

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

Thursday, January 6 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Google Meet

Approved Meeting Minutes

Documents Distributed:

- Draft Minutes 211202.pdf
- Final Agenda 220106.pdf
- MDE Lead Commission Calendar 2022.pdf

Opening Welcome and Introductions:

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

Members Present:

Dalya Attar	Mary Beth Haller	Manjula Paul
Benita Cooper	Cliff Mitchell	Christina Peusch
Jack Daniels	Paula Montgomery	Paul Rogers
Anna Davis	Barbara Moore	Adam Skolnik
Susan Kleinhammer	Ruth Ann Norton	

Members Absent:

Jacob Benzaquen	Jill Carter	Leonidas Newton
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Guests Present:

Beatrice Amoateng-Public	Kathryn Hirabayashi-MDH	Wendy Phillips-MDE
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE	Steven Homola-BCDHCD	Cherise Roberts-GHHI
Shante Branch-MDE	Lisa Horne-MDH	Kylan Simpson-MDH
Camille Burke-BCHD	Dawn Joy-AMA	George Stewart-GHHI
Walter Clews-AmeriSpec	Kaley Laleker-MDE	Chris White-Arc Environmental
Chris Corzine-OAG	Katelyn Mullins-MDH	
Jason Harding-BCDHCD	Simon Penning-BCDHCD	

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Adam Skolnik, seconded by Mary Beth Haller to accept the December 02, 2021 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old Business:

- **2022 Reporting Calendar Update:** The Commission was previously provided the Draft Reporting Calendar 2022.pdf and used it to discuss and finalize the upcoming plans for the 2022 calendar year.
 - **Annual Surveillance Report:** Paula Montgomery informed the Commission that the report was delayed, but MDE still provided preliminary information in 2021. MDE plans to present on the Medical and Environmental component of the report in February 2022.
- **2022 Legislation Discussion:** Adam Skolnik discussed the below listed bills.
 - **[HB101: Landlord and Tenant - Repossession for Failure to Pay Rent - Lead Risk Reduction Compliance](#)** sponsored by Delegate Sandy Rosenburg. The Commission plans to support this bill. During the 2021 legislative session, this bill was introduced as HB49 and died in the Environment and Transportation Committee.
 - **[HB174 = Landlord and Tenant - Repossession for Failure to Pay Rent - Registration and License Information](#)** sponsored by Delegate Mary Lehman. The Commission plans to support this bill.
 - A motion was made by Adam Skolnik, seconded by Dalya Attar to support HB101 and HB174. Abstentions were Cliff Mitchell, Benita Cooper and Paula Montgomery, and the remaining Commissioners were in favor. Paula Montgomery will work with Adam Skolnik to draft the first letter. Wendy Phillips will send out a poll to the Commissioners after receiving the draft letter from Paula and Adam.
- **Update on Lead Testing and Immunization Subcommittee:** Paula Montgomery provided the following update:
 - Parent Letter Status - This letter has been posted on the MDH website as well as MDE website. Additionally, a copy of the letter was provided to local health departments. Cliff Mitchell volunteered MDH to translate the letter into multiple languages including Spanish.
 - Physician Letter Status - The letter has been signed and finalized but not yet sent out to the providers for concern about the message getting lost amongst overwhelming COVID announcements and information being sent at the same time. The Commission expects to send out the finalized letter in about eight weeks. In the meantime, Cliff Mitchell will work with Paul Rogers to provide a shorter version of the letter which will be added on the agency websites regarding the lowering of the blood lead level from a clinical point of view.

New Business:

- **Reminder for Lead Commission 2022 Calendar: February:** Environmental Case Management Presentation (MDE) (Paula Montgomery)
- **Discuss Format of Health Department Open Forum for March:** The Commission members discussed the invitee list which the Commission recommended to include: Prince George's, Allegany, Somerset, Harford counties, and Baltimore City. Other suggestions included: Frederick, Washington, and Anne Arundel Counties.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events:

- **MDE (Maryland Department of the Environment):** Shante Branch reported LRCA was released December 6, 2021 and a soft launch is underway.
- **MDH (Maryland Department of Health):** Cliff Mitchell introduced some new members of his team. MDH continues to work on the Home Visiting Programs. MDH is continuing to do in person and virtual home visits and check-ins with families that are affected by lead poisoning. MDH is continuing to look at testing rates. MDH is having conversations internally about improving coordination and care coordination with MDE and local health departments regarding the changes in the MDE Lead Program and changes in personnel.
- **Maryland DHCD (Maryland Department of Housing and Community) Development:** Jack Daniels reported that DHCD continues to manage multiple projects and programs.
- **BCHD (Baltimore City Health Department)** Camile Burke reported that BCHD is struggling to do inspections but it is pushing through in order to do as many inspections as they can. BCHD is still in need of environmental sanitarians.

- **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 reported MSDE is extremely busy but are working as best as they can to keep children safe.
- **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration): There were no comments or updates provided.
- **GHHI** (Green and Healthy Homes Initiative): Ruth Ann Norton reported that GHHI is launching the 1k unit effort in Baltimore that will include de-leading. GHHI will continue to measure lead reduction and outcomes such as school performance, housing stability, and racial equity impact measures. GHHI still has Housing Choice Vouchers available as well as relocation assistance to help those families that may need to move.

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

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

Adjournment: A motion was made by Paula Montgomery, seconded by Christina Peusch. All present Commissioners were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 10:35am.

Future Meeting Date:

The next Lead Commission Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 6, 2022 via Google Meet, from 9:30 – 11:30 AM.