting agreements to everyone in a word document.

Alex reviewed presenter guidelines and took feedback.

Feedback and from PHAC:

- Font size is important. It needs to be large enough to read.
 - Will the presentations be available after the meeting?
 - Presenters shouldn't go too fast and should be loud enough.
 - Abbreviations and terminology should be defined. Not everyone is familiar with the fields presented on.
 - Would like to know about the presenter and their credibility on the subject.
- Alex noted the concerns to add to the guidelines. Tricia suggested a presenter bio.

Alex talked about the subcommittee wanting to use the equity lens more. As people are presenting, having questions you can ask the presenter or fellow members about how equitable something is. An equity handout will be at meetings for reference.

Tricia added the goal is to challenge us to look at data and what it says. It is being conscious and making data informed decisions. Have we asked all questions before deciding where to allocate resources? Example: We are working with facilities on a policy for cleaner construction sites. The downside is smaller businesses can't compete because they have fewer resources to change. So how do we fix that? These are the questions we ask.

Feedback and from PHAC:

- The essential equity question is who will benefit? If the purpose is to have a direction on equity issues it should talk more about definition of equity at the beginning.
 - Equity lens feels too complicated, it should be streamlined.
 - Streamlined is good, but data information should still be involved.
- Tricia suggested the "Four Ps" practiced by Multnomah County. Equity questions can be approached more easily using this model. Alex will present this suggestion to the subcommittee.

PHAC Charter Development

- The charter includes some information not in the bylaws.
- It is one page and simpler.
- Relevant information included from bylaws.
- Goes more in-depth on decision making.
- Looking for feedback on the scope of work section.

Feedback and from PHAC:

- Bullet points on scope of work are nice. Can that be done with the rest of the document?
- Last out of scope is confusing
- Not clear on first point in out of scope

- Compensation for members was mentioned.
- There should be a conflict of interest section.

- o Alex will work on incorporating more bullet points.
- o Alex clarified on last out of scope: PHAC cannot communicate to the State or Federal government attempting to advocate or influence anything. PHAC members can do this on their own time, but not as a representative of PHAC.
- o Tricia clarified on first out of scope: Not advising on things will be very rare. It is more about shifting topics to committees that are better suited to them than PHAC. Tom suggested it be taken out of the scopes and Tricia agreed.
- o HHS is working on a community partner policy that discusses how we compensate community members and partners for their time and expertise. This can be brought back to the PHAC when it is finalized.
- o A conflict of interest statement will be added to the PHAC member packet. Members are bound by state law to avoid and declare conflicts of interest.

Closing

Access to care CHIP meeting is October 17th. Mini grants workgroup is available to join, so contact Erin if you are interested. Next meeting will be visited by Jessica Nye from MCRH, and an update will be given on climate benchmark reporting.