

Alexandria Public Health Advisory Commission
Minutes of the Thursday, January 15, 2015 Meeting

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Fourth Floor Conference Room
Alexandria Health Department

I. Introductions and Attendance – Meredith Taylor

Present

Rebecca Ash
Mary Dixon
Mark Penn
Meredith Taylor
Katya Wanzer
Zuhail Haidari
Dr. Tina Singh, AHD
Diana Sanchez, AHD

Guests

Allen Lomax

II. Meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. No quorum was established.

III. Approval of the minutes will be held until the next meeting on 2/19/2015.

IV. Standing Reports

A. Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria – Meredith Taylor

❖ Guest speaker from Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria (PHA) – Allen Lomax

- The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) has been released on the PHA website. The Alexandria Council of Human Services Organizations has received a copy of the CHIP and is doing a needs assessment. Action teams are being created that will look through the CHIP and take goals from it to focus on. The plan is to take it goal by goal and show desires as to what to move forward with now versus in the future. The action teams for priorities will be created once priorities are targeted.

- Question about PHA looking at priorities in CHIP, if PHAC points out certain ones they would like focused on, will that raise their priority with PHA? – M. Taylor

- Yes, that is encouraged because PHA wants the input from other groups.

- Whole Foods fund raising continues and more than 20k has been raised so far.
- Childhood Obesity Network and ALIVE looked at warehouses and concept plans for food storage. The warehouses will not be solely for ALIVE they will be also used for all major groups for emergency food storage.

B. Alexandria Health Department (AHD) – Dr. Tina Singh

- The City of Alexandria budget process estimates a 2-4% budget cut. Since AHD is funded through the State and City, the real cut will be approximately 6% - 12% cut. There is a Civic Engagement being held on January 29 at Lee Center that will be on Healthy and Thriving Residents. We have programs that are important and have positive outcomes with community. Services and programs such as Teen Wellness Center, Aquatic Health, Vector Control, HIV prevention/services, and pharmacy are programs that we really want to keep and could possibly be affected by the proposed cut.

- We are currently undergoing a Public Health Accreditation process. Dr. Singh and Debbie Bowers will spearhead the process.
 - Child Health services will be transitioning to Neighborhood Health and AHD will be increasing its Baby Care case management.
 - The date and time for the Civic Engagement session will be confirmed and emailed out to Commissioners.
- C. Department of Emergency Service - Mark Penn
- City is in budget process and current activities need to be cut by 2%.
 - Revenues coming into City are lower and this is the fourth consecutive year of budget cuts. Encourages people to attend these Civic Engagement meetings to encourage council on what is important.
- V. Discussion about the 2016 Budget – Meredith Taylor
- Feedback has been received regarding the January 7th letter sent to City Council. Question posed by Councilman Chapman if the Commission will be coming and speaking forth yearly to update Council if they are meeting these goals.
 - The CHIP, the items Dr. Singh mentioned, and everything Public Health does is important. What council needs to hear is what is not important. It is important to stick with what is in letter and highlight the CHIP, what AHD does, such as sticking behind the programs they offer.
 - The goal is to attend more than one Civic Engagement to get the word across. More facts are needed from AHD to back up the success of programs. The Council is data driven and being specific with data and having it be more outcome developed data. An email to members of PHAC not present will be sent to invite them to join the small group to attend the Civic Engagement sessions.
- VI. Casey Award – Meredith Taylor
- Discussion about the 2015 Casey award and if awarding the 2015 Casey Award in April 2016 would be a possibility. Discussion will be brought up at the next PHAC meeting, 2/19/2015, for a vote.
- VII. Access to Care
- A. Update and discussion on Mayor’s Advisory Panel. – Meredith Taylor
- The panel was formed to address the five thousand Alexandrians that do not have access to care. The second meeting will be held next week and Meredith Taylor and Allen Lomax will be attending the meeting.
 - AHD is helping to make sure that access to care is data driven. Data is being gathered from AHD, DCHS, Inova, Neighborhood Health, and Health and Human Services to highlight the ways that we are helping the uninsured in order not to duplicate efforts. – Dr. Tina Singh
- B. Planning for the Joint Meeting and discussion – Meredith Taylor
- Draft documents have been circulated and issues are being looked at.
 - Does PHAC want to take on access to care, side by side with Advisory Panel?
 - Is it appropriate to send out a letter supporting the panel? – M. Dixon
 - Should we bring up other access to care issues to the Advisory Panel? – M. Penn
 - Discussion will be brought up at the next meeting.
- VIII. Priorities for 2015 - held for next PHAC meeting, 2/19/2015.

IX. Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Next Meeting: February 19, 2015

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Sanchez", written in a cursive style.

Diana Sanchez