



**Minutes of the Thursday, February 15, 2024  
PHAC Meeting  
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.  
4850 Mark Center Drive  
Alexandria Health Department**

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

**I. Establishment of a Quorum**

- Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm by Chair Jerome Cordts (JC); role taken.

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

- Lisa Chimento (LC) motioned to approve January 2024 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**

- Reminder to commissioners to review the City FY25 Budget in its entirety and not just the Health Department section when released.
- Commission submitted budget recommendations on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Did not hear back directly regarding these recommendations.

**V. Health Department Update**

- Healthy Homes Update- NT provided update on Healthy Homes Action Plan.
- Have been making progress with active network and coalition.
- Website Find Help is being utilized to link resources.
- Community Survey received more than 900 responses. Received feedback specifically from residents about their experiences related to conditions. Additionally spoke with property managers about their concerns.

- Resident’s biggest concerns were pests, smoke (tobacco or marijuana smoke), mold, and major repairs. Older and wealthier adults also concerned with cluttered areas, and low income concerned with overcrowding.
- Focusing on zip-codes that have high concentrations of poverty, and other poor outcomes in relation to asthma, hospitalization, and other preventable hospitalizations.
- Next Steps is a series of community workshops, to find root causes and brainstorm solutions with residents and property managers (commercial and ARHA).
- ALX-Breathes is going well. Guiding people with Asthma or COPD with addressing home concerns.
- Upcoming project will be analyzing 311 residential complaint data.

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

- “Dying Too Soon” -Guest Patricia Mathews of the Northern Virginia Health Foundation
- Guest Patricia Mathews provided background of the Northern Virginia Health Foundation and the “Dying Too Soon” report.
- Foundation began looking deeper into health disparities and how that is unique to Northern Virginia. In 2017, a census track analysis of the zip-codes in Northern VA called “Getting Ahead”. This showed how census tracks across the street from each other can vary drastically in all areas (schooling level, rental vs owning, school enrolment, etc.).
- Focused conversations on process and system changes rather than budget-based projects, to help elevate underlying issues.
- Recommendations to the Commission: use data to inform decisions, promote intentional collaboration, be intentional about equity- thinking more broadly outside of direct health equity.

### **I. Public Comment**

- No comments from members of the public

### **II. Adjournment**

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