



Public Health
Advisory Commission
of Alexandria, VA

**Minutes of the Thursday, November 21, 2019
PHAC Meeting
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Fourth Floor Conference Room
Alexandria Health Department**

Present	Stacy Biddinger, Tricia Rodgers, Daniel Hawkins, Richard Merritt, Allison Miner, Elaine McSorley-Gerard, Allen Lomax
Absent (Excused)	Melissa Riddy, Brian Hricik, John Herring, Dr. Michael Trahos, Andrew Romero
Absent (Unexcused)	
AHD Representatives	Dr. Stephen A. Haering, Natalie Talis
Guests	Michael Millman

I. Establishment of a Quorum

- Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm. A quorum was established

II. Approval of the September 2019 Minutes

- Deferred

III. Updates from Chair

- Commission Leadership
 - Stacy Biddinger (SB) passed conducting the meeting to Vice Chair Tricia Rodgers (TR)
 - Allen Lomax (AL) motioned for Stacy Biddinger to be Chair, Seconded by Dan Hawkins (DH); all were in favor for SB to be Chair of PHAC. Term begins 11/21/2019 for one year
 - TR passed conducting the meeting back to Chair SB
 - SB advised that Tricia Rodgers (TR) term as Vice Chair ends in December. Two names were put forward: Andrew Romero and Dan Hawkins – this will be discussed and determined at the December 2020 PHAC meeting for the Vice Chair term to start January 2020
- Issue Brief template – discussion ensued; no decision made

IV. CHIP Update

- Overview of community meetings – AL gave update – hundreds and hundreds of ideas in the three priority areas: Mental Health, Affordable Housing, Poverty
- Work group next steps – Natalie Talis advised that a lot of people have committed to workgroups – workgroup members will be scoring the hundreds of ideas – to narrow down the strategies and develop the actual Community Health Improvement Plan – many of these strategies are likely to be policy related
- Role of PHAC – Stephen Haering suggested that PHAC Commissioners be liaisons to the three work groups – their work is to represent the community workgroups’ policy recommendations to PHAC (not to represent PHAC to the community workgroups unless specifically authorized to do so on an issue by PHAC)
 - DH volunteered for Poverty
 - Richard Merritt (RM) volunteered for Poverty
 - Allison Miner volunteered for Mental Health
 - Stacy Biddinger volunteered for Housing
 - Tricia Rodgers volunteered for Housing and Poverty
 - Michael Millman volunteered for Mental Health

V. Update from Disparities/Inequities Work Group

- Richard Merritt will bring one or two issues back to the December meeting

VI. Health Department Updates

- Staff
 - Epi Supervisor candidates interviewed today
 - Population Health Manager will be posted in coming weeks
- Budget
 - State: state agencies asked by the Governor’s office to present 5% budget cuts – Virginia Department of Health has not asked the local health districts for budget reduction exercises at this point – anticipate seeing the proposed budget in December
 - City: City departments have been asked to provide a 2.5% reduction – AHD has been able to present suggestions meeting the target but also securing funding for a grant funded Public Health Emergency Management position and to enhance the Environmental Health Division’s Aquatic Health Program – these are proposals at the City Manager’s office – anticipate public release in December
- Divisions, Programs, Projects
 - Public Health Emergency Management

- The Pentagon Force Protection Agency (PFPA) announced to AHD on 10/17 that they are moving mail-screening operations from the Pentagon to the Mark Center in “early 2020” – the City Manager’s Office met with AHD 10/21 and City Council met 10/22 and have been very supportive of getting PFPA to address AHD’s concerns. PFPA had an additional meeting with AHD on 10/25; provided AHD, VDH and City Manager a tour of Mark Center screening facility on 10/28; PFPA conducted a community meeting 11/14 (only five community members attended and there was no media attention); PFPA and FBI are meeting with AHD and VDH on 11/22. PFPA has agreed to conduct two work sessions, that AHD anticipates will address all AHD concerns, before moving the mail screening facilities. AHD will keep PHAC informed.
- The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) conducted a table top exercise with the COG jurisdictions on 11/6 – SH attended with City Manager Mark Jinks – the City Manager has subsequently requested the Office of Emergency Management and AHD to conduct a table top exercise with City agencies – planned for 1/30/2020
- AHD has heard from NACCHO regarding its application for Project Public Health Readiness – AHD has made its responses – anticipate hearing back in December
- OB/Prenatal Clinical Services: SH reported that the transition to Neighborhood Health took effect 11/4/2019 – strengthens the system of care (enhances AHD’s Babycare/ Maternal case management; improves clinic services by housing within Alexandria’s primary medical home for under- and uninsured residents and expands Neighborhood Health’s footprint at Casey Health Center, enabling them to increase their provider staffing)
- Population Health: issues covered
- General
 - AHD is still on target for co-location with DCHS and Neighborhood Health in 2022; AHD will start monthly meetings with DCHS and General Services (SH)
 - AHD Strategic Planning released to AHD staff at the All Staff Meeting on 9/26 – hard copies provided to PHAC Commissioners (SH)

VII. Announcements

- SB advised that Andrew Romero will present to PHAC about tobacco control in December

- SB advised that a school mold group will present to PHAC in January

VIII. Adjourned

- Meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm



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PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY COMMISSION

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- I. Establishment of Quorum
- II. Approval of the September 2019 Minutes
- III. Updates from the Chair
 - a. Commission leadership
 - b. Issue brief template
- IV. CHIP Update
 - a. Overview of community meetings
 - b. Work group next steps
 - c. Role of PHAC
- V. Update from Disparities/Inequities Work group
- VI. Health Department Updates
- VII. Announcements
- VIII. Adjournment

Commission Members	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chair, Stacy Biddinger
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vice-Chair, Patricia Rodgers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Daniel Hawkins
<input type="checkbox"/>	John Herring
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brian Hricik
<input type="checkbox"/>	Allen Lomax
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elaine McSorley-Gerard
<input type="checkbox"/>	Allison Miner
<input type="checkbox"/>	Richard Merritt
<input type="checkbox"/>	Melissa Riddy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Andrew Romero
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Michael Trahos
Alexandria Health Dept. Staff	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Stephen A. Haering, Health Director
<input type="checkbox"/>	Natalie Talis, Health Planner