

**GOVERNOR’S LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION**  
**Maryland Department of the Environment**  
**Approved Meeting Minutes**  
**August 6, 2020**

**Documents Distributed:**

- Draft Minutes 200604.pdf
- Final Agenda 200806.pdf
- Gap Analysis Opportunities and Recommendations.pdf
- Long Term Goals Lead Commission 7\_2020.pdf
- Mid Term Goals Lead Commission 7\_2020.pdf
- Short Term Goals Lead Commission 7\_2020.pdf

**Opening Welcome and Introductions:**

Anna Davis called the meeting to order at 9:35am with welcome and introductions.

**Members Present:**

Jill Carter  
Benita Cooper  
Anna Davis

Marybeth Haller  
Susan Kleinhammer  
Cliff Mitchell

Paula Montgomery  
Barbara Moore  
Manjula Paul

**Members Absent:**

Leonida Newton

Christina Peusch

Adam Skolnik

**Guests Present:**

Chevelle Bash-GHHI  
Shante Branch-MDE  
Camille Burke-BCHD  
Allison Cantos-GHHI  
Chris Corzine-OAG  
Jack Daniels-DHCD

Ludeen Green-GHHI  
Lisa Horne-MDH  
Dawn Joy-AMA  
Kaley Laleker-MDE  
Jamal Lewis-GHHI  
Kelsey McClain-GHHI

Teresa Pfaff-BCHD  
Wendy Phillips-MDE  
Victor Powell-HUD  
Georgella Samu-MDE  
Edward Thomas-HUD  
Patrick Wallis-HUD

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Paula Montgomery, seconded by Susan Kleinhammer to accept the June 4, 2020 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

**Old Business:** A discussion was conducted regarding the Gap Analysis Updates as well as a review of the document “Gap Analysis Opportunities and Recommendations.pdf”. Focus was made on an abridged version starting on page 16 “Impactful Actions for Maryland to Consider”. Each Subcommittee Chair was asked to review those items of focus and provided updates, amendments, or recommendations that should be considered. Once these items have been discussed and compiled, it is intended that they be incorporated into the short-, mid-, and long-term goals in conjunction with the Strategic Plan.

- Blood Lead Testing and Case Management Subcommittee: The Subcommittee, represented by Barbara Moore, suggested the following:
  - Under the heading “Implement Strategies to Increase Blood Lead Testing Rates” add the following recommendations:
    - EPSDT to increase review of records and tighten up compliance
    - State provide point of care screening locations
    - Incentive programs for pediatrician offices
  - Under the heading “Invest in a Uniform Data Platform” add the following recommendation:
    - Case management be consistent across the state
- Environmental Investigation and Enforcement: The Subcommittee, represented by Susan Kleinhammer, suggested the following:
  - Add the heading “Increase prevention in owner occupied housing” and add the following steps below:
    - Strengthen the Title X Lead Disclosure Rule
    - Increase licensing or certification under the RRP Rule
    - Provide continuing education credits (i.e. lead education) to home inspectors and real estate agents in order to help them reach and educate home buyers for owner occupancy
    - Improve the pulling of permits for renovations
    - Document whether or not the permittees have the necessary lead training
    - Primary prevention prior to the sale of a pre-1978 property
    - Require defective paint to be addressed and verified by dust testing

- Grant and Loan Resources and Outreach Education and Training: The Subcommittee, represented by Anna Davis, recommends that the Commission focus on the following action items:
  - Implement 2021 legislation to increase the funding for programs for prevention through tax credits
  - Bonds
  - Hospital community benefits

Jamal Lewis added the following recommendations:

- Increase resources by having the state or other jurisdictions (other than Baltimore City) apply for the HUD Lead Housing Control Grant
- Maximize current resources: review all lead poisoning prevention resources as well as other resources available for home improvement as well as align, rate, and coordinate the resources to maximize impacts for impacted communities.

Jack Daniels provided information as to current applications that DHCD is considering moving forward.

### **New Business:**

- Paula Montgomery reviewed the short-, mid-, and long-term Goals and Objectives that were developed at the Strategic Planning Event held in January 2019.
  - Short-Term Goals have all been completed.
  - Mid-Term Goals that remain incomplete will be incorporated into the Gap analysis moving forward.
    - **Address lead exposure in owner-occupied properties:** This will still remain part of the Gap analysis moving forward
    - **Look at case management data, develop priorities based on prevention - individual effects:** Currently, MDE is limited in doing focus enforcement due to COVID-19. Barbara Moore, Jamal Lewis and Cliff Mitchell provided thoughts, ideas, and updates on uniform case management that is being done in each of the counties and how case management is continuing through the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - Long-Term Goals
    - **Reduce by 50% the 2017-18 housing related blood levels considering individual jurisdiction goals:** In order to accomplish this goal, the Commission will need to continue collecting data from the Annual Report. Once the next Annual Report is published, the Commission will have a better understanding of whether this goal is being achieved.

