



CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & PROTECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council

Wednesday, October 19 · 11:00am – 1:00pm

Members in Attendance:

Cliff Mitchell
Devon Dodson
Laura Allen
Jack Daniels
Megan Latshaw
Paul Ferraro
Nse Witherspoon
Dianna Abney
Ben Gitterman
Christina Drushel-Williams
Alicia Mezu

Guests in Attendance

Bonnie Raindrop
Veronika Carella
Cassie Shirk
Theodora Scarato
Ruth Berlin

Notes

- Jack Daniels was introduced as the new representative of DHCD.
- A quorum was present.
- Devon Dodson moved to approve the minutes from the September 2022 meeting. Nse Witherspoon seconded the motion, and the motion carried (Jack Daniels abstained).
- Joint Chairmen's Report has been submitted to the legislative liaison and will be shared with CEHPAC and MSDE once it is available for distribution. The report will be shared with CEHPAC's members, and feedback will be collected and shared with MDA on behalf of CEHPAC.
- Review of EMF Exposure Guidelines Document. This was last reviewed in January of 2022, and while edits were suggested, none have been made. Some concerns that this creates more concerns than it addresses and may be over-reaching. Currently there is not much out there on this topic that is focused on guidelines and actionable recommendations. There is merit to many of the suggestions, there are specific concerns about some of the claims related to limitations to the data and evidence available.

- Devon Dodson moves to approve the document as-is. Megan Latshaw seconded the motion. Motion carries as follows, and the report will be editorially cleaned up and posted to the website:
 - Cliff Mitchell - Abstain
 - Devon Dodson - Abstain
 - Laura Allen - Y
 - Jack Daniels - Y
 - Megan Latshaw - Y
 - Paul Ferraro - Y
 - Nse Witherspoon - Y
 - Dianna Abney - Abstain
 - Ben Gitterman - Y
 - Christina Drushel-Williams - Y
 - Alicia Mezu - Abstain
- Schools Workgroup: Began calling IPM school coordinators (3 called so far) to better understand the assistance they may need to better understand how to implement IPM law, green cleaning practices, and CDC guidelines. Notes there are issues with eating in areas outside of cafeterias where cleaning chemicals are used, building construction concerns, training opportunities, and disjointed responsibilities among different units and groups (i.e. operations and grounds crews may be separate business units). Will continue to have more interviews and start thinking about how to better engage with IPM coordinators and any trainings or information that CEHPAC may be able to provide. Also looking into any records of school-based pesticide exposures.
- A draft memo to the Offices of Governmental Affairs of state agencies has been drafted highlighting the role CEHPAC plays in reviewing regulations that relate to children's environmental health. Due to the impending legislative session (and AELR freeze) and change in administration, it may be most helpful to send (or re-send) this in the spring.
- No updates on Children's Environmental Health 2008 Report, but still a priority. Cliff will send out a list of the chapters noting whether there are or are not materials prepared already. Discussion followed about health equity indicators (including MDE EJ Screening Tool) and statutory definitions of underserved and overburdened communities. Cliff highlighted the new Environmental Public Health Tracking Portal. Discussion followed about how these tools can be used to better engage with communities, developers, and other stakeholders to make decisions with environmental justice in mind.
- The annual legislative report is being drafted and will be shared with members for review.

Public Input

- Bonnie Raindrop: Requests that the MDA JCR include the information on the implementation of the IPM law compiled by CEHPAC. Has concerns that MDA maintains that all schools are in compliance with IPM laws without providing additional supporting information. Thanks the Schools Workgroup for their work and asks for clarification if CEHPAC has found that not all schools are in compliance with the IPM law.
- Veronika Carella: Asks that action be taken prior to December 1 to ensure CEHPAC's findings on use of pesticides in schools are included in the MDA JCR. Reiterates the requirements of

the JCR and CEHPAC's role. Notes there is not parent representation at most CEHPAC meetings and no representation from the Maryland General Assembly. Notes that MDA has not provided information to refute the claim that some schools may not be in compliance with the IPM law.