THE DUKES COUNTY

Health Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 18, 2019

Public Safety Building – West Tisbury

approved May 16, 2019

Members Present: Victor Capoccia, Tnisha Chandler, Leo Christian, Leslie Clapp, Vanileze Cortez, Cindy Doyle, Julie Fay, Lila Fischer, Karen Gear, Tom Hallahan, Michael Joyce, Sarah Kuh, Robert Laskowski, Karen MacPhail, Patsy McCornack, Paddy Moore, Kathleen Perrotta, Dan Pesch, Mary Jane Williams, Barbara Rush, Mark Saloio, Sheila Shapiro, Myra Stark, Karen Tewhey, Christine Todd, Mary Jane Williams, Marie Zadeh

7:30 AM **Call to Order and Approval of Minutes of March 23, 2019 Meeting--**Mary Jane Williams called the meeting to order. The minutes of the March 23, 2019 meeting were approved.

7:40 **Appointment of Island Integrated Public Health Collaborative (i2PHC) Liaison Workgroup--Mary Jane Williams**

* At the last Health Council meeting, Ellie Beth suggested that the Health Council appoint a work group to develop ideas and a plan of action for working with i2PHC. This Workgroup will act as a liaison with i2PHC as that entity continues its development. Mary Jane Williams, Kevin Carey, Leslie Clapp and Christine Todd of the Coordinating Committee (CC) have volunteered to be part of the Workgroup. *The CC suggests that 3 additional Health Council members join the group.* The Workgroup will report its recommendations back to the CC and the full Health Council. The Workgroup expects is work to be time-limited.
* Mike Joyce, Barbara Rush, Karen Tewhey, Myra Stark, Karen MacPhail and Patty Moore volunteered to join Mary Jane Williams, Kevin Carey, Leslie Clapp and Christine Todd.

7:50 **Appointment of standing Health Data Committee--Bob Laskowski**

* At the last Health Council meeting, the Health Data Workgroup recommended the establishment of the standing Health Data Committee. The CC recommends that the Health Council act to establish such a committee. Bob Laskowski has volunteered to act a Co-Chair. This Committee will work to implement the recommendations of the Health Data Workgroup. It will also work closely with i2PHC on the Collaborative's goal of establishing measures of the health status of the Island. Health Council members voted unanimously to approve The Health Data Committee charter.

7:55 **Resolution to allocate $1000 of Health Council funds to offset living expenses of Health Data Summer Intern**

The Health Council is fortunate to have been selected by the Mass Dept. of Public Health as a collaborating sponsor for a public health graduate student intern for this summer. Island Healthcare is the sponsoring organization. Island Healthcare also received approval for an intern support the development of the Collaborative. The Health Council's intern is Marley Jurgenmeyer. She is a graduate student at the University of Vermont with a focus on epidemiology. She will work to develop a health dashboard for the Island and to implement the health data resources website. Ms. Jurgenmeyer expressed a need for assistance in paying for housing and her living expenses. The internship will being June 1 and extend for approximately 10 weeks. Expected work hours will be 20-25 hours per week. The CC recommends the allocation of $1000 of Health Council funds to offset her expenses. The internship is an unpaid position.

* Bob Laskowski presented the resolution. Health Council members asked about the amount of money in the Health Council account. Bob stated that he understood it to be adequate. Bob proposed an amendment to the resolution that "funds be allocated from the Health Council up to $1000 to support the costs of the summer public health internship, provided that this allocation did not preclude funding for the Rural Scholars Program." This amendment was seconded and adopted by the full Health Council. The amended resolution passed unanimously.
* Health Council members requested that Kevin Carey present a Treasurer's report at a future meeting.

8:00 **Overview and Update of Health Council Committees and Workgroup Activity--Committee and Workgroup Chairs**

Health Council Committee and Workgroup Chairs updated the Health Council about their purpose, history, current priorities and plans. The following Committee/Work group Chairs made presentations:

Coordinating Committee--Mary Jane Williams

Nominating Committee-- deferred

Rural Scholars-Dan Pesch

* Proposals Due to Dan before May meeting

Youth Task Force-Mike Joyce, Cindy Doyle

* Current Issues: Focus on culture change--from one of parental lassez-faire attitudes toward substance use to age appropriate use (i.e. no use by those under 21 and role modeling by parents); Need for temporary funding source to replace federal grant which is expiring; development of social media expertise; inclusion of "vaping" as a risky behavior; continuing parental survey; new focus on marijuana use – especially its brain altering effects on young people.

Communication--deferred

Healthy Aging MV--Paddy Moore

Major recent initiatives include: working with MV Hospital and Navigator Elder Homes of New England LLC to develop a GreenHouse model of nursing home to replace Windemere, providing individual rooms and baths for all residents in smaller, patient-centered settings; Falls Prevention Coalition has developed closer ties with MVH and is conducting community awareness campaign to highlight danger of and reduce the number of falls among elders; launching island-wide Advanced Care Planning initiative, with goal of having all members of island community over age 18 have in place a health care proxy; working with island housing entities to highlight needs for more housing of all types, including modification program for elders; efforts through Transportation Workgroup to develop stable funding for off-island medical transportation, and re-invigorate the Caregiver Support Workgroup.

*.*Oral Health Committee--Karen Gear

* Karen noted that there is a severe shortage of dental care, including preventative care, for many island residents of limited means. She further noted that the dental clinic of Martha's Vineyard Hospital is in the midst of being reorganized. Finally she noted that in addition to the current short supply of dental services, several currently practicing dentists on the Vineyard plan to retire soon.

Substance Use Disorder Coalition -- Victor Capoccia

(Note: The substance Use Disorder Coalition is an independent coalition; and, is not an official committee of the Health Council. Its work is related to the data collection activities of the Health Council's Substance Use Disorder committee.)

* Victor Capoccia summarized the recent work of the coalition which included several "harm remediation" efforts such as a clean needle exchange. Other notable efforts have included the facilitation of the hiring of recovery coaches, the arrangement of off island detoxification program availability and the increased availability of medications to treat opioid addiction.
* Christine Todd noted that the group has been successful in engaging the law enforcement community as a partner.

Healthcare Access--Sarah Kuh

* Sarah briefly summarized the extensive programs supported by healthcare access. These include assistance in finding appropriate medical insurance (including Mass Health); emergency financial assistance; navigator functions; medical interpretation; supporting a school-based dental prevention program – Vineyard Smile. Sarah noted that the access program has approximately 4000 person contacts per year that involve in excess of 2000 individuals. More details of the work of the Healthcare Access program are available in its annual report. Opportunities are available to participate in the work of Healthcare Access as a volunteer.

8:45 **Development of Priorities for Health Council 2019-2020--Mary Jane Williams**

* Mary Jane led Health Council members in an exercise to help determine priorities for the Health Council's work for the next year. Each Council member individually noted three or four items which they considered to be priorities. These recommendations were collected and will be summarized and discussed at the next health Council meeting.

9:00 The meeting was adjourned**.**