

GOVERNOR'S LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION
Maryland Department of the Environment
Approved Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 7, 2021

Documents Distributed:

- 2021 Parent Letter-Version 2.pdf
- Awards and Recognitions Results.pdf
- CDCSupplementalPresentation.Revised.pdf
- Draft Minutes 210902.pdf
- Final Agenda 211007.pdf
- Physician follow-up letter 3.18.2021.pdf

Opening Welcome and Introductions:

Paula Montgomery called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM with welcome and introductions.

Members Present:

Jacob Benzaquen
Benita Cooper
Jack Daniels
Mary Beth Haller

Susan Kleinhammer
Cliff Mitchell
Paula Montgomery
Ruth Ann Norton

Paul Rogers
Adam Skolnik

Members Absent:

Dalya Attar
Jill Carter
Anna Davis

Barbara Moore
Leonidas Newton
Manjula Paul

Christina Peusch

Guests Present:

Chevelle Bash-GHHI
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE
Shante Branch-MDE
Subha Chandar-MDH
Walter Clews-AmeriSpec
Chris Corzine-OAG
Eamon Flynn-MDH

Joseph Galarraga-CEEJH
Kathryn Hirabayashi-MDH
Lisa Horne-MDH
Dawn Joy-AMA
Kaley Laleker-MDE
Linda Li-MDH
Kelsey McClain-GHHI

Katelyn Mullins-MDH
Wendy Phillips-MDE
Georgella Samu-MDE
George Stewart-GHHI
Chris White-Arc
Environmental
Daniel Zanchettin-MGA

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Ruth Ann Norton, seconded by Adam Skolnik to accept the September 2, 2021 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old Business:

- **2022 Legislation Discussion:**

- **Spending of Additional Surplus Money:** Ruth Ann Norton stated that the newspapers reported there was a 2.5 billion dollar state surplus in Maryland which should allow the state to utilize the American Recovery Plan Money it is receiving for projects such as lead and healthy homes. In order to advocate for the most effective means of reducing lead exposures in the state, Ruth Ann Norton suggested the Commission provide a letter to the Governor and or United Way of Central Maryland recommending how money can be spent from possible resources for things such as lead hazard control, lead abatement, healthy housing, and flexible funding. Jack Daniels supported this idea and indicated that he would bring the idea to the attention of DHCD and report back to the Commission. Ruth Ann Norton and Adam Skolnik agreed to work together to provide a reasonable asking amount and include supporting information for a draft letter. Ruth Ann Norton recommended a subcommittee be created in order to coordinate this effort and she volunteered to be its chair. Others that were recommended to participate in the subcommittee and discussions were Adam Skolnik, Cliff Mitchell, Jack Daniels, Carol Gilbert, and Paula Montgomery. Ruth Ann Norton suggested the letter focus on prevention and encourage funding to address hazardous problems that are facing communities. Wendy Phillips was asked to provide Ruth Ann Norton and Adam Skolnik the most recent GAP Analysis Status Report to assist in their discussions.
 - **HB49: Landlord and Tenant - Repossession for Failure to Pay Rent - Lead Risk Reduction Compliance:** This bill died in the Environment and Transportation Committee in January. The bill will likely get reintroduced in the 2022 legislative session. Adam Skolnik stated that MMHA is working with Delegate Sandy Rosenberg on some minor edits to the bill and plans to support the bill with edits.
- **Update on Lead Testing and Immunization Subcommittee:**
 - Cliff Mitchell simplified both the parent and physician letters in its latest revision by making the letters as short and concise as possible and still maintaining the key messages. He recommended that the letters be signed by MDE, DHCD, MDH, and the Commission and disseminated during lead week. Cliff Mitchell plans to initiate finalizing the letters and have them signed by the multi agencies on MDH letterhead.
 - **Parent Letter:** Cliff Mitchell recommended posting the letter on each of the agencies' websites as an open letter to parents rather than mailing it out individually to parents.

