

GOVERNOR'S LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION
Maryland Department of the Environment
Approved Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 6, 2021

Documents Distributed:

2021 Parent Letter-Version 1.pdf
2021 Parent Letter-Version 2.pdf
Awards & Recognition.pdf
Draft Minutes 210401.pdf
Final Agenda 210506.pdf
GAP_StrategicPlanningAnalysisLCActions.05-03-21.pdf
Physician follow-up letter 3.18.2021.pdf
Testing for Lead in Drinking Water - Public and Nonpublic Schools.pdf

Opening Welcome and Introductions:

Paula Montgomery called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM with welcome and introductions.

Members Present:

Benita Cooper	Cliff Mitchell	Manjula Paul
Anna Davis	Paula Montgomery	Paul Rogers
Susan Kleinhammer	Barbara Moore	Adam Skolnik
Mary Beth Haller	Ruth Ann Norton	

Members Absent:

Dalya Attar	Leonidas Newton
Jill Carter	Christina Peusch

Guests Present:

Shante Branch-MDE	Lisa Horne-MDH	Georgella Samu-MDE
Camille Burke-BCHD	Dawn Joy-AMA	Wes Stewart-GHHI
Walter Clews-AmeriSpec	Kaley Laleker-MDE	Chris White-Arc Environmental
Chris Corzine-OAG	Kelsey McClain-GHHI	Daniel Zanchettin-MGA
Jack Daniels-DHCD	Wendy Phillips-MDE	
Eamon Flynn-MDH	Sandy Rosenbluth-MGA	

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Paula Montgomery, seconded by Anna Davis to accept the April 1, 2021 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old Business:

- **Update on Lead Testing and Immunization Subcommittee** - Paul Rogers provided a status update and discussed the three draft provider and parent letters below which were previously provided to the Commission. Paul Rogers asked for a consensus on which letter to send to parents as well as to finalize the physician follow-up letter so that the Commission can proceed in sending out all the letters. The Commission favored the 2021 Parent Letter-Version 2 as the letter to be sent rather than the Version 1. Camille Burke suggested that there be a Spanish version of the Version 2 parent letter. Ruth Ann Norton indicated that once the 2021 Parent Letter-Version 2 was completely finalized, GHHI would translate the letter into Spanish and provide it to MDE. Paul Rogers determined the general audience for these letters to be: providers, parents, Health Departments in each jurisdiction/county, Med Clinics at the Public Health Departments, County Public Information Officers, Day Care Centers, Lead Clinics, and WIC clinics.
 - 2021 Parent Letter-Version 1.pdf
 - 2021 Parent Letter-Version 2.pdf
 - Adam Skolnik made a motion to approve the letter which was seconded by Ruth Ann Norton. All present Commissioners were in favor; the letter was approved.
 - Physician follow-up letter 3.18.2021.pdf
 - Cliff Mitchell will need to review and finalize this letter before it is sent to the addressees. Cliff Mitchell suggests that the Physician letter be sent in conjunction with school re-opening and suggested that summer would be a good time to send the letter.
 - Adam Skolnik made a motion to approve the Physician letter as written with minor edits that need to be corrected by Cliff Mitchell and that the Lead Testing and Immunization Subcommittee decide the appropriate time when the letter should be sent out. Cliff Mitchell seconded that motion. All present Commissioners were in favor; the letter was approved.
- **2021 Legislation Discussion Wrap Up:**
 - Anna Davis reported on the below bills.
 - **HB0049 Landlord and Tenant - Repossession for Failure to Pay Rent - Lead Risk Reduction Compliance:** This bill died in the Environment and Transportation Committee in January. This bill will likely get reintroduced in the 2022 legislative session.
 - **HB0078/SB0052 Public Health - Maryland Commission on Health Equity (The Shirley Nathan-Pulliam Health Equity Act of 2021):** This bill passed.
 - **HB0463/SB0172 Maryland Health Equity Resource Act:** This bill passed.

- **HB0636/SB0546 School Buildings - Drinking Water Outlets - Elevated Level of Lead (Safe School Drinking Water Act):** This bill passed.
 - Ruth Ann Norton mentioned briefly about scaling lead poisoning prevention in the state of Maryland and recommended that the Commission possibly write a letter responding to the surplus money received from the American Recovery Plan and provide its recommendations on how to use the surplus money. Ruth Ann Norton indicated that GHHI would draft this letter and provide it to the Commission. Additionally, Ruth Ann Norton mentioned that an op-ed was written by Robert Gordon of the New York Times on lead funding and the American rescue plan. The op-ed can be viewed at the following link:
<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/29/opinion/American-rescue-plan-kids-lead-use-money-wisely.html>
- **Discuss GAP Analysis: Address Lead Exposure in Owner-Occupied Properties (Line item 21-23):** An updated report was previously disseminated to the Commission and Paula Montgomery discussed the current status of items highlighted within the report which are progressing. Paula Montgomery asked Adam Skolnik the status of contacting the specified organizations to see if they could provide a presentation on its requirements for contractors in the state of Maryland to perform contracting services on pre-1978 rental properties to ensure that they are in compliance with the certification requirements for the RRP. Adam Skolnik indicated that he reached out to Michael Harrison and Dave Finnerin at MPAC. Michael Harrison indicated that he would put this on his radar and get back to the Commission with more information. Paula Montgomery indicated that if a separate side meeting is needed, to please include Paula Montgomery, Chris Corzine, Anna Davis, and Ruth Ann Norton.
 - Line 21: Reach out to MAR to discuss best practices
 - Line 22: Require RRP for all contractors-reach out to MHIC
 - Line 23: Re-evaluate income levels for state funded programs

