

**Alexandria Public Health Advisory Commission
Minutes of the Thursday, March, 19 2015 Meeting**

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Fourth Floor Conference Room
Alexandria Health Department

I. Introductions and Attendance – Meredith Taylor

Present

Meredith Taylor
Keith Hearle
Katie Dziak
Andrew LaVanway
Katya Wanzer
Jeff Levine, AHD
Diana Sanchez, AHD

Guests

Allen Lomax, PHA

II. Meeting was called to order at 5:39 p.m. A quorum was not established.

III. Approval of the minutes from the February 19, 2015 meeting will be held for review until April 16, 2015.

IV. Standing Reports

A. Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria (PHA) – Meredith Taylor

❖ Guest speaker from PHA – Allen Lomax

- Presentation heard from the detoxification center which was positive.
- PHA settled on a document that highlighted opportunities with PHA.
- On 4/19 PHA invited to speak at Christ Church about the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The ALIVE program will also be there to speak.

B. Neighborhood Health (NH) – Keith Hearle

- Discussion about the background of NH. They are a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) since 2004 and receive \$2.5 million in Federal grant money. They have six people outreach to the community to sign up for services at NH. On April 21-23, an inspection from HRSA will occur at NH. Being an FQHC saves money and reduces hospital and inpatient stays. NH is focused on the low income part of community but face challenges to fund the services for the un-insured. 4300 of the 5000 from the Mayor's Advisory Panel are being served by NH.
- 2 E. Glebe Rd, 1200 N. Howard St. and 6677 Richmond Hwy are important. 6677 Richmond Hwy is the flagship building and the next step for the building is a remodel and to open up dental spaces. HRSA gave NH a 30k recognition award because of their high clinical quality measures reached. Dental services at 4480 King St have expanded their hours from a few hours a week to 8 hours a day/five days a week, through a MOU with Dr. Haering. In July 2014 our Executive Director resigned and now Dr. Basim Khan is the permanent Executive Director.
- The reimbursement from Medicaid is \$128 and the cost to NH is over \$200, NH is trying to fix that. The Medicare reimbursement rate is \$178.
 - Will the WOW bus continue to be utilized? – Allen Lomax
 - Possibly not going to continue with the WOW bus because the utilization is low and it's losing approximately 100k a year. The Board will need find out why it is not working before a decision is made. The

WOW bus goes to three schools, John Adams, Patrick Henry and William Ramsey.

C. Alexandria Health Department (AHD) – Jeff Levine

- Child Health services have transitioned to NH. AHD had 5600 visits last year, which will approximately now be going to NH.
- Family Planning clinic has over 5000 visits; immunization is over 4400 a year. Maternity clinic is over 5600 a year. AHD is also enrolling mothers into dental care for those who do not have it. TB has had over 4400 visits and refugee screenings have increased to over 500 a year. AHD also does pre-nursing home screening for those who may need nursing home care.
- State budget is working its way through. The restaurant inspection fee did not go up because it did not pass in the budget. Current fee is \$45 and proposed was over \$200. There is 2 year process to make cuts to meet revenues shortfall. There are cuts to locally operated Health Districts, such as Fairfax and Arlington. The State eliminated funding to State Abstinence grant. Program was not drawing enough to continue supporting but it did not affect AHD.
- AHD is continuing recruitment. Challenges recruiting a Nurse Practitioner at the Teen Wellness Center (TWC). It has been over a year trying to recruit a Health Educator at TWC, challenges in recruitment for position. Nursing positions looking to fill now that we know about the budget, we are no longer holding positions and have the green light to move forward. We will be recruiting for a full time breastfeeding peer counselor and are looking to beef up our WIC program.
- Pool program and vector program is in process of recruitment for the spring/summer. Working with Fairfax lab for mosquitoes and TB testing. Interviews for PHEM coordinator will begin soon and the BT Epi position will be filled soon.

V. 2016 Budget Discussion – Katya Wanzer

- Not many changes in the Acting City Manager budget.
- Health Department will not be affected.
- There will be Healthy & Thriving Residents meetings in the Sister Cities room on April 7 and April 9.
- Meredith and Katya will be meeting with Justin Wilson next Wednesday evening to continue speaking about the Civic Engagement talking points.

VI. Mayor's Advisory Panel Discussion – Meredith Taylor

- Next few meetings will bring in uninsured individuals to speak.
- Testimony from Richmond regarding the Alexandria testimony from the uninsured.
- Expressed to Mayor's Advisory Panel that PHAC would like to see a draft of the recommendation to the Mayor. The chair, Dan Hawkins agreed and he volunteered to draft the report.

VII. Discussion regarding PHAC meetings and getting to the strategic planning. Suggestion made to rearrange agenda to get to the strategy portion of the agenda first.

VIII. Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 16, 2015

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:



Diana Sanchez