- **Provider/Physician Letter:** Cliff Mitchell recommended that MDH and GHHI work together, using the mailing list provided through the Board of Physicians and the Board of Nurses, to mail out the letters to the providers.
- **Lead Poisoning Prevention Week Discussion October 24 Through 30, 2021:** A current status of what each agency is planning is as follows:
 - **MDE:** Paula Montgomery stated that the proclamation, which had input from all agencies, was finalized. MDE plans on running some campaigns on social media that will include several outreach materials. Additionally, Paula Montgomery plans on producing a powerpoint video that will be posted on the MDE website but may not be completed by lead week. The powerpoint video will illustrate how to comply with the Maryland Lead Law. MDE also plans to have several outreach and education materials translated in different languages.
 - **GHHI:** Ruth Ann Norton stated that GHHI plans on running a series of webinars and is hoping to have participation from DHCD, MDH, MDE. The webinar will focus on how to access resources from the state.
 - **MDH:** Cliff Mitchell gave an update on the press event which will be the keynote and kickoff event for lead week. October 25, 2021 is the scheduled date for the press event with three Deputy Secretaries. Deputy Secretary McEvoy will be representing DHCD, Deputy Secretary Chan will be representing MDH, and Secretary Grumbles or Deputy Secretary Toblada will be representing MDE. Also in attendance, to speak about their experience, will be a family that has a property currently under repair in Baltimore County. In order to aid in outreach, a press kit and materials resource kit is currently being compiled.
 - **BCHD:** No updates to provide.
- **Discussion on Lead Commission Recognition and Awards Nominations**
 - Paula Montgomery reviewed the handout with the Commission which listed the nominees previously submitted. She informed the Commission that Dr. Ezatollah Keyvan will be retiring from MDE at the end October, 2021 and recommended that Dr. Keyvan be included as a nominee for the Special Recognition Award. Adam Skolnik made a motion to award the Special Recognition Award to Dr. Keyvan, seconded by Cliff Mitchell. All present Commissioners were in favor and the award for Special Recognition was awarded to Dr. Ezatollah Keyvan. Ruth Ann Norton indicated that she will email Wendy Phillips an additional nomination to add to the final list. Wendy Phillips will shortly send a Call to Vote for voting on the nominees for each award.
- **Membership Status Update and Oath of Office Reminder**
 - Wendy Phillips gave a status update on the pending re-appointments. An updated list of Commission members can be found on the MDE Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission Webpage under "[Current Membership](https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Land/LeadPoisoningPrevention/Pages/LPPCommission.aspx)" at <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Land/LeadPoisoningPrevention/Pages/LPPCommission.aspx>

New Business:

- **Reporting Calendar Reminder for November:**
 - Preliminary Data: Report on Childhood Lead Registry (CY2020 Childhood Lead Surveillance in MD Report) (Lead Program to present): The actual report will not be completed at this time but MDE will have some data to provide to the Commission.
- **Presentation/Discussion on a Web-Based Story of Housing and Lead in Baltimore, by MDH and the University of Maryland School of Public Health**
 - Cliff Mitchell introduced Joseph Galarraga from the Community Engagement, Environmental Justice, & Health (CEEJH) who gave a storyboard presentation on lead and housing in Baltimore City. The storyboard presentation is used to demonstrate how various housing policies have increased racial disparities with regards to lead poisoning within Baltimore. The link to the storyboard presentation is as follows:
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/d1c973fb41494614ba0d0c0bcf022cac>

AgencyHot Topics/Current Events:

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment): There were no comments or updates provided.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health): There were no comments or updates provided.
- **Maryland DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development): There were no comments or updates provided.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): There were no comments or updates provided.
- **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): There were no comments or updates provided.
- **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration): There were no comments or updates provided.
- **GHHI** (Green and Healthy Homes Initiative): Ruth Ann Norton gave the following updates:
 - GHHI launched a thousand unit effort in concert with Prometica and in partnership with the state, U.S. Senate, legislature, etc. to de-lead 1 thousand homes, make them energy efficient, and reduce asthma and injury. Work on the units in Baltimore will start in January. State agencies will be receiving opportunities on data, evaluation, learning, workforce capacity building, ect.
 - California will be using the in-lieu statute of medicaid to do reimbursements for healthy homes interventions of up to \$7,500 per unit.
 - GHHI continues to work with Maryland senators and delegations from all the states on the infrastructure and reconciliation bills. There is a 10 billion dollar proposal by Maxine Waters that will do healthy housing and allow for lead to be included.
 - GHHI will be partnering with MDE on leadweek and will be doing a webinar.

Commissioner Comments and Updates:

Paula Montgomery received an email from Baltimore County Health Department and was informed that the Lead Safe Baltimore County was awarded another \$2 million in funding to start up the lead safe grant in Baltimore County rental and owner occupied properties. Baltimore County intends to attend future Lead Commission meetings to discuss their program.

Public Comments and Updates: There were no comments or updates provided.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:08am

Future Meeting Date:

The next Lead Commission Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 4, 2021 via Google Meet, from 9:30 – 11:30 AM.