

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

January 5, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Google Meet

Approved Meeting Minutes

Documents Distributed:

- Final Agenda 230105
- Draft Minutes 221103
- Draft Minutes 221201
- Membership
- Reporting Calendar 2023
- Meeting Schedule 2023
- LPPC Annual Report
CY2022

Opening Welcome and Introductions:

Ruth Ann Norton called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with welcome and introductions and, on behalf of the Commission, thanked Governor Hogan for his work on behalf of the children of Maryland in advancing universal blood lead testing and his support during his term. Ruth Ann informed the Commission that she is going to invite the new Governor to speak to the Commission in the February or March meeting to say a few words regarding his commitment to lead. Additionally, Ruth Ann informed the Commission about an upcoming Town Hall Meeting on January 9, 2023 for the transition from the Hogan administration to the Moore administration for funding around healthy housing. Ruth Ann encouraged everyone who has time to contribute ideas or to participate in the Town Hall meeting.

Members Present:

Jacob Benzaquen	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:

Delegate Dalya Attar Senator Jill Carter

Guests Present:

Tyler Abbott-MDE	Eamon Flynn-MDH	Kylan Simpson-MDH
Frederick Banks-MDE	Paulette Hammon-Public	Stephanie Staats-HUD
Thea Becton-HUD	Darlene Israel-MDH	Wes Stewart-GHHI
Camille Burke-BCHD	Dawn Joy-AMA	Katherine Taylor-BCHD
Walter Clews-AmeriSpec	Jonathan Klanderud-MDE	Khalia Young-No boundaries Coalition
Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE	Wendy Phillips-MDE	
Chris Corzine-OAG	Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE	
William Doyle-HCHD	Tiffeny Price-MDH	
Shamola Dye-MDE	Tim Rule-MDE	

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Adam Skolnik, seconded by Paul Rogers to accept the November 3, 2022 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

A motion was made by Cliff Mitchell, seconded by Paul Rogers to accept the December 1, 2022 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old Business:

- **Commissioner Membership Renewal Updates:** Wendy Phillips informed the Commission that membership appointments for all Commissioners are now current. The term date for 5 Commissioners will end September 2023 and Ms. Phillips will send reminders out this summer for those Commissioners to reapply. Ruth Ann Norton indicated that Tisha Edwards will be the point of contact with the Governor's Office for reappointments and asked Barbara Moore to send a letter to the Secretary of Appointments and the new Secretary of the Environment regarding the membership vacancies still remaining in the Commission and ask for recommendations to fill the positions.

New Business:

- **BD-DHCD – HUD Grant Program:** Katherine Taylor provided an update on the HUD Grant Program indicating that DB-DHCD has been doing unit production so far which has been increasing with each quarter. DB-DHCD is also having a lot of staffing issues which has really impacted how much the department can do, but it has made some progress in regards to getting unit production done. DB-DHCD is expecting to have more contractors on board with them and is looking for those opportunities to use the grant money. Cliff Mitchell recommended to Ms. Taylor that tailored materials be distributed to health care providers to help them inform families about lead abatement resources available to them.
- **Legislation:**
 - **HB0079-Housing and Community Development - Whole-Home Repairs Act of 2023:** Ruth Ann Norton informed the Commission about HB0079 that will be introduced by Delegate Vaughn Stewart. This bill addresses the whole house and will be similar to the guideline work of the Green and Healthy Homes initiative that was supported by the Philadelphia Energy Authority and then adopted into Pennsylvania law. Ruth Ann would like to ask Delegate Stewart to attend the February meeting in order to present this bill.
 - **HB0169/SB0144 (2022 HB0108/SB0524) - Public Utilities - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs - Energy Performance Targets and Low-Income Housing:** HB0108/SB0524 was approved by the legislature but vetoed by Governor Hogan. This bill is an energy efficiency bill that will guide investment to ensure that low-income families are getting the appropriate level of investment based on their contribution to empower funds and to ensure that energy efficiency happens. The bill calls for a commission that will look at the whole house approach.
- **Joint Statement/Resolution:** Cliff Mitchell recommended having the Lead Commission, The Children's Environmental Health Protection Advisory Council, and the Commission on Environmental Justice think about comprehensive approaches to intersections of issues such as: health and housing that cross from the statewide integrated health improvement strategy; looking at maternal and child health, opioids, diabetes, community development, climate, health equity, in terms of health and housing, disparities, and the relationship between them; and other various issues. Cliff recommends compiling a joint statement or a joint resolution related to the integration of health and housing as it relates to children's health and to community health. Ruth Ann and Camille Burke volunteered to work with Dr. Mitchell on this statement.
- **Commission Reporting Calendar 2023:** Wendy Phillips discussed with the Commissioners the possible dates, times, and topics for updates and reports to be discussed during the calendar year. Members who have any edits, comments or additions to this report were asked to send them to Ms. Phillips.

