

LOUISVILLE METRO BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES OF MEETING
September 2, 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, Dr. Erin Frazier

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

Others Present: Amanda Clark, Paul Kern, Connie Mendel, Kathy Turner, Kelly Monahan, Lori Caloia, Stacie Ingram, Eva Stone, Ozzy Gibson

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. A quorum was reached.

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 August meeting as distributed*

MOTION APPROVED

Chair's Update: Heidi Margulis

Chair Margulis would like to increase the Board's community engagement and outreach. The Board is currently engaged with community partners such as University of Louisville and Greater Louisville Medical Society, however the Board could develop additional partnerships with the business, education, faith communities.

Chair Margulis would also like to conduct outreach around flu. She is working with Dr. Nota and Dr. Probst on improving immunization access and would like to post online a list of locations where flu shots are available. She is interested in working with faith-based organizations to host a flu clinic in the West End. Board members who have relevant contacts should send them to Kathy Turner. The Chair has conducted outreach to Kentucky Medical Association and Kentucky Nurses Association. Galen College of Nursing offered staff to perform vaccinations, however an organization to provide the vaccines and a venue are still needed.

Chair Margulis met with State Health Commissioner Dr. Stack's team about the Kentucky Immunization Registry. If doctors need to reach the school health office to obtain vaccination records, they can call 485-3387.

The Chair is also working with Dr. J'Amie Jennings' UofL Masters students to develop a strategic marketing plan for resurrecting an affinity group called Friends of Public Health.

Chair Margulis has worked with each of the Board's committee chairs to explore ways in which to transform the committees, revise charters in order to engage community leaders in initiatives that meet today's/tomorrow's public health needs.

The Chair recognized LMPHW staff as "health heroes" and acknowledges their "hard work and indefatigable commitment".

LMPHW Director's Report Highlights: Dr. Moyer

The Board has received the Director's Report.

The LMPHW team is working around the clock to meet the challenges of both Covid and the expansion in addition to normal activities.

LMPHW hired 15 new employees last month and they are being trained. There are still 74 open positions in process to hire, which includes expansion positions plus filling positions left vacant by the yearly wave of summer retirements.

Director Moyer has restructured her Senior Director's Team. Connie Mendel has been promoted to Director of Environmental Health, Preparedness and Laboratory. Dr. Caloia remains the Medical Director and Director of Health Services. T Gonzales remains Director of Center for Health Equity (CHE) overseeing population health and data. Jon Moore has been promoted to Director of Administration and Finance. Gabriell Gassaway has been promoted to Executive Administrator and will assume some of Dr. Moyer's communications, external board representation and strategic duties. Amanda Clark has received a title promotion to Deputy Chief of Staff to better reflect her current role.

Notable activities this month include: Completion of our community-inspired Lead Program messaging which can be seen throughout the West End and Smoketown; West Nile virus was found in mosquito pools; we are beginning our reaccreditation process which will continue over the next year and require input from the Board; CHE has put out an RFI for the \$3.5M Metro Council allocated for a community grocery; the WIC program has enrolled a record number of clients through telehealth; and the Specialty Clinic has begun rapid syphilis testing. Dr. Moyer is presenting to Greater Louisville Inc. (GLI) on Covid in the workplace, and separately about racism in health. She and Aja Barber are also presenting to Kentuckiana Health Collaborative (KHC) on an anti-racist vision for the healthcare system. Capacity issues and burnout have been a struggle for the department. Dr. Moyer is working on setting boundaries on services provided, encouraging vacations, and implementing the burnout plan which her team has developed.

Covid case counts are very high; there are too many for the LMPHW team and contractor, Lacuna, to conduct contact tracing in a timely manner. LMPHW is prioritizing cases in congregate living, etc. settings. On the color-coded scale, Louisville still registers red. The positivity rate figure continues to cause confusion to the public. The positivity rate currently covers the entire pandemic period, and is not comparable to the state's figure, which reflect the current rate. LMPHW's rate is artificially high, because all negative test results are not included. This rate is best viewed as a marker for how well we

are doing at testing. Staff is working on a solution to this issue to more accurately reflect current status. The Board should encourage people to get tested, because there are more locations, good access and most results are coming back in 24-48 hours.

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

This committee will be co-chaired by Dr. Zipple and Dr. Cost and will focus on behavioral health interventions in a public health context, including social determinants of health. The committee will identify needs in the community best addressed by behavioral health. It will work to pull together the medical community, behavioral health community and social welfare community. Dr. Kelly Singletary, a local psychiatrist, has agreed to participate. Most members will be ex-officio members and experts from the community. The committee will bring to the board a list of potential projects which it finds feasible and believes will have the greatest impact. Board members should email Dr. Zipple if they wish to be involved in the steering committee meeting on September 10th.

Immunizations Committee: Dr. Probst

This committee, co-chaired by Dr. Probst and Dr. Nota, is drafting a new charter with the goals of increased access to immunization and connecting schools to pharmacies. GLMS and JCPS will be represented (Angela Hayes will represent JCPS). Any interested Board member should email Dr. Probst.

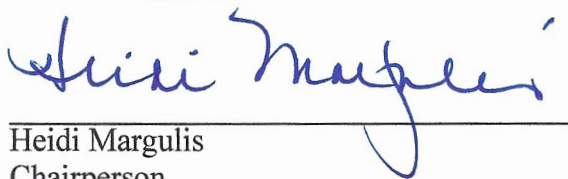
Healthcare Access Committee: Bill Wagner

This committee started with the Affordable Care Act seven years ago and is generally comprised of community members representing over 30 organizations. The members are considering whether to remain a committee of the Board of Health or spin off as a separate organization. The committee focuses on Medicaid expansion, health benefit exchange and health care coverage throughout the Commonwealth. The next meeting is October 12.

Open Forum

Next meeting will be October 7 at 8:00am.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



Heidi Margulis
Chairperson