

Maryland Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council Ad Hoc Meeting
Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2023
4:30 - 5:30 PM

The Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council Meeting held a public meeting on 11/1/2023, called to order at 4:34 PM by Dana Moncrief.

Members Present

Dr. Madhumi Mitra, Ph.D.
Mathew Swinburne, Esq
Dr. Deondra D. Asike, M.D.
Dr. David A. Gorelick, M.D., Ph.D.
Dr. Leah Sera, PharmD
Senator Benjamin Kramer
Dawn Berkowitz
Martin Proulx
Sara Barra
Karrissa Miller, MSW
Jocelyn Bratton-Payne

MDH Staff Present

Dana Moncrief
Alexandra Nowalk
Milan Reed
Pamela R. Williams
Susannah Beckerman
Snehal Gawale

Members of the Public Present

Rusty Carr

Members Not Present

Dorothy Lennig
Dr. Leigh Vinocur, M.D.
Nora Ubrieta Eidelman
Delegate Terri Hill, M.D.
Dr. Elizabeth Kromm, PhD

I. Meeting Opening

4:34 PM

Dana Moncrief, the Director of CTPC, called the meeting to order at 4:34 PM. Dana Moncrief took roll call; a quorum was present.

II. Welcome and Business

4:39 PM

Review of Report Process: Ms. Moncrief reviewed actions to be taken following the meeting on 11/1/2023 in order to submit the report to the Governor and General Assembly by 12/1/23. Ms. Moncrief also reviewed the Report Background and Report Overview.

III. Council Members Comments on Draft Report

4:45 PM

The Council Members provided comments and proposed edits on the Draft Report.

Dorothy Lennig

- Not present

Dr. Madhumi Mitra

- *Question:* Of the Cannabis public health fund initial year amount, of the \$5 million are we proposing a certain amount to be allocated to education or any other allocations?
 - The \$5 million is for infrastructure. The Council can inform the topics of media campaigns to be created by the contractor, focus areas for local health department activities, other information and guidance.
- Add leads for the workgroups.

Mathew Swinburne

- Section 8: Recommendation 8.2 was not included despite having 67% support, which was higher than other recommendations that were included. Would like to include recommendation 8.2 in the report as it builds off of the first recommendation.
 - **Approved**
 - (Martin Proulx: requests to assess definition of 'affordable' in the future)

Dr. Deondra P. Asike

- Page 6: Correct to Deondra P. Asike
 - **Approved**

Dr. Leigh Vinocur

- Not present

Dr. Leah Sera

- Also support adding recommendation 8.2 to the report.

Dr. David A. Gorelick

- Section 8: Change 'accidental' to 'unintended'
 - **Approved**
- Page 8, 1st paragraph: note Hispanic/Latino is an ethnicity (cultural group).
 - **Approved**
- Page 10, 1st sentence and recommendation 1: Add "ease of access" and "cannabis use by peers" to the list of data points that should be collected.

- **Approved**
- Page 9, line 4: "Between" should be "among" because there are more than 2 Council members.
 - **Approved**

Jocelyn Bratton-Payne

- Also support including recommendation 8.2 in the report.

Karrissa Miller

- Page 8 in the Framework section: 'Disproportionately affecting low-income neighborhoods' should be changed to 'Disproportionately harming'.
 - **Approved**
- Section 8: Also support changing accidental to 'unintended' and 'accidental poisoning' to '**unintended ingestion**' or 'unintended intoxication.'
 - **Approved - "ingestion"**

Nora Eidelman

- Not present

Senator Benjamin Kramer

- Discussion on a recent article and ensuring packaging does not mimic any kind of food product or other trademarked product, not solely child-targeted.

Delegate Terri Hill

- Not present

Elizabeth Kromm

- Not present

Dawn Berkowitz

- Page 10: Propose language for second full paragraph to read: "Specific to health care related topics, data show that while few adults are hospitalized each year due to cannabis, rates of problem use and dependence are unclear. Measurement of cannabis "dosage" is novel and has begun to be assessed in Maryland's medical cannabis patients, but not at the population level."
 - **Approved**
- Add recommendation 1.1 to the report

- **Approved**

Martin Proulx

- No comments

Sara Barra

- Recommendation 1.1: Some of the other recommendations fall under this.
- Recommendation 1.4: Says 'adult use cannabis' - statewide plan should address youth and adults, may want to strike adult use so it applies to all populations.
 - Change to 'Adult use legalization' - captures both adult and youth recreational use
 - **Approved**

IV. Council Members Votes on Draft Report

The Council reviewed and discussed all edits proposed. The Council voted to approve with edits, not approve, or abstain. The Council members present voted unanimously to approve the report with edits.

- Dr. Madhumi Mitra: approved Draft Report with edits
- Mathew Swinburne: approved Draft Report with edits
- Dr. Deondra D. Asike: approved Draft Report with edits
- Dr. Leah Sera: approved Draft Report with edits
- Dr. David A. Gorelick: approved Draft Report with edits
- Jocelyn Bratton-Payne: approved Draft Report with edits
- Karrissa Miller: approved Draft Report with edits
- Senator Benjamin Kramer: approved Draft Report with edits
- Dawn Berkowitz: approved Draft Report with edits
- Martin Proulx: approved Draft Report with edits
- Sara Barra: approved Draft Report with edits