



**Minutes of the Thursday, January 18, 2024  
PHAC Meeting  
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.  
4850 Mark Center Drive  
Alexandria Health Department**

<b>In-Person</b>	Chair- Jerome Cordts (JC) Dr. Jessica Hill (JH), Lisa Chimento (LC), Michele Walz (MW); Anita McClendon (AM) Alex Long (AL) Patricia Rodgers (PR), David Bowen (DB) Andrew Romero (AR), Melissa Riddy (MR), Sylvia Jones (SJ) Robin Wallin (RW)
<b>Virtual</b>	Dr. Michael Trahos (MT) Richard Merritt (RM), JeanAnn Mayhan (JM)
<b>Absent</b>	
<b>AHD Representatives</b>	Casey Colzani (CC), Natalie Talis (NT)
<b>Guests-Virtual</b>	Adrienne Fike

**I. Establishment of a Quorum**

- Meeting called to order at 5:31 pm by Chair Jerome Cordts (JC); role taken.

**II. Approval of the Previous Meeting’s Minutes**

- Michael Trahos (MT) motioned to approve December 2023 minutes, Anita McClendon (AM) Second. All in favor, minutes approved – no edits.

**III. Review Agenda**

- Jerome Cordts (JC) reviewed the meeting agenda with the commissioners.

**IV. Update From the Chair**

- JC sent a survey to commissioners to provide input for PHAC priorities.
- This is Robin Wallin’s last PHAC meeting. Commissioners thanked her for her work.
- Pat Matthews will join us from Northern Virginia Health Foundation to discuss the Dying too Soon Report.

**V. Health Department Update**

- Next Community Health Assessment will begin this year. Current CHIP runs through December 2052. Start internal planning in April and public in the early summer.
- Nathaniel Lewis who was leading the assessment work has moved to a position outside AHD, and AHD is actively working to fill that position ahead of the new assessment.
- AHD built their own methodology based on MAAP that has been tailored to fit the community. Combination of stakeholders, residents with lived experience and available data.
- PHAC was able to participate in the process during the open community meetings and had a seat on the steering committee- Several members of the commission actively participated.
- Councilwoman Gaskins sent a memo related to lactation spaces that are available to staff and the public. AHD experts in WIC and Baby Care programs will be working with City HR and Dept. of General Services to do some short-term improvements. Another portion of the memo was to evaluate the best practices for how the city can address disparities related to breastfeeding in Alexandria.

## **VI. Topical Issues for Discussion**

- **Inova Alexandria Hospital at Landmark**
  - Ribbon cutting on the Inova Cares Clinic for Sick Children in Falls Church- a walk-in clinic for underserved clinic.
  - Alexandria Inova Cares Clinic for Families is now also a Clinic for Children with the addition of a pediatrician. Soon to open an surgical suite for outpatient OB care, which fills a large gap in the community where patients had to travel long distances to get specialized care. Disability Clinic is open two days a week at that location. Inova will host an open house in the coming months.
  - Inova Health Center at Oakville in Potomac Yard- Free standing emergency care will open in summer 2025.
  - Inova Landmark location – groundbreaking in August. Hospital will have 192 beds. Including a 30 bed observation unit. Will include medical offices and a Cancer Center Working toward a level-2 trauma center.
  - Number of beds at the location are lower than the current hospital- Alexandria location and a Community Hospital in Springfield that will open about a year prior to Landmark.
  - Fairfax Emergency room is the third busiest hospital in the country. These new locations will help distribute care closer to patients’ homes.
- **Policy and Legislative Tracker**
  - Commissioners asked if PHAC received response or feedback from the submissions to the legislative process with the City.

1. JC Spoke with Sarah Taylor- she did receive the information on Health Equity Principal. The city supports legislation and budget items necessary to ensure residents of all ages have access to resources shown to prevent early death and disability enter promote resilience.
2. The additional three topics were sent again to Sarah Taylor to ensure that she is aware of them.
  - **Community Health Worker reimbursement**
    1. Two bills have been introduced to include reimbursement for CHW's.

## **VII. African American Wellness Hub (Guest: Adrienne Fike)**

- Adrienne Kike gave background on PLTI Alexandria People's Assembly. Raised awareness of their group that is doing community lead work on Health Equity and Systemic Racism to the commission.

## **VIII. Liaison and Community Partner Updates**

- **Community Services Board**
  - Allen Lomax presented on the Substance Abuse and Prevention Coalition
- **Neighborhood Health**
  - Still tracking Medicaid unwinding- no major impacts to NH patients yet but sill monitoring.
- **Partnership for Healthier Alexandria**
  - Monitoring CHIP progress
  - Upcoming projects looking at loneliness in the senior population- more updates to coming at later meetings.

### **I. Announcements**

- State Representatives holding Town Hall Meeting at ACHS on Saturday 1/20

### **II. Public Comment**

- No members of the public in attendance.

### **III. Adjournment**

- SJ Motioned for meeting adjournment, AM second. All in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.