

LOUISVILLE METRO BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES OF MEETING
October 7, 2020

Voting Members Present: Dr. Dwayne Compton, Dr. Karen Cost, Dr. Kate Probst, Dr. Tony Zipple, Dr. Paula Grisanti, Margaret Handmaker, Heidi Margulis, Dr. Fernanda Nota,

Advisory Board Members Present: Dr. Sarah Moyer, Dr. Valerie Briones-Pryor, Bill Wagner, Natalie Johnson

Others Present: Amanda Clark, Paul Kern, Connie Mendel, Kathy Turner, T Gonzales, Dr. Lori Caloia, Dr. SarahBeth Hartlage

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:00am. This was a virtual meeting as per an Executive Order for social distancing due to Covid-19. All voting members were visible and audible on WebEx with the exception of Dr. Dwayne Compton who was on audio only and as such was not able to vote. A quorum was reached without Dr. Compton.

As per open meetings requirements, the meeting information was posted 24 hours in advance, the public was able to call in or view live on LMPHW's Facebook page.

Approval of Previous Month's Meeting Minutes

MOTION: *Approve the minutes of the September meeting as distributed*

MOTION APPROVED

Chair's Update: Heidi Margulis

The Christina Lee Brown Envirome Institute at the University of Louisville has been testing wastewater weekly, enabling the targeting of testing to areas of the community where viral load levels are high up to seven days in advance of individuals displaying symptoms.

The Chair will include an advisory representative of Jefferson County Public School going forward. This representative will be Angela Hayes. JCPS officials, including Superintendent Polio, Eva Stone and Angela Hayes, have worked hard to address needs in underserved areas (for example by providing tech support and social services).

Working with JCPS, Humana has donated two floors of its building at Brook and Main for a family support center including NTI. Physicians for a Healthy Community will staff it once per week with a physician and there will be a full-time nurse. CVS pharmacy will also participate.

YMCA is providing student enrichment programs at 14 elementary schools. Chair Margulis will meet with YMCA to discuss flu shots.

The Chair recognized the efforts of Kathy Turner in keeping LMPHW's flu website updated and Norton Health for offering free flu shots in hot spot areas. JCPS will be doing drive thru flu shots and bringing pharmacies into the school health centers. The Kentucky Pharmacy Association is encouraging its members to report to the Kentucky Immunization Registry. The Chair has worked with Greater Louisville Medical Society and Falls City Medical Society to write an Op Ed on flu. The Op Ed will be distributed to Board members prior to publication.

Racial Justice work at University of Louisville (UofL): Dr. Dwayne Compton

UofL's goal is to be a premier antiracist institution. There is a large team working on this. There is an equity review going on now and the reviewers are looking at policy, representation, climate, programming and community engagement with the local and state community. They are addressing white supremacy and systemic racism. LMPHW is in alignment with this work. UofL's antiracism planning phase is complete and the next phase is implementation, which will be rolled out as soon as possible. It will also be embedded at UofL Health.

One insight from the process is that it is time to move past conversation. It is time for action, not just words, and time to invest. This will require a financial commitment and an investment of human resources.

MOTION: To declare racism a public health issue if within the Board's legal authority to do so.
MOTION APPROVED

Natalie Johnson will look into the legality of the Board of Health declaring racism a public health issue.

LMPHW Director's Report Highlights: Dr. Moyer

The Board has received the Director's Report.

LMPHW is busy filling open positions. The department has hired 15 people in the last month and 14 are currently in process. Human Resources has been doing tremendous work. Despite this, there are still 68 open positions. There have been some key departures including Aja Barber in Center for Health Equity and Dr. Lori Caloia, the Medical Director. We now have an Associate Medical Director, who Dr. Moyer will introduce next month. Other key open positions include technology, data informatics, epidemiologist and many nursing positions.

CARES funding runs out at the end of December, and staff is working on spending remaining Covid-19 funds. Staff are working to increase distribution of Narcan, decreasing the number of people in corrections, and funding projects which support equity goals, such as supporting Nontraditional Instruction Hubs and daycares.

