



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Advisory Council

February 08, 2022 meeting notes

Attendees: Elma Blum, Karen Bowerman, Sandra Brown, Peggy Carlson, Shona Carter, Paul Childers, Tyler Clary, Mark Collier, Heather Dekker, Remy Eussen, Adrienne Fairbanks, Dave Fuller, Aru Headrick, Marla Sanger, Cassandra Sellards-Reck, Michelle Stickley, Maria Swinger-Inskeep

Absent: John Brooks, Stephanie Roise-Yamashita, Andy Santos

Staff: Lydia Gherman, Jeff Harbison, Alan Melnick, Andrea Pruet, Brian Schlottmann, Roxanne Wolfe

(1) WELCOME/NEW MEMBERS/APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES *(Marla Sanger)*

- Marla opened with introductions and welcomed Councilor Chair Karen Bowerman as the non-voting ex-officio PHAC member representing the Clark County Board of Health.
- The Council reviewed the meeting minutes from December 14, 2021. Remy moved, and Sandy seconded motion to approve the meeting notes as submitted. All were in favor.

(2) COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- None

(3) DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

- **2022 Budget update** *(Jeff Harbison)*

The Council approved the budget in November 2021 for the 2022 operating budget. That budget included a significant increase in Foundational Public Health Services funding. The funding started with the state fiscal year of last July, and Clark County Public Health (CCPH) was notified of the formalized amount late last year. The next part of the budget will be the supplemental process.

PHAC will engage at a much higher level for the 2023 budget. CCPH will receive the baseline budget in late May and is due on August 15. The timeline will be compressed to prepare the budget and present decisions about new funding, potential general fund, reduction directives, and engaging PHAC throughout the budget process. It is a comprehensive process, including calculations of environmental health fees, a significant funding stream.

- **COVID-19 update** *(Dr. Alan Melnick)*

COVID-19 data

Statewide:

- Rate of COVID-19 is 3,053 per 100,000
- Hospital rate is 30 per 100,000
- Hospital beds occupied by COVID-19 patients is 28%

County:

- Rate of COVID-19 is 2,409 per 100,000
- Hospital rate is 19 per 100,000
- Percent of hospital beds occupied is 94%
- Percent of ICU beds occupied 98%

- Percent hospital beds occupied by COVID-19 patients & persons under investigation for COVID-19 is 24%
- Percent ICU beds occupied by COVID-19 patients & persons under investigation for COVID-19 is 30%
- Number of hospital beds occupied by COVID-19 patients is 122

Data shows that vaccinations help prevent infection, which helps prevent transmission. Vaccinations also prevent severe disease, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19.

- COVID-19 booster doses are available for twelve years and older.
- COVID-19 vaccine is available to everyone five years of age and older.
- Pfizer is working on an emergency authorization for children six months to four years of age.

COVID-10 vaccination data

- Five years of age and older fully vaccinated: statewide is 27%, county is 20%
- Boosters: statewide is 2 ½ million, county is 144,000

Mobile vaccination teams

- Visited 194 facilities
- Administered 1008 doses of COVID-19 vaccine
- Boosters 958
- Volunteer hours 602

CCPH is working on getting vaccines to high-risk populations, adult family homes, long-term care facilities, home-bound and unhoused populations.

A new report from CDC shows that consistent use of masks in indoor public settings is associated with lower odds of being infected and testing positive. People who consistently wear masks are less likely to get COVID-19. The higher the quality of the mask, the more effective they are.

- Cloth mask 56%
- Surgical mask 66%
- Respirator mask 83%

Free at-home tests

- www.COVIDtest.gov
- <http://www.sayyescovidhometest.org>

▪ **House Bill 1152** (*Dr. Alan Melnick*)

The Washington legislature passed House Bill 1152. The statute associated with it is RCW 70.05.035, which describes the home rule charter of the Local Board of Health. This statute requires that county boards of health include non-elected members. To retain their composition, the local board of health would need to have a community health board established by January 2021. PHAC meets the community health board with Bylaws created in 2003.



RCW 70.05.035.pdf

▪ **Workplan Discussion for 2022** (*PHAC members*)

Marla opened the floor for discussion on a workplan for 2022.

- o (Sandy) Local food systems and impact on families and communities, explore outside communities to present and talk about other community issues
- o (Aru) Discussion around the pandemic and the impact on mental health, provide speakers to present/speak on this, substance use, interconnectedness with homelessness
- o (Michelle) Racial equity and housing issues as a determinant of health encompasses transportation, mental health, access to health care, food

- (Alan) CCPH can provide data and support
- Marla suggested that maybe PHAC can form smaller groups to tackle some items discussed. PHAC is charged to provide advisory and recommendations to the Board of Health.

(4) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/COUNCIL MEMBER UPDATES:

▪ **Election of Executive Committee Members** (*Marla Sanger*)

The Council reviewed the slate of officers presented to them by the Nominations Committee. Cassandra Sellard-Reck moved, and Dave Fuller seconded the motion to approve the slate of officers for 2022. All were in favor.

- *Chair: Dr. Aru Undurti Headrick*
- *Vice-Chair: Sandy Brown*
- *Member at Large: Michelle Stickley*

(5) CLOSING/ADJOURN (*Marla Sanger*)

- **NEXT MEETING:** April 26, 2022, Zoom meeting.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.