

MARYLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HEALTH AND WELLNESS
MINUTES [draft]
January 15, 2020
4:00 p.m.

The Maryland State Advisory Council on Health and Wellness held a public meeting on 1/15/2020, beginning at 4:00 p.m. at the following location:

Maryland Department of Health
201 West Preston Street, Room L-3
Baltimore, MD 21201

Members Present

Mary Backley
Sumit Bassi
Angela Deal
Jennifer Eastman
Mychelle Farmer
Lois Freeman
Gary Gerstenblith
Donna Gugel
Margaret Gwaltney
Roger Harrell
Jessica Kiel (Chair)
Namisa Kramer
Julie Maneen
Seth Martin
Aruna Nathan
Rachel Pigott
Cameron Pollock
Vivienne Rose
Jason Semanoff
Teresa Titus-Howard
Kristin Watson
Vanina Wolf
Pamela Xenakis

Members Not Present

Linda Kline
David McShea
Donna Nordstrom
Josie Ogaitis
Anne Williams

Maryland Department of Health (MDH)

Staff Present

Erin Ashinghurst
Kathleen Graham
Mia Matthews
Maya Nirmalraj
Sadie Peters
Kristi Pier
Nacole Smith
Pamela Williams

Guests Present

Tina Backe
Cheryl DePinto
Kim Hiner
Stacy Lambert
Dana Moncrief

1. Open Maryland Advisory Council on Health and Wellness

Ms. Kiel called the Maryland Advisory Council on Health and Wellness meeting to order at 4:05 PM and held roll call. New members introduced themselves to the council.

2. Approve Council Minutes

Vivienne Rose moved to accept the October 16, 2019 meeting minutes and Angela Deal seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Council Updates

Ms. Kiel reviewed the council's attendance requirements and emphasized the importance of attending meetings in person. Ms. Kiel opened the meeting to the public. Kristi Pier reviewed the Legislative Ad Hoc Committee's role during the current legislative session. The Ad Hoc Committee will recommend bills and determine whether the council should vote their position on each letter of support. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, there will be a standing weekly call to allow all council members and the public to discuss the recommendation and to vote on each letter. The calls will be held on Tuesdays at 10 am.

Ms. Pier spoke about SB 3 Electronic Smoking Devices, Other Tobacco Products, and Cigarettes. The letter of support was distributed to all council members prior to the meeting. Ms. Kiel moved to vote for support of SB 3, the letter was approved with a quorum.

Ms. Pier spoke about HB 3 – Business Regulation – Flavored Tobacco Products – Prohibitions. The letter of support was distributed to all council members prior to the meeting. Ms. Kiel moved to vote for support of HB 3, the letter was approved with a quorum. Dana Moncrief from the Center for Tobacco Prevention and Control spoke about the tobacco tax increase within Maryland.

4. Committee Workplans

Ms. Kiel is the Chair of the Diabetes Committee and spoke about the release of the Diabetes Action Plan. The plan provides resources and evidence-based interventions to reduce diabetes within Maryland. The plan is available online on the MDH website.

Dr. Aruna Nathan is the Chair of the Fitness Committee and spoke about the goals of the action plan. The main objective for the Committee is to reach 5% of the Maryland population with an awareness campaign to achieve 150 minutes of physical activity by December 2021.

Angela Deal is the Interim Chair of the Heart Disease and Stroke Committee and spoke about their goals for the action plan. One of the overarching goals is to assist state efforts with a hypertension specialization for Community Health Workers. Another goal is to

increase referrals to primary care physicians for patients with uncontrolled or undiagnosed high blood pressure.

Rachel Pigott is the Chair of the Arthritis Committee and spoke about their action plan. The Committee plans to disseminate evidence-based interventions and strategies to treat and reduce arthritis within Maryland.

The Council spoke about having the Department of Communications come to the April 15, 2020 meeting to explain the process for disseminating messages through MDH.

Joanne Ogaitis stated there may be some synergy between the Council and hospital systems within Maryland to collaborate and support existing programs. The Council agreed that achieving health equity and health disparities should be the main focus when supporting programs.

5. Open Comment from Public

There were no comments from the public.

6. Close

Ms. Kiel adjourned the meeting and reminded members of the room to attend their Committee's breakout session. The meeting adjourned at 5:02 PM.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 15, 2020 from 4:00–6:00 PM