

**Commission on Environment Justice & Sustainable Communities (CEJSC)**  
**&**  
**Children's Environmental Health & Protection Advisory Council**  
**Montgomery Park, Baltimore, MD**  
**Aeris Conference Room**  
**May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018**  
**9:30 am-11:30 am**

**Meeting Minutes**

**In Attendance**

- Commissioners: Duane Johnson, Camille Burke, Subha Chandar, Janet Moye Cornick, Steve Levitsky, John Quinn, Richard Fairbanks, John Papagni
- Participants: Jackie Norris, Megan Weil Latshaw, Nsedu Witherspoon, Laura Allen, Julian Levy, Belinda Adeso, Ben Gitterman, Stephanie Cobb-Williams, Veronica Carella, Dan Foster, Liz Green, Pam Casmeyer, Caroline Varney

**Introduction**

Camille Burke and Clifford Mitchell started the meeting by welcoming everyone and asking everyone to introduce themselves.

CEJSC April 2018 meeting minutes were approved

**MACo Update**

Richard Fairbanks said he is meeting with MACo and Les Knapp on May 23, 2018 at 10:00 am.

**Outreach Update**

Camille Burke said that CEJSC is using the Department of Planning outreach plan that Joseph Griffiths put together and that she willing to share the plan with CEHPAC.

Cliff Mitchell of CEHPAC said every State agency has been going out to communities for outreach. Cliff asked CEJSC have the Commission disseminate any of the meeting /schedules to CEJSC members. Camille said she's aware that MDE and MDH have forwarded schedules of meetings and listening sessions.

Cliff suggested it might be good for staff to get listening sessions schelules from other State agencies and disseminate them to the CEJSC Commissioners.

**CEJSC Retreat Update**

There was some discussion about possible retreat locations. Crystal said she has ideas and will report back to the Commission.

Camille reported that Prince George's County passed HB0183 allowing PG County their own EJ Commission, and she will be sending out a letter showing support for their efforts.

### **CEHPAC Updates**

Cliff gave an update on WiFi radiation and said its effects appear to be consistent with consensus on low level carcinogenesis (the initiation of cancer formation) but they are not sure of the mechanism yet. He said two studies shows this pattern of neurological cell tumors associated with WiFi radiation.

Cliff talked about HB1110 (Health and Safety Guidelines) and said it passed in the last legislative session. He said the bill does not specifically talk about health impacts and did not focus on health. Cliff said he and Rachel will keep the Council informed on HB1110 and efforts around the digital device work group.

Veronica Carella said HB1110 mandates development of health and safety best practices for use of digital devices in the classroom, by June 1, 2019. She wants to insure that CEHPAC is included in those discussions. Veronica asked if Cliff could share the final version of the CEHPAC testimony with both Commissions, Cliff said he can.

Veronica also reported that HB-57 (Green Cleaning Bill) did not pass.

### **Lead and Drinking Water**

Camille said HB270 (Testing for Lead in Drinking Water-Public and Nonpublic Schools) passed last year and became effective April 9, 2018. She said they were holding information sessions for the school systems and that her staff came back with loads of questions. The bill basically requires all public and non-public schools to test all portable drinking water sources for lead and report the test results publicly. Some jurisdictions are already doing the testing, but for others it will be new. MDE has been doing training sessions with schools across the State and will be developing a website to post test results.

The question was asked are there funds in the Bill for remediation if necessary? Cliff said no, remediation will be dependent upon the schools.

Veronica said she thinks the Council should write a letter to the legislators letting them know how they can make this a better Bill.

Cliff said he thinks questions for both Commissions are how to provide feedback to groups and how the groups can be involved in monitoring test results and following up.

### **Lead and Asthma Update Programs**

Cliff said the Department of Community Development and MDE have been working across the State on two initiatives to abate lead in homes with children who have been exposed to lead and working with children with asthma.

The State is providing \$500,000 in funding for lead abatement initiative combined with \$3.2 million in matching funds from the federal government. Participants will come from the lead registry over the last two years for children who have had lead levels between 5 ppm to 10 ppm.

The programs have been up and running since January 2018.

### **Health in All Policies Workgroup Update**

Veronica said the Senate passed SB340 in 2017 which requires a workgroup of State and non State agency representatives to use a Health in All Policies framework to examine the health of all Maryland residents and how State and local governments collaborate to implement policies that will have a positive impact on the health of residents in the State. Veronica said the workgroup submitted a mandated report on January 31, 2017.

### **Workgroup Priorities**

- Create a Health in All Policies Framework
- Develop a tool kit
- Finding Announcements
- Develop a process to provide guidance to State and county agencies that facilitate data sharing between agencies
- Comprehensive Planning and Zoning development process

Veronica recommended that someone from CEJSC should be on this workgroup.

Veronica said she will send an email out to when the Health in All policies meeting will be.

Cliff asked how the Commissions can take advantage of the commonality between both groups. It was suggested that both groups work on the Health in All Policy issue. Julian suggested working on asthma because of the racial disparity. Somebody mentioned working on Citizen Science. Cliff suggested that by the time the two groups meet there should be a work plan in place with specific goals, time tables, and action items that identify what we want to accomplish in a year's time.

Steve Levitsky suggested that CEJSC could help CEHPAC with the lead initiative since they have funding. Cliff said if CEJSC wanted to help they could look at what CEHPAC is doing and point out things that are working or where things could be strengthened.

Cliff asked both groups to send him the 3 most important objectives/points on asthma they want to work on that are achievable and realistic.

Steve mentioned community engagement and the question of how to reach those communities.

### **Public Comments**

A parent talked about wireless radiation and its effect on children in school, and passed out some material concerning it.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

