



Washtenaw County Board of Health

Minutes

March 24, 2023, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Learning Resource Center LRC

4135 Washtenaw Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Superior Room

Present: Gina Dahlem, Justin Hodge, Carla Pretto, Katie Scott, Kathleen Stroud, Morghan Williams Boydston, Dan Yordanich

Absent: James Carty, Guadalupe Cervantes, Chris Frank, Elisabeth Vanderpool

Staff: Jimena Loveluck, Deanna Price, Peter Slutzker, Russell O'Brien

Guests: Charles Peterson, Kaitlin Bagozzi

1. Call to Order

Gina Dahlem called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM.

2. Public Comment

None

3. Board Member Response to Public Comment

None

4. Approval of Agenda (Action)

Motion by C. Pretto, seconded by K. Scott, to approve the agenda.

Motion approved unanimously.

5. Approval of February 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes (Action)

Motion by C. Pretto, seconded by K. Scott, to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2023 meeting.

Motion approved unanimously.

6. Executive Committee Minutes from February 15, 2023

Board members received the Executive Committee minutes.

Gina Dahlem shared that they discussed the State of Michigan proposed 2024 budget along with other Health Officer updates about Covid19, opioid settlement funds, and the appointment of another deputy medical examiner.

7. Community Voices Report

Charles Peterson gave an update on Community Voices (CV). He shared that they are discussing ways to increase access to county resources, specifically about day camps offered by Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation. CV members continue to stay involved in the Anti Racist Cities and Counties (ARCC) project. Several CV members have been involved with the Washtenaw County Health Department (WCHD) Community Health Assessment by participating in interviews, windshield tours, focus groups, and sharing feedback about community health issues.

8. Gun Violence Data Presentation – Dr. Juan Marquez, Medical Director and Deanna Price, Health Educator

Deanna Price presented on firearm injuries and deaths in Washtenaw County (WC). She compared the Washtenaw County events to the entire state of Michigan. Focusing specifically on WC, medical examiner data was used to show



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total firearm deaths by year and manner from 2011-2022. Looking at 5-year chunks, there was a 200% increase in firearm homicides from years 2012-2016 and 2017-2021 and a 44% increase in firearm suicides from 2012-2016 to 2017-2021. Deanna discussed firearm deaths by age, sex, manner, gun type, and zip code.

9. Gun Violence Resolution (Action)

There was discussion on the wording of the resolution. Jimena Loveluck explained that the policy recommendations of the Community Violence Intervention Team were adopted by the Board of Commissioners (BOC) and one of those recommendations was the creation of the Washtenaw County Violence Commission. Kathleen Stroud said she doesn't want to include it until it is created by the BOC. Katie Scott said that the BOC already accepted the recommendations from the Community Violence Intervention Team and the work will be done to create the Washtenaw County Violence Commission.

Motion by K. Stroud to approve the resolution with the removal of "and the Washtenaw County Violence Commission when created" from the second to last Be It Further Resolved That on the 2nd page.

Motion not seconded; motion failed.

Motion by C. Pretto, seconded by D. Yordanich, to approve the resolution as presented.

Motion approved. 1 no vote by Kathleen Stroud.

10. Tobacco Policy Update – Amanda Ng, Health Promotion Coordinator

Amanda Ng gave an update on menthol and flavored tobacco products. She started with a background of the local work being done including 2 previous presentations to the Board of Health (BOH) in October 2021 and April 2022. The rate of Washtenaw County adults who smoke continues to trend down at 9.6% and is lower than national and state averages. Amanda shared some local statistics on rates of smoking by age, race, and location. National updates were shared including an FDA menthol ban announcement from 2021 that is still under review, but they said a rule would be announced this year. Local polling results for Washtenaw County, Wayne County, Detroit, and Kent County were discussed. Some key findings include a ban on flavored tobacco products is very popular, even among users and long term education leads to more support. Next steps encompass advocating for change in local policy barriers, continuing community and stakeholder education, and State level work led by the Keep MI Kids Tobacco Free Alliance. Amanda suggested the BOH could show their support through a resolution.

11. BOC Liaison Report

Justin Hodge shared that the BOC has been sharing fact based information about recent articles in the news about homeless families being sheltered in local hotels. They will not be put out on the street at the end of the month. They will be voting on items at the April 5th meeting to continue to be able to support families that are experiencing homelessness.

12. Old Business

- **Community Health Assessment**

Jimena Loveluck said that staff will be at the next BOH meeting to do a presentation. The community survey is ongoing, and the community partner survey was just launched. In addition to the surveys, the HD is planning focus groups, stakeholder interviews, windshield wiper tours, and other activities to help support the Community Health Assessment process.

13. New Business



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- **MALPH Day at the Capitol**

Jimena Loveluck shared that the Michigan Association for Local Public Health (MALPH) has its annual Day at the Capitol on April 11th. HD staff will be participating and meeting with local legislators.

- **Age Friendly Public Health Systems Final Report**

Jimena Loveluck mentioned that she shared a report on Age Friendly Public Health Systems and she participated in the advisory group for this project. It is an opportunity to look at how Public Health can incorporate age friendly services and approaches into the work done as local public health departments. The report provides an overview of the assessment that was done.

14. Adjournment

Motion by K. Stroud, seconded by K. Scott, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:59 AM.

Minutes taken by Russell O'Brien