Metro Council committees will be voting on two tobacco ordinances which would add licensing of vape shops to our smoke-free ordinance along with zoning requirements for these shops.

The American Public Health Association (APHA) was at LMPHW filming the Center for Health Equity Director T Gonzales and the department's Lead Team for their Thought Leader Film Series. The video will be shared at the APHA annual meeting later this month.

The WIC program is serving record numbers of clients due to telehealth.

Covid cases are increasing as expected due to cold weather causing people to move their activities indoors. Covid fatigue is a concern. People are engaging in more risky behaviors. Hospitalizations are steady, and Louisville is increasing the number of testing sites available. Sites have plenty of capacity and most are returning results in 12-24 hours. Board members can share the testing site locations on our website. Without a test, one can't tell a cold from the flu from allergies. Everyone with symptoms should get tested.

The state's goal is to enhance the Contact Tracing (CTT) technology system before the end of the year. It currently does not have the capability to allow backward tracing up to two weeks. We need that to determine where people were exposed to the virus.

The state recommends one contact tracer for every 4 cases. We currently have 198 tracers and we should have 800. The number one source of transmission right now is household contacts.

Update from the Hospital: Dr. Valerie Briones-Pryor

Dr. Briones-Pryor works in the Jewish Hospital Covid unit. The theme she is seeing is household transmission. She sees one family member admitted, and shortly after, other family members come in. People need to wear a mask and social distance. Wearing a face shield without a mask doesn't count. She is worried about flu season and the holidays when people start to have family gatherings.

SPIRIT Health (Whole Person Health) Committee: Dr. Zipple

Dr. Zipple discussed with LMPHW's Ben Goldman a series of Courier Journal Op Ed pieces on the intersection of criminal justice, behavioral health and racial equity. They envision five or six topics which would be shared on a range of platforms.

The committee is looking for opportunities to support LMG in thinking about criminal justice reform and behavioral health.

Immunizations Committee: Dr. Probst & Dr. Nota

There is a committee meeting today. They have recruited quite a few advisory members including Dr. Briones-Pryor, JCPS's Angela Hayes and LMPHW's Paul Kern. They will create a Google Doc for people to add ideas if they can't make the meeting. Dr. Nota and Dr. Probst will create a survey on the barriers to using the Kentucky Immunization Registry (KYIR) and distribute it through their networks to small pharmacies and providers.

Healthcare Access Committee: Bill Wagner

The committee will meet on October 12 at 4:00. They are looking at Medicaid enrollment levels and the benefit exchanges. There has been a significant uptick in enrollment since December 2019. There has been an 18.7% increase in Jefferson County which is 38,000 persons. There is a total of 432,000; most are in Medicaid Managed Care Organizations. Nearly 16,000 are enrolled in fee for service Medicaid, which is a 97% increase. This is the "presumptive eligibility", one-page application.

The committee will discuss the re-rollout of KYNECT. This will include health insurance benefits, SNAP and childcare assistance. The KIPDA KYnectors (application assister) are training on the new portal.

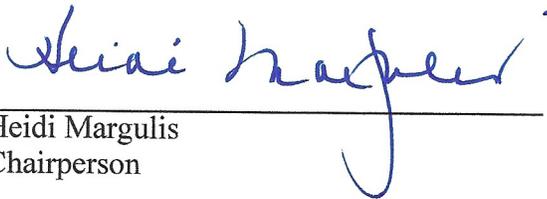
Discussion on Board priorities

The Chair would like to email a report which can inform the Board's strategic policies and stimulate discussion around potential new goals that have arisen since Covid-19. The Chair will discuss with LMPHW leaders the resources required, timeline and expertise needed to add new priorities and inform the Board.

Next meeting will be November 4 at 8:00am.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:21am.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Heidi Margulis", written over a horizontal line.

Heidi Margulis
Chairperson