



Multnomah County Public Health Advisory Board Minutes October 2022

Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022

Time: 3:30-5:30pm

Purpose: To advise the Public Health Division on several areas of work with a strong focus on ethics in public health practice and developing long-term public health approaches to address the leading causes of death and disability in Multnomah County.

Desired Outcomes:

1. Strengthen our bonds of community and trust
2. Learn about the work occurring within the Public Health Division
3. Discuss strategies for orienting the next administration to the work of MCPHAB
4. Hear updates on tobacco flavor ban work and talk about next steps
5. Determine new meeting dates and times for November/December meetings

Members Present: Cheryl Carter, Tsering Sherpa, Laurel Hansen, Keara Rodela, Jennifer Phillips, Arya Morman, Ronica Reimers, Karen Wells, Erika Zuel, Ryan Petteway

Multnomah County Staff: Nathan Wickstrom, Adelle Adams, Jessica Guernsey, Chantell Reed

Item/Action	Process	Lead
Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendees introduced themselves and shared their favorite Halloween candy • Retreat minutes were approved 	Tsering Sherpa
Introduction to Deputy Director, Chantell Reed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jessica introduced MCPHAB to Chantell Reed, the new Deputy Director of the Public Health Division • Chantell shared her rich background with the board 	Jessica Guernsey, Chantell Reed
Public Health Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy recommendation for a flavor tobacco ban was given to the Board of Commissioners on October 20th • Now we're in a space where we're awaiting the dates for final testimony and a vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ This will happen before the end of the calendar year, when the Chair's term ends • Lobbying groups, ACHIEVE coalition, Mz Cheryl from MCPHAB shared at the board meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Mz Cheryl's poem is attached • Multiple elections happening at all levels right now that could have public health significance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ One of the learnings of COVID is that we're at a delicate point of public understanding of what public health is ◦ We'll be riding some difficult situations depending on how the elections unfold; the Chair's race will have a major impact • Entering budget cycle/planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Chantell has a wealth of experience with budget, and our budget is complex • We've been receiving funding to build back Public Health infrastructure that has been cut for years, but that funding could be at risk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ We're at a place where we need to either build back with more staffing, or go in a completely different direction if funding is cut • We're entering respiratory season - seeing a triple whammy of COVID, flu, and RSV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Doing a lot of work on messaging to mitigate the impact as much as we can ◦ Seeing East Coast hospitals filling up rapidly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Worried that we're going to have the same issue here 	Jessica Guernsey
Orienting Next Administration to MCPHAB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open it up to the board to discuss onboarding the oncoming Chair, no matter who that is <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Orient to the work of MCPHAB ◦ Board of County Commissioners is very aware of MCPHAB and the power of MCPHAB ◦ There is the possibility for community voice to be weaponized <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It's very difficult for people to take on complex issues who are running for office • What does it look like to onboard the oncoming Chair? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Who, where, why, when and what • Jenny - as a new member this is hard, since I don't have a clear idea of what the role has been before. It would be helpful to hear from some of the older members 	Jessica Guernsey

- Given that you are all community members, you will have direct contact with the Chair's Office and the Board staff
 - What do you want to tell those officials and bring it to their attention?
- Keara - is there any expectation of difference between Chairs?
 - Jessica - We run the risk of being seen as generalists as Public Health professionals
 - ACHIEVE coalition has prioritized flavored tobacco for 15 years, and we were late to move that forward
 - In some ways it doesn't matter; have seen folks on all ends of the political spectrum weaponize community voice
- Jenny - a lot of times I am just planting a seed, don't necessarily need an answer, just want elected officials to think about issues
- Mz Cheryl - started with working with the houseless community and then moved to the issue of flavored tobacco
 - Curious to see who will take the leap; will miss Chair Kafoury
 - Keep what we prioritize up front so that we can keep having better lives and things don't get thrown out
 - Wish is whomever they bring aboard keeps a broad spectrum of the work being done, especially with MCPHAB
- Laurel - I feel that we collectively bring voice to the groups/peoples/beliefs we are either part of or work with. The importance is the diverse pulse of MCPHAB.
- Arya - just to counteract something that tends to happen with the board
 - What happens after this?
 - Orient the newly elected Chair to MCPHAB, let them know what the board is, and through active listening, learn where the Chair is coming from
 - Start from what the baseline data is - where is the Chair trying to reach?
 - Then we're making data-informed decisions and understanding where the Chair is coming from
 - Have a baseline understanding so that when we are addressing issues we're coming as a unified force
 - Then let's deliberate a response on what our expectations are to show the capability of the Chair - let's talk around the data on that and next steps
 - Have an equity discussion with the Chair and create a good baseline
 - First 90 days get an understanding of where they're coming from
- Keara - make them understand what we've done as a board and we're coming from, making clear who is a member
 - Frontload with the members
- There is an illustrious list of accomplishments (e.g. NACCHO)
- Need a new 1-pager to introduce the new administration to the board
- Ronica - let's not forget storytelling
 - We all represent our communities and have amazing backgrounds
 - Storytelling is really important
- Erika - highlight the strengths of board members
 - Highlight the power differential - we still have the power of our communities, voices, and experiences and that needs to be highlighted as well
- Tsering - bring it to the ground level
 - I live and work in a marginalized community
 - Showcase the amazing preventative work being done by division leadership and that these are decisions being made at the top
 - Having some sort of way so that communities have direct input in the outcomes is really important
 - Why do we have public health crises in the poor neighborhoods - how do we address some of the root causes, thinking with a holistic lens
- Jenny - would like elected officials to put effort into collaborative systems and sectors. If more effort was put into collaborative systems, it would be so much easier for folks who need services to navigate
 - Like the idea of a meet & greet to get to know one another
- Arya - speed dating concept
 - Group conversation
 - Opportunity for talking about a large amount of areas rapidly
 - <https://www.sessionlab.com/methods/speed-dating>
 - I could set up a Miro board

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Tool for operations/mixers: https://miro.com/miroverse/icebreakers-and-games/ • Board members expressed agreement that speed dating sounds like a good method and great suggestion <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condense the notes and share them back with the board • Jessica will likely ask board members to join for some work sessions in order to prepare for the orientation with the new Chair 	
November / December Meeting Reschedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nov/Dec meetings fall on or near holidays, so we're going to reschedule them • Poll link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScqSknybFEDH3NzmKhafjGCVbqO0Oh4zgB5Qt-kt0xnolQs5w/viewform?usp=sf_link 	All
Wrap-up and Meeting Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board members did the meeting evaluation • Meeting adjourned at 5:23pm 	Tsering Sherpa