

**ARTHRITIS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 16, 2019
5:00–6:00 P.M.**

The Arthritis Committee held a public meeting on October 16, 2019, beginning at 5:07 p.m. at the following location:

Maryland Department of Health
201 West Preston St, Room Rm 100
Baltimore, MD 21201

Committee Members Present

Rachel Pigott (co-chair)

Committee Members Absent

Meg Gwaltney

Linda Kline

Jody Marshall (co-chair)

Donna Nordstrom

Maryland Department of Health Staff Present

Erin Ashinghurst

Erin Ashinghurst called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

As the majority of the members were not present for this meeting to review and approve minutes, the group will obtain minutes approval from members via email.

2. Committee Goal Statements

Rachel presented a revised version of the draft work plan at the start of the meeting for discussion and noted that the committee needed to develop a timeline and available partnerships to develop an infographic.

Goal A Objective: By 2020, develop a 5-year action plan to initiate, sustain, and expand dissemination strategies related to Arthritis-Appropriate Evidence-Based Interventions (AAEBI) available in the state of Maryland. Strategies include:

- Increase general awareness by producing and distributing a newsletter and conducting a social media campaign. To start by the end of 2020.
- Increase physician and other health practitioner's awareness about evidence-based programs and encourage referrals by identifying Maryland-based resources and developing an infographic on what qualifies something as an AAEBI.

3. Discussion

Attendees agreed that the Arthritis Action Plan as it appears is complete. Erin will contact members via email to request a final review of the document.

The group would like to collaborate with the Fitness Committee to launch social media messages promoting arthritis awareness materials. In order to take steps towards developing a social media campaign, the group would like to know if the Maryland Department of Health Communications department has set forth guidance on how to develop social media content that meets department guidelines for tone, content, and styling.

4. Adjournment

Erin moved to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Pigott seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Next Steps

- The committee is seeking a Rheumatologist to replace Dr. Manno. If members of the committee know of an interested and qualified person, they should contact Erin via email prior to November 1, 2019.
- Erin will reach out to members to request a final review of the arthritis action plan.

Next Meeting: January 15, 2020