- **Unit Production Quarterly Updates:** Ruth Ann Norton asked that Departments that have issues of unit production and dollars provide quarterly updates to include: funds available, who the funds are available to, and the units done to date. For example Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (MD-DHCD) could discuss mapping that would be able to be crosswalked against where there are children under six, where there are lead levels being reported, and where there are dollars going against that and age of housing. This could also be a mapping of who has lead resources across the state, whether it's Baltimore County, Baltimore City, or others. GHHI volunteered to compile a resource mapping of what programs also support both lead, hazard control, source control, and water and a tracking of equity and where dollars are going, who they're going to, and how the agency is moving in that direction. This item was added to the calendar to be scheduled for future dates.
- **Available Public Mapping of Lead Data, Health Equity, and Environmental Health Tracking:** Ruth Ann Norton asked MDH and MDE to present during the February meeting on the topic of Available Public Mapping of Lead Data, Health Equity, and Environmental Health Tracking. The item was added to the calendar for the February meeting. Cliff Mitchell provided the Environmental Public Health tracking portal at the following link: <https://maps.health.maryland.gov/ephtportal/> Tyler Abbot provided the link to the EJ tracking portal at the following link: <https://mdewin64.mde.state.md.us/EJ/>. Both agreed to present in February.
- **Lead and Water Quarterly Update:** Ruth Ann Norton suggested that a quarterly update for lead and water be added to the calendar in order to regularly get the current status and updates on new opportunities to support lead, hazard control, and lead source exposure through other programs. This item was added to the calendar to be scheduled for future dates.
- **Statewide Community Efforts Quarterly Update:** Ruth Ann Norton suggested that there be a quarterly update to highlight good community efforts across the state that are happening or highlighting nurses or case managers or community organizations. This item was added to the calendar to be scheduled for future dates.
- **Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) Update On the City's Tracking of Lead Violation Notices:** Ruth Ann Norton asked that Mary Beth Haller and Camille Burke provide an update and status at the February meeting on how the City of Baltimore is tracking lead violation notices and the status on how it is doing. This meeting was added to the 2023 reporting calendar.
- **HB1110 - Environment - Lead Poisoning Prevention - Elevated Blood Lead Level:** Ruth Ann Norton asked Tyler Abbot to report on HB1110 at the March meeting which was added to the reporting calendar.
- **Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report:** Ruth Ann Norton asked Tyler Abbot to report on the Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report at the March meeting which was added to the reporting calendar.
- **Subcommittee Findings on Inconsistencies With Lead Testing in Homes:** Barbara Moore recommended that due to report inconsistencies, the Commission take a look at what is being tested in the homes. Ruth Ann Norton asked Tyler Abbott to create a subcommittee to investigate this issue and report their findings in March. Susan Kleinhammer volunteered to be on the subcommittee. This item was added to the reporting calendar for March.
- **Public Lead Assessment Webinar:** Ruth Ann Norton recommended a possible public webinar sponsored by MDE and the Commission to inform the public about lead assessments and what is involved with an assessment. This item was added to the reporting calendar as "to be determined."
- **Commission Meeting Calendar for 2023:** Wendy Phillips provided the Commission with the dates for the upcoming Lead Commission Meetings for the 2023 calendar year. Christina Peusch pointed out a mistake in the May date which should read May 4, 2023 not May 11, 2023. M. Phillips made this correction. The information is posted on the Lead Commission website at <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Land/LeadPoisoningPrevention/Pages/LPPCommission.aspx>
- **Permitting Process:** Susan Kleinhammer indicated that she would like the Commission to revisit the topic of the permitting process especially in the City of Baltimore. Specifically about requiring some documentation of lead training by contractors pulling permits. She also would like the Commission to proceed with talking to the Maryland Home Improvement Commission (MHIC) to discuss its effort to help get contractors lead trained who are working in pre-1978 properties. The goal would be to get better compliance and to prevent children in

remodeling and renovation activities from having unnecessary exposures to lead. Ruth Ann Norton asked Wendy Phillips to facilitate the below meetings

