



# Advisory Council

## February 17, 2015

**Council:** Mark Collier, Joan Caley, Tracy Rude, Karen Evans, Sandy Mathewson, Trevor Evers, Remy Eussen, and Adriana Linares.

**Staff:** Alan Melnick, Janis Koch, Jeff Harbison, Julie Grimm, Don Strick, and Roxanne Wolfe

**Guests:** Savannah, Josh, and Rachel

### (1) WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS/APPROVAL OF MEETING NOTES

Trevor opened the meeting and guests introduced themselves. Members reviewed the notes. Joan moved and Remy seconded motion to accept the notes as submitted. Motion passed.

### (2) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (*Trevor*)

- **Support letter for Community Health Foundation grant application (*Janis*)**  
A letter supporting Clark County Public Health's application for funding to address ACES in a pilot project in Battle Ground was submitted to the Community Health Foundation on behalf of the council. The foundation asked for different scenarios for funding (e.g., what could be done for \$50,000, \$100,000 or \$150,000 per year). The level of funding will determine the extent of the pilot project. (*Janis*)
- **Updated 2015 Master Calendar (*Janis*)**  
The issues identified by the council in January have been slotted into the calendar as targeted topics/dates. For example, agenda items for March include accreditation and marijuana. Council members are encouraged to email Julie with any additional agenda items.

### (3) DEPARTMENT UPDATE (*Alan*)

Influenza levels are still elevated but they are coming down. There is nothing new with regard to Ebola. People coming back (health care workers) from West Africa are still being monitored for no, low, and some risk. PeaceHealth Southwest is an assessment hospital for diseases such as Ebola. Additionally, thus far there have been no cases of measles in our area.

### (4) ACES UPDATE/PLANNING

- **Approve updated PHAC ACES Logic Model (*Janis*)**  
The ideas/changes from the last meeting are incorporated into the model, along with the same graphics used on the council's logic model. One additional edit: "Working Together to Make Clark County an ACES Informed Community."
- **ACES Community Collaborative Report (*Joan*)**  
The ACES collaborative met last week, with about 20 partners in attendance. With a structured agenda, they went through a process of identifying areas where there was ACES information. They looked at Clark County's ACES strengths and gaps. From Joan's perspective, the ACES model was very useful. They had a very robust conversation.

On April 23, they are planning a launch event at Kiggins Theater (more details will be forthcoming). There are a lot of partners working on ACES working to align the efforts. The planned follow-up to the launch event includes a series of conversation cafes. Cyndie Meyer is the contact if there are any groups interested in joining in these efforts.

A summary of the ACES efforts through February 17 was included in council's packet.

- **Public Health Month Planning Update** (*Don Strick*)

This year's national theme is *Healthiest Nation 2030*. Here locally the theme will be "The Raising of America." The April 23 launch at Kiggins Theater will be the focal event for Public Health Month. The theater is a great venue for the launch. Also, the Public Health Community Award will be presented during April. A social media campaign around ACES/Raising of America is progressing.

## (5) E-CIGARETTES

- **Legislation** (*Alan*)

Currently electronic cigarettes/vaping devices are unregulated in this state. House Bill 1645 and Senate Bill 5573 would prohibit the sale of vapor products to children under 18, prohibit the sale of flavored products, prohibit the sale of vapor products containing substances that increase the absorption of nicotine or other psychoactive chemicals, and prohibit possession of these devices by minors. In addition, the law would also tax vapor products with a portion of the proceeds going to public health essential services.

Public Health is planning to bring this issue to the Board of Health next week, and we would like to offer a letter from the council in support of the legislation. (A draft letter was included in council's packet for review.)

Manufacturers have tried to present these devices as harm reduction devices that help people get off regular cigarettes. The evidence is becoming stronger that shows the level of formaldehyde is much higher in these devices than in regular cigarettes. There are also other toxic components in these vaping devices.

This legislation does not make electronic cigarettes subject to the SIPP law, but it also does not pre-empt local boards from enacting more strenuous legislation.

Support from the PHAC via a letter advising the BOH to support the legislation, as well as a volunteer to speak to the BOH on behalf of the PHAC, would be helpful. It was suggested that, as the youth representative, Bryce would be an effective speaker.

*Discussion:*

- There has been a huge jump in the number of youth using vaping devices from a couple of years ago. All of the school districts have adopted policies against vaping on school grounds. (*Sandy*)
- Vaping devices are right on the counter at convenience stores. (*Mark*)
  - The legislation closes the loophole on this by requiring that they go behind the counter. (*Alan*)

Karen moved that we approve the letter in support of the bills currently in the state legislature that restrict electronic vaping devices. Adriana seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Bryce will be contacted to testify to the Board of Health; Trevor will serve as an alternate.

- **Policy Consideration/PHAC Support**

Although the legislation will help protect youth, it does not contain language that addresses the health risk to the public from exposure to the vapor from these devices. The Prosecuting Attorney is preparing an ordinance that would ban these devices wherever you would ban tobacco (i.e., subject to the SIPP law). It is anticipated that the proposed ordinance will be ready for presenting to the Board of Health at its March meeting.

Joan moved and Karen seconded the motion to support moving forward with an ordinance to make vaping devices subject to the SIPP law. The motion passed unanimously.

Julie will send the council a *New England Journal of Medicine* article on formaldehyde in electronic cigarettes.

**(6) VACCINATION LEGISLATION (Alan)**

The concern about vaccination has been highlighted by the recent measles outbreak in Disneyland. Washington State has fairly high vaccination exemption rates in schools. Measles can be a lethal disease. To maintain eradication, it is important to have 'herd immunity'. There are three ways to obtain an exemption in Washington State – religious exemption, medical contraindication, and philosophical exemption. House Bill 2009 (included in council's packet) removes the philosophical exemption. Alan would like to take this to the Board meeting. It's topical as it is currently in the legislature right now.

*Discussion:*

- She feels very strongly that the council needs to support this. The myth still lives out there about vaccine causing autism. (Joan)
  - She sees a lot of mothers of patients who believe the autism fear; some believe they could get sick from the vaccine. (Adriana)
  - In terms of correcting misinformation, some people get in a mindset who are unlikely to change their mind. We do what we can with tools from CDC. Public Health does interviews on television, newspaper, tweets, Facebook, etc. You tend to get in a cycle about these issues. (Don)
- Do we have a sense of how many people would be impacted by the legislation? I would suspect it would be hundreds. (Trevor)

Karen moved that the Council support HB 2009 regarding immunizations. Joan seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous support. A letter will be drafted for Trevor's signature.

**(7) PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**(8) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.