New Business:

- **Reminder Commission Adjournment for June, July, August:** During the Lead Commission summer break, there will still be activity happening behind the scenes with the Lead Testing and Immunization Subcommittee as well as other pending Lead Commission action items. If there is anything that Commissioners want to bring to the attention of the Commission, please contact Wendy Phillips via email.
 - Camille Burke indicated that BCHD will have an ad hoc meeting in July or August to figure out what BCHD will do in October for the Lead Poisoning Prevention month and also in September for back to school.
- **Reporting Calendar Reminder for September:**
 - MDE: Report on Compliance and Enforcement (Jonathan Klanderud)
 - DHCD: Update on Lead Hazard Reduction (Jack Daniels)

- **Testing for Lead in Drinking Water - Public and Nonpublic Schools-clarification on definition of drinking water outlet:** Information pertaining to this topic was provided to the Commission from MDE's web page prior to the meeting and this topic was discussed as a continuation of last month's discussion. Employees of MDE's Water Supply Program were in attendance to help answer any questions that arose. The webpage link is as follows:
https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_supply/Pages/Testing-For-Lead-In-Drinking-Water-Public-and-Nonpublic-Schools.aspx
 - Ruth Ann Norton and Barbara Moore recommended that something be implemented in the regulations that mandates the testing of bathroom sinks, hoses, and other outlets etc. which they believe are also consumption outlets. The representatives from the Water Supply Program indicated that they will make this a topic of conversation at their next meeting and follow up with the Commission.
 - Manjula Paul made two requests: 1) that some of the current grant monies be used exclusively for child care water fixture replacements. Paula Montgomery suggested that this could be added to the letter being drafted by Ruth Ann Norton regarding the surplus money received from the American Recovery Plan and recommendations on how to use the money; and 2) for MDE's Water Supply Program to publish its survey so that the child care providers can use the opportunity to replace its fixtures.
- **Lead Commission recognition and awards:**
 - In the April meeting, Christina Peusch discussed the Lead Commission recognition and awards which were canceled in 2020 due to the pandemic. She recommended that the Commission continue this annual exercise which normally coincides with the National Prevention Week as decided previously by the Commission and suggests that it be done virtually. Christina Peusch emailed the criteria used previously to recognize excellence, innovation and leadership from the Commission and this was shared with the Commission prior to this meeting.
 - Paula Montgomery suggested that the Commission provide an award during the month of lead week. During the summer break, Wendy Phillips will circulate the form and ask for recommendations by September 2021. During the October meeting the Commission will announce the recognition award.

AgencyHot Topics/Current Events:

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment): Paula Montgomery informed the Commission that MDE submitted its application for the five year CDC grant. Kaley Laleker provided an update that MDE is coming up with a re-entry plan by July 1.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health): Cliff Mitchell gave a brief presentation on MDH's latest update on the Environmental Public Health Tracking Portal for Lead which will go live in July 2021. The portal will be able to be viewed using your pc, phone, or tablet. The tracking portal will show: a general overview of lead poisoning (i.e. definition, how it works, etc.); surveillance data (i.e. why the data is the way it is); programs and services specifically linked to the lead health topic; data pages; maps showing the counts of elevated blood lead by county; data by

census tracked; rates by county; and demographics of the county (i.e. total number of people residing in the county, sex orientation, percentage age distribution, race/ethnicity, income, education, etc.). MDH will be working with MDE to include the school drinking water data.

- **Maryland DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community) Development: There were no comments or updates provided.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): Camille Burke reported that BCHD applied for the local component part of the CDC grant.
- **HABC** (Housing Authority of Baltimore City): There were no comments or updates provided.
- **Baltimore City DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development): There were no comments or updates provided.
- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care): Manjula Paul reported that the OCC Licensing Specialists have started their onsite visits to the child care facilities in person as of April 19, 2021.
- **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration): There were no comments or updates provided.

Commissioner Comments and Updates:

There were no comments or updates provided.

Public Comments and Updates:

Wes Stewart reported that the Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development has 250 lead specific housing vouchers that are available. These specific vouchers are for lead affected families who have minimal income and are stuck in hazardous housing.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 11:17am

Future Meeting Date:

The next Lead Commission Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September, 2, 2021 via Google Meet, from 9:30 – 11:30 AM.