- **Baltimore City Permitting Process:** This meeting would be to discuss permitting process issues and compile an update report to be given to the Commission of the findings. The meeting should include Ruth Ann Norton, Susan Kleinhammer, Katherine Taylor, Mary Beth Haller.
- **Pre-Meeting MHIC/Commissioner:** This meeting would be a pre meeting in order to prep MHIC for the Commission meeting. The meeting should include Ruth Ann Norton, Susan Kleinhammer, Adam Skolnik, and MHIC and should take place prior to MHIC meeting with the entire Lead Commission.
- **Commission Meeting with MHIC:** This meeting would be to discuss efforts to get pre-1798 property contractors lead trained.
- **MDE Annual Report Review for the governor 2022:** Yearly, the Lead Commission is to report to the Governor a summation of the Commission meetings during the calendar year. A copy of the report was provided to the Commission prior to the meeting and can also be found on the MDE website at: <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/land/Pages/LandPublications.aspx>

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events:

- **MDE (Maryland Department of the Environment):** Tyler Abbott reported the following items:
 - Secretary Toblatta has retired and Suzanne Dorsey will be acting secretary until a new secretary is appointed.
 - MDE will provide a few more reports in the near future regarding HB1110 as well as the Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report.
- **MDH (Maryland Department of Health):** Cliff Mitchell informed the Commission about the following items:
 - MDH has received a substantial grant from the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials and also discussed it's current status and how the grant money will be used.
 - MDH is collaborating with MDH regarding the development of a dashboard for healthcare providers related to lead poisoning testing, lead testing, and follow-up. Shamola Dye the epidemiologist for the lead registry and MDH's epidemiology staff will be working on a provider dashboard and will be reporting to the Commission the developments.
 - During the month of January, MDH will be having another quarterly meeting with all of the lead case managers across the state with MDE to talk about lead poisoning activities, and prevention activities.
 - During the Health Officer Roundtable, the week of January 9, Dr. Mitchell will be presenting to the health officers an update on lead poisoning prevention and associated activities.
- **MDAAP (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter):** Paul Rogers reported that he had a meeting through the Echo program. During the case discussion there were lots of questions and a lot of frustration the pediatricians are feeling with all the paperwork to fill out on lead poisoning related issues. Dr. Rogers invited Dr. Mitchell to MDAAP's next meeting on February 1, 2023 at noon to provide some answers to the questions that were raised.
- **MSDE/OCC (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care):** No updates were provided.
- **MIA (Maryland Insurance Administration):** No updates were provided.
- **MD-DHCD (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development):** Jack Daniels reported that MD-DHCD's acting secretary is Owen McAvoy and also that it is currently having some staffing issues that have caused delays and it is trying to resolve.
- **BC-DHCD (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development):** No updates were provided.
- **BCHD (Baltimore City Health Department):** Camille Burke reported the following:
 - BCHD recently received the list of everything that's been demolished in Baltimore City in the past two years and is in the process of going through its violations and vacant and boarded list and comparing it to that demolished list to hopefully reduce the violation list.
 - BCHD is closer towards publishing the new lead abatement regulations which will be finalized soon.

- **HABC** (Housing Authority of Baltimore City): Ruth Ann Norton indicated that she will call Dan Abrams from HABC to see if he can periodically update the Commission on their process with lead.
- **GHHI** (Green and Healthy Homes Initiative): Ruth Ann Norton and Wes Stewart reported the following items:
 - GHHI has a new case manager, Angela Perry Hall, who will be joining the Commission Meeting in February.
 - GHHI, with some EPA funding, had a community meeting on lead and water and will have an additional meeting soon on air quality.
 - There is substantial funding coming from the inflation reduction from the infrastructure bill to the State of Maryland, the Commission may want to look at how those funds are going to be distributed.
 - GHHI is seeking referrals of families and low-income homes in Baltimore that could use funds to raise the standard of their housing condition including upgrades in owners' home or property owners who could benefit from having these funds from the 1k health homes. If anyone is interested in having GHHI come and talk to any of your groups or if you want more information regarding this topic please contact info@ghhi.org or gwstewart@ghhi.org.
 - GHHI is looking to expand its contractor pool.

Commissioner Comments and Updates:

- Barbara Moore wanted the Commission to know that a lot of the government agencies are not receiving emails from Mount Washington. Mount Washington is trying to work through the issue.

Public Comments and Updates:

No comments or updates were provided.

Reminder for February Reporting:

- MD-DHCD – Lead Grant Programs (Jack Daniels)
- Legislation
- Mapping Lead Data and Health Equity - MDE/MDH

Adjournment:

The meeting ended at approximately 11 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

The next Lead Commission Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 2, 2023 via Google Meet, from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.