

2020 Joint Meeting of the
Children’s Environmental Health & Protection Advisory Council
and the
Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities

Thursday, December 3rd, 2020
12:30pm - 2:00pm

Join by Google Meet: meet.google.com/vso-heic-nro
Join by phone: 302-314-6303 PIN: 875 203 609#

Purpose: Discuss the intersection of children’s environmental health and environmental justice, and identify opportunities for collaboration and coordination to advance common goals.

IN ATTENDANCE

CEHPAC:

Cliff Mitchell
Eamon Flynn (Staff)
Kelly Love
Ruth Vriend
Megan Latshaw
Dianna Abney
Kristen Rawlett
Christina Drushel-Williams
Laura Allen
Ben Gitterman

CEJSC:

Camille Burke (also CEHPAC member)
Devon Dodson (also CEHPAC member)
Cindy Osorto (Staff)
Subha Chandar
Stephan Levitsky
Paula Dannenfeldt
Malachy Rice
Joseph Griffiths
Senator Obie Peterson’s Office (Chief of Staff)
Paulette Hammond
John Papagni

Public/Other:

Veronika Carella
Kirsten Jackson
Cassie Shirk
Genny Nesslage
Kimberlee Drake
Michael Sanderson
Susan Casey
Alex Butler
Nina Cardin

MEETING MINUTES

December 3, 2020

- **Introductions**
 - CEJSC - Camille Burke - Introductions by members.
 - CEHPAC - Cliff Mitchell - Introductions by members.
- **Administration**
 - CEJSC and CEHPAC are required by statute to meet annually
 - Today's meeting will discuss the mission and direction of CEJSC and CEHPAC, including how children's environmental health and environmental justice related, and what future priorities may look like
- **Devon Dodson provided an introduction of the CEJSC's role**
 - CEJSC is beginning to look at new issues
 - First prong: reinvigoration of the commission
 - Second prong: learn more about community issues across broad geographic scope, including Eastern Shore
 - Annual report is required and will include recommendations that are designed for the new efforts that the Commission wants to work on
 - The Commission wants to consider looking into cumulative impacts
 - The Commission wants to look at community-based issues
 - It will be a lot of work but MDE staff are dedicated to this effort and MDE will provide other resources as necessary
- **Cliff Mitchell provided an overview of CEHPAC and children's environmental health in general**
 - Legislatively-mandated council (Health-General 13-1506)
 - Create and promote educational resources pertaining to environmental health exposure in children
 - CEHPAC serves as an advisory council on legislation and regulations on matters related to children's environmental health
 - Children can be more vulnerable to negative health impacts and environmental hazards
 - Wide array of factors and topics can impact children's health - outdoor air pollution, drinking water contaminants, indoor air pollution, pesticide related exposure, exposure in contaminants in food (including PCBs in fish), asthma, cancer, neuro-developmental disorders, mercury, bio-monitoring, WiFi radiation
 - Where does children's health and EJ intersect? Factors influencing the discussion may include equity considerations and science-based best practices
- **Camille Burke provided an overview of CEJSC's priorities**
 - Children's health is a subset of EJ and we look forward to hearing input and health expertise
 - Bottom-up approach moving forward
 - Please be aware that we are listening to your input
 - Invite everyone to send legislative proposals to the CEJSC and we are looking forward to working with everyone. Session will be virtual.

- We are embarking on an exciting new path that will consider supporting more community engagement
- **Subha Chandar - Facilitator of Jamboard Session**
 - Everyone was invited to participate in the Jamboard session, including members of both advisory groups as well as members of the public.
- **Public Comment**
 - Veronika Carella - stated there were six items identified in an email sent by her to CEHPAC members and requested they be included in meeting minutes and in future agendas. Veronika discussed the “Environmental Human Rights Amendment” bill which will be proposed in the upcoming legislative session and asked the groups to consider this legislation.
- **Administration**
 - A quorum was not present to take action on CEHPAC items at the time they were considered.
- **Camille - Thank you all and please stay safe!**
 - Ben Gitterman - motioned to adjourn the meeting
 - Kristen Rawlett - seconded the motion
 - No discussion
 - Voted against/abstained: None
 - Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 1:55pm