- **Look at innovative ways to prevent childhood lead exposure and couple with other child and environmental health initiatives:** The Annual Report provides a lot of discussion about sharing data between agencies. Coordination and sharing between state and local agencies is ongoing and happening “behind the scenes”. Cliff Mitchell gave some examples of how data sharing is being completed. Paula Montgomery indicated the examples will be added to the attachment discussion notes.
- **Implementation of Baltimore City Discovery Lead Project:** Camille Burke shared that the project was on hold. Paula Montgomery indicated that the update will be added to the attachment discussion notes.
- Open Discussion on Lead Commission
  - Commission members will be sent a survey, which, once tallied, will determine the frequency of future Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission meetings. Survey recommendations will include the following:
    - Continue monthly meetings all year long
    - Paula recommended having monthly meetings starting in September through May then off during the summer (i.e. no meetings held June, July, and August)
    - Barbara Moore recommended having monthly meetings starting in September through April then having meetings every other month in the summer (i.e. meet in June and August and no meetings in May and July)
    - Marybeth Haller recommended having virtual meetings during any inclement weather rather than canceling the meeting
- Chair Recommendations/Commission Membership: The Commission members will be sent a survey asking for recommendations for the following vacant positions on the Lead Commission:
  - Chair (Vacant)
  - Co-Chair (New) Do the Commissioners recommend having a Co-Chair? If so, who is recommended?
  - The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Secretary or designee (Vacant)
  - Representative of owners of rental property located outside Baltimore City built before 1950 (Vacant)
  - Representative of a child health or youth advocacy group (Vacant)
  - Parent of a lead poisoned child (Vacant)
  - Member of the House (Vacant)
  - Representative from a nonprofit organization (New Position effective October 1, 2020)

- American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter (New Position effective October 1, 2020)
- Future Minutes: Wendy Phillips will provide brief meeting minutes for future meetings.
- Future Reporting on Agency Updates: A suggestion was made to change the schedule of the reporting of the agencies to the Commission from quarterly to annual. Further discussion on this topic will commence at the September meeting. In addition, monthly reporting of updates from the agencies should include challenges the agency faces, any new initiatives, and how the Commission can support the agency. Every agency should report on at least one item.
- Discussion of 2021 Projected Lead Legislation: Anna Davis recommended creating a legislative subcommittee. Commission members were asked to submit any new ideas for legislation so it can be discussed at the September meeting. Any Commissioners wanting to be on the subcommittee would be responsible for presenting the legislation, monitoring what is happening, and taking more of an active role during the legislative session.

**Agency Updates:**

- **Maryland Department of the Environment:** Kaley Laleker indicated that on July 1, 2020 new legislation and regulations went into effect which required environmental investigations for the levels of 5 to 9. MDE has resumed doing the in-home sampling portion of the environmental investigations with additional precautions due to the pandemic.
- **Maryland Department of Health:** None.
- **Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development:** Jack Daniels indicated that there was a budget cut and the agency is now responding to virtual house calls. The agency is still open for business but it is limited based upon the type of lead abatement needed.
- **Baltimore City Health Department:** Camille Burke indicated that the bulk of employees are deployed doing COVID related duties. Additionally, there are two vacancies for Environmental Sanitarians and Inspectors due to a recent retirement and a provision of MDE funding.
- **Baltimore City Housing and Community Development:** None.
- **Office of Child Care:** Manjula Paul indicated that the agency has been in the process of safely reopening child care centers. All physical inspections have been suspended since March but recently resumed virtually.
- **Maryland Insurance Administration:** None.

**Additions to the Agenda:**

A special welcome was made to Senator Jill Carter for her appointment to the Commission and attending the meeting.

**Public Comment:**

Ludeen Green announced that Green and Healthy Homes will be doing three rental owner property trainings which will be held August 14, 21, and 28, 2020.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Paula Montgomery, seconded by Benita Cooper to adjourn the meeting. All present Commissioners were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 11:32 am.

**Future Meeting Date:**

The next Lead Commission Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 3, 2020 via Google Meets, from 9:30 – 11:30 AM.

**Draft Minutes submitted by:** Wendy Phillips

**Draft Minutes approved by:** Paula Montgomery and Anna Davis