



CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH &
PROTECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council

**Monday, September 12, 2022
3:30pm – 5:00pm**

Members in Attendance:

Jovonne Walker
Kelly Love
Kristen Rawlett
Christina Drushel-Williams
Megan Latshaw (phone **94)
Laura Allen
Cliff Mitchell
Dianna Abney
Ben Gitterman (phone **33)

Guests in Attendance:

Cassie Shirk
Veronika Carella
Shweta Sharma
Hannah Donart

Notes:

- Cliff discussed the recent passing of Delegate Jim Hubbard and his role in Children's Environmental Health, including authoring the bill that established CEHPAC and serving on CEHPAC.
- Suggestion to start a lectureship at a Maryland university with a plaque honorarium for a lecture on children's environmental health, or other form of tribute to memorialize his work in the field. Another suggestion is to add information to the CEHPAC website about his role in forming CEHPAC. Another suggestion is to request a Governor's proclamation (<https://governor.maryland.gov/proclamation-requests/>).
- A quorum was verified.
- Approval of April 20, 2022 meeting minutes
 - Motion to approve: Christina Drushel-Williams
 - Second: Laura Allen
 - Outcome: Motion passed unanimously

- Approval of June 2, 2022 meeting minutes
 - Motion to approve: Ben Gitterman
 - Second: Kristen Rawlett
 - Outcome: Motion passed unanimously

- Regulations Review Process
 - Cliff discussed the historical approach to reviewing regulations when they may have an impact on children's environmental health, and the lack of proactive outreach to state agencies. Suggests discussing ways for CEHPAC to be more actively involved through a more systematic approach to regulation review, including identifying regulations that may be pertinent and discussing CEHPAC's role with state agencies.
 - CEHPAC had previously attempted to do more outreach without much success.
 - Eamon and Cliff will draft a memo to state agencies and programs which may have regulations that pertain to children's environmental health and examples of how CEHPAC could strengthen their regulations.

- Lead Awareness Month / Housing & Health
 - October is lead awareness month
 - The Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission is the lead body for lead poisoning prevention activities
 - The Maryland Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics - in partnership with the National AAP - is recruiting up to 20 pediatric practices to join a 7-month learning collaborative aimed at improving access to quality healthcare for children affected by lead exposure.

- MDA Joint Chairmen's Report Update
 - Cliff has reached out to MDA about the report, and they are continuing to work on the report. MDA is the lead agency. No other updates are available.

- Children's Environmental Health Report
 - The report was originally created in 2008, and efforts to update it were derailed with the COVID-19 pandemic. Cliff will reach out to Megan Latshaw, Laura Allen, and Kristen Rawlett if there are students available to assist with writing sections of the report.

- EMF Exposure Guidelines
 - Edits have been suggested, but no revisions have been made. Cliff will send out the current version again (along with the excerpt of the January meeting) with a deadline for edits. An up or down vote will be held at the next meeting (a quorum was not reached when this topic was discussed).

- Schools Workgroup Report
 - Workgroup is ready to assist with MDA report
 - Scheduling calls with IPM coordinators to understand their needs
 - Reviewing IPM materials available on MDA website
 - Suggesting curriculum for IPM coordinators
 - Working to determine if data exists for pesticide school exposures

- Discussion of how regulations for child care centers (including environmental conditions) may affect children's environmental health. Jovonne discussed topics including clean water availability, lead paint, single-use disposable items, chemicals used for cleaning, and use of aerosoles. Jovonne also discussed the importance of child care centers communicating with and educating parents, and the frequency of inspections. Bottled water is provided at her child care facility because it would not be feasible to add filters to all faucets and water sources. Mold is not checked routinely, nor are filters.

Public Comment

- Veronika Carella - Requests CEHPAC's draft materials on pesticide use in Maryland schools be included in MDA's Joint Chairmen's Report. Notes that MDA has not provided evidence that all schools are in compliance with the IPM law. Requests that notices of meetings, including meeting cancellations, are provided with more advance notice.
- Hannah Donart - Montgomery County public schools has funded IAQ monitoring in every school classroom. Notes the difficulty in reaching out to child care facilities, including private facilities, about information on limiting lead exposure in drinking water. Notes many CO2 monitors include information on humidity which can help when preventing mold.

Final comments from CEHPAC members

- Megan Latshaw suggests we ensure that the MDA Joint Chairmen's Report does include the involvement of CEHPAC. Cassie Shirk (MDA) notes that MDA is working on the report. Once the report is in a final draft form, MDA will share the report with CEHPAC with time to review. Cliff will communicate to MDA CEHPAC's request to provide feedback and input to MDA.
- Cliff discussed that we will need to schedule meetings for 2023 in the next few months and requests members provide availability to Eamon, including availability during evenings or otherwise outside of the regular working hours, and in different locations.
- MACHO, round table, 4pm (childcare pickup) all bad. Virtual meetings preferred.

Meeting adjourned at 4:48 pm.