

Youth Camp Safety Advisory Council

Virtual Zoom Meeting
Thursday, April 1, 2021

YCSAC Member Attendance

Name	Representation	Attendance
Allison Abbondante	Camp Owner/Manager-For Profit	Present
Dolores A. Hooban	Public	Present
Gabriel Houghton	Local Health Department	Present
Janet Rose	Camp Leader	Present
Dr. Jed Miller	MDH	Present
Meena Suri	Camp Owner/ACA Accred.	Present
Melita R. Bell	Camp Owner/Manager - Nonprofit	Absent
Kelly Campbell	National Camping Organization	Present
Maggie S. Harris	Camp Owner/Manager	Present
Neil S. Berlin	National Camping Organization	Present
Virgil Boysaw, Jr.	Local Health Department	Present

MDH Staff Present

Linda Rudie
Tylvia Koromah

Introductions

All Council members were present, except for Melita. Neil called meeting to order 10:05 am.

Approval of February 4, 2021 Minutes

Minutes from the YCSAC meeting on February 4, 2021 were reviewed.

Motion to approve the minutes as written from Allison.

Motion seconded Virgil.

Motion passed unanimously.

Neil requested that the Council approve the April minutes so that it can be posted for information to camps.

Update on Open Council Positions/Financial Disclosure Statement Reminder

Linda reported that the applications for Meena, Janet and Neil are in the Governor's appointment office. The replacement for the local health position is Andrea Haley. She will start her term on the Council on July 1.

Council members received an email to remind them to file their financial disclosures. Contact the State Ethics Commission if you have any questions.

Update on advocacy efforts – Executive Order and Vaccine Prioritization

Neil reported that they had a great meeting with Maryland Department of Health (MDH). At the time of the meeting there was no prioritization for summer camp staff in the vaccine plan. Since that meeting the Governor's office has provided phases for vaccines eligibility. Folks have been getting vaccines through childcare. Kelly commented that the meeting was productive but not as productive as we'd hoped.

MDH Update on Pandemic – rescinding of 2020 Order and Q&A

Neil reported that the Governor's 2020 order was rescinded. The new order is posted on the Youth Camp COVID-19 Information webpage.

Linda responded to the new order replacement. The guidance mentions that there are no restrictions for campers from outside Maryland. The CDC guidance talks about the level of risk depending on where campers come from. Camps are to follow the CDC guidance. Each camp will have to decide on where to take campers from. If you are going to take campers from a broader area, look at the number of campers in a group. Social distance is still required. Sleeping regulations and capacity are still required. Camps must check with their local government for additional regulations. Check the Maryland guidance about using a face covering. The use of a face covering is written in the current Governor's order.

The 2020 FAQ are not available. No date is available for the 2021 FAQ. Camps should check websites for any additions. Neil commented that he anticipated updated guidelines from Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Camps should check CDC and the American Camp Association (ACA) guidance.

- What is the social distance 3' or 6'/? The governors' order is 6 feet of social distance. This will depend on the CDC updates on the camp guidance.
- Is there a capacity requirement for Prince George's County? All counties should abide by the local restrictions regarding capacity.
- What are the current health screen requirements? The CDC guidance mentions that staff and parents should know the symptoms of COVID. Camps should talk to their health supervisor. It is suggested that if you can do temperature readings and the symptoms checklist, that it is still a safe practice to continue. Unless there is some drastic change to this, MDH will not issue an update.
- Can campers be transported using school bus guidelines? CDC guidelines suggest to avoid field trips, if possible. If trips are taken, add extra layers of protection. The current order directs to CDC guidelines.
- Any information on what counties will follow, specifically Montgomery? There is no communication to any specific county.

- Any information from Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) school opening as related to camps? No information to add.
- Are residential camps required to have kids in mask while sleeping? The Governor's order do not address sleeping in a mask. Linda had a discussion with Dr. Mitchell and campers/staff should not sleep in a mask.
- Are isolation rooms needed for COVID positive campers? Current regulations require an isolation plan. All camp should have this in their Health plan.
- Is there a change in the health form? There is no change in the regulation. Last year the last question was revised on the form. A link was provided to the camper health history form.
- Are there limits to ratios in the swimming pool? The new order for swimming pools is posted. The 2020 was rescinded.
- Any change in boating regulations? Not to the knowledge of MDH.

Neil suggested that camps keep a watch for CDC guidelines and ACA regulations. A link to the ACA Field Guide was provided.

Linda added that training dates have not been posted. She will schedule dates and post information on webpage. Presentations for self-study and live chat time will be provided. Check website for any of these updates. All who have login access to the MDH camp portal will get an email.

Review and approve letter to advocate for PPE/Testing for Camps

Neil on the behalf of the council wrote a letter to the Governor's office requesting that camps receive the PPE. Neil requested that the Council approve submission of the letter.

Motion given by Maggie and motion seconded by Dr. Miller. Passed unanimously.

Update on Mental Health inclusion in Health Plan and Incident Reports

Allison prepared some questions and topics for camps to consider for this summer. An internal review is not required. Council members are to review and agree to the topic documents. Document will be posted on website for all camps.

Neil requested Allison to give a brief summary of the mental health addition request. Allison reported that camps had reported mental health incidence increases. The subcommittee had decided to add mental health to the regulations. However, last year with the COVID, this request was placed on hold. Camps were suggested to use best practices. It was suggested to add a box

on the incident report that can be checked if the incident is related to mental health. Allison stressed that no one on the subcommittee have background in mental health.

Neil asked for the Council's motion to approve the topics documents. The document will be available on the website. *Motion to approve by Maggie and second by Gabe.*

Allison inquired about the paper forms that are on online. Linda commented that incident online form has not been changed. It is populated via database. The database will need an update. The change was made on the paper version. She suggested that perhaps camps can send a pre-summer plan.

Allison requested subcommittee to get pre-summer plan and the plan will be given to Linda. Hope to have data in the fall and we will keep working on the mental health addition to the forms. Neil commented that every step forward is needed.

New Business

Kelly opened the floor for new business. No new business was added. This is the last Council meeting prior to this summer. Meeting for next year:

October 7, 2021

December 2, 2021, December 9, 2021(snow date)

February 3, 2022, February 10, 2022 (snow date)

April 7, 2022

Neil thanked Gabe for service to the Council.

Adjournment

Kelly requested for motion to adjourn meeting at 11:-20 a.m. *Motion given by Allison and motion seconded by Virgil. Passed unanimously.*

Respectfully Submitted By,

Tylvia E. Koromah, Secretary of CHHCS
Youth Camp Safety Advisory Council

Approved on 4/30/21 By: Council

And

Neil S. Berlin, Co-Chair
Youth Camp Safety Advisory Council

Kelly Campbell, Co-Chair
Youth Camp Safety Advisory Council