



**Minutes of the Thursday, April 18, 2023
PHAC Meeting
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Hybrid, 4850 Mark Center Drive and Zoom
Alexandria Health Department**

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

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

- Dr. Michael Trahos (MT) motioned to approve March2024 minutes, Patricia Rodgers (PR), 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

- Still waiting on a member from ACPS and a permanent appointment from EMS/Fire
- MRC recognition event, JC attended and on behalf of PHAC presented framed commission proclamation. Event was well attended by City staff.
- Updated requirements for virtual meetings beginning in July, allow for up to 50% of meetings held fully virtually.
- Will consider summer meeting schedule.
- Looking at how to better solicit nominations for Flora K. Casey Award.
- Patricia Rodgers, to be awarded the Marian Van Landingham Lifetime achievement award.

V. Health Department Update

• Community Health Assessment

- NT provided an overview of Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan(CHIP). Assessment will gather the

community input as well as quantitative and qualitative data. Assessment looks at health outcomes, social factors, environmental factors, poverty, housing, mental health, etc.

- Common themes of health issues will be included in a top ten list. This top ten informs the 15 year improvement plan. The community selected three of the top issues for the previous plan.
- Based off NACCHO MAPP foundation and incorporating racial disparity data.
- Steering committee's role is to assist in facilitating the process. PHAC has historically had a representative on the steering committee. Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria also has a seat on the steering committee and co-facilitates; additionally provides grants for CHIP work. Health Department facilitates and designs the process, as well as monitoring the implementation.
- Tactics only included in the plan if there is a volunteer tactic owner. More than 70% of tactics are complete.
- New CHA will start in the beginning of May. CHIP will be released in early spring of 2026.
- Commission needs to identify representatives for the steering committee. Group agreed on having primary and alternate. JC will be main point of contact until lead and alternate have been identified.

- **Health Highlights and Challenges**

- Pertussis outbreak seems to be winding down, 15 cases identified.
- Epidemiology team awarded at NACCHO Grant in related to Health Care Acquired Infections. EPI team held their first training symposium with long-term care facilities and the hospital.
- As part of that grant Population Health will be working on Health Literacy projects with the organization HEAL, through William and Mary. Health Literacy curriculum will be utilized by Pop Health team to assist in educating the community leaders and residents. Health literacy is an important issue for the community.

VI. Topical Issues for Discussion

- **2025 City Budget Submission**

- JC spoke with Mayor Wilson, would like to keep the dialog open between council/mayor and PHAC. Spoke with Health Department regarding current budget sessions. Drafting an additional letter to council and the new deputy city manager addressing specific items (Stabilizing grant funded positions (dedicated funding for grant funded positions)- CHW, Informatics.
- PR motioned: Chair can submit letter on behalf of PHAC that reflects this discussion. RM second. All in favor.
- **Local Administration of Health Department**
 - JC as reached out to the Director of Loudoun County- Dr. Goodfriend. Loudoun county made the transition to local administration in the last year-

did not drastically affect budget- including IT and HR systems. Dr. Goodfriend offered advisory support to PHAC and City regarding possible transition.

- Discussed local admin with Mayor Wilson and Councilperson Chapman. PHAC input on approach has been requested on this issue. Will continue to monitor and discuss with the commission.

- **Legislative and Engagement Topics**

- Governor signed bill in regard to Community Health Workers. PHAC should continue to monitor reproductive rights bills.
- House Bill 947 passed, Allows a locality to regulate the retail sale locations of tobacco products- may prohibit a retail sale location on property within 1,000 linear feet of a child day center or a public, private, or parochial school. AHD will look into this more and will provide brief for PHAC.

I. Liaison and Community Partner Updates

- **CSB**- two outreach positions were given budget approval. Approved for additional 35 units for housing assistance for those with disabilities and mental health needs.

II. Announcements

- JM attended Commission on Women's webinar on black maternal health. Could have been a good opportunity for PHAC to collaboration. Will continue to discuss collaboration opportunities.

III. Public Comment

- No comments from members of the public.

IV. Adjournment

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