

GOVERNOR'S LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION MEETING

Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore MD 21230
(approved w/amended Agency Updates - 12/3/09)
Thursday, November 5, 2009

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Eric Lomboy – Chair, Alvin Bowles – MDE, Patrick Connor – Hazard ID Professional, Cheryl Hall – Office of Child Care, Melbourne Jenkins – Property Owner Pre-1950, Edward Landon – DHCD, Pat McLaine – Child Health/Youth Advocate, Barbara Moore – Health Care Provider, Pam Putman – DHMH, Linda Roberts – Property Owner Post 1949, and Mary Snyder-Vogel – Child Advocate.

COMMISSIONERS UNABLE TO ATTEND

Delegate Nathaniel Oaks and Valerie Paton (MIA)

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Mary Johnson – DHMH, Sarah Reese-Carter – DHMH/MA, Shirley Corbin – MIA, Tamara Aviles – MWPH, Michael Papi – JHHC, Suzanne Lo – CECLP, Ruth Ann Norton – CECLP, Peter Grose – MMHA, Clifford Mitchell, Donna Webster - WCHD, (via conference phone), Kirsten Day – MDE, and Tracy Smith – MDE.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

II. OLD BUSINESS: The Minutes from the September 3, 2009 meeting were approved.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FUTURE MEETING DATES: Ed Landon suggested that the meetings be monthly from January - May then break for June and July and resume in August or September. There was some discussion about maintaining focus and agenda items.

IV. DISCUSSION

- The Lead Commission could be affected if the Maryland Court of Appeals rules that the Reduction of Lead Risk in Housing Act is unconstitutional. If it so decides, the entire Act would be invalid and a new Act would need to be introduced into the General Assembly. The Commission would not exist in statute until the Act was revived. There is a possibility that only the qualified offer portion of the Act is the only part that would be ruled unconstitutional and stricken. The third possibility is that the Court will rule that the Act is constitutional and no changes are necessary.
- MDE has a contingency plan. Ruth Ann Norton suggested that MDE present this plan at the next meeting. Ruth Ann stated that she has spoken to Delegate Maggie McIntosh (Baltimore City) who is interested in being up dated about Commission events. HUD is aware of the possibility of the law being overturned. Emergency legislation would need to be put forth immediately.

- Eric Lomboy passed around draft of letter about weatherization and asked for input from Commission members. Suggestion to address letter to Cathy Zoid with copy to Claire Johnson and Bill Ariano and perhaps Matt Anon. Letter to go out at end of month. Letter is about integration of funding of lead and healthy home issues. Ed Landon stated that all dollars currently go through MEA and that the use of those funds is very restricted. He suggested that Wolf Malcolm of MEA might need to approve or lend his support. Ruth Ann Norton disagreed to this stating that the Commission needs to have its own authority.
- Pat McLaine spoke about data systems. Said that the issue should be on the table for discussion. Very important for evaluating success. Need to show percentage of reduction from a specific date. It was asked was the percent reduction in Baltimore City was. Alvin presented charts showing 2008 rate of 2.5% in Baltimore City and 0.7% Statewide. Amounts to 468 children with EBLs. Testing rate was said to be 23%. All of this information is on the website.

V. AGENCY UPDATES

DHMH – Pam Putman

Inundated with H1N1 issues at present.

Mt. Washington Pediatric Hosp – Barbara Moore

Requested the MCO lead data and the specific testing rates per MCO.

Sarah Reese-Carter

Reported that Deanne Leonard used to provide the MCO lead data. Although CDC has come out with new recommendations for lead testing, Maryland Medicaid will continue with the current recommendations of CMS regarding all Medicaid children.

DHCD – Ed Landon

Livability code published in September 2009. Anticipating implementation in January 2010. Hearings now going on in Baltimore City. PM20 proposed change – add deteriorated paint structure requirement to be repaired. No opposition to that. North Carolina vote will be very important in how this situation comes out.

Baltimore City Health Dept – Eric Lomboy

No federal funding received this year. Money went to Baltimore County. Midst of hiring someone to administer a new grant. Requests for recommendations on that. Emphasis on H1N1 at present. Recommendation by Ruth Ann Norton that if you are a HUD grantee and you are pulled off of lead issues to focus on H1N1 that you let HUD know.

Office of Childcare – Cheryl Hall

Nothing to report.

Maryland Insurance Administration – Shirley Corbin (Valerie Paton)

Nothing to report.

Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning - Ruth Ann Norton

Green and Healthy Homes initiative. Handed out pamphlet “Green & Healthy Homes Initiative”. Up until now nobody being trained on weatherization gets anything about lead control. Goal is to change this. Reduce inefficiencies and costs. Single stream interventions. Ensure that HUD takes what Healthy Homes has learned and integrates it into ALL its programs. Eight personnel assigned full time from HUD to healthy homes initiative.

The Coalition is successful in getting higher level appt by DOE. Upgraded their participation in healthy homes.

Baltimore formed task force to see how Baltimore City can learn from the Coalition and other City initiatives. How can we blend program funds and coordinate activities?

Baltimore Neighborhood Energy Challenge – part of sustainability initiative. Eight neighborhoods participating, six low to moderate incomes, two upper incomes. Need to address qualifications for weatherization program and close gaps in income. 450 units being done by the Healthy Homes Demonstration Program. Working on flexible funding with federal groups.

Not doing radon testing but this is under consideration.

Allergen sampling – done in conjunction with JH and Morgan University. Program provides filters one time and then gives participants the tools to order more. There is a 3 year follow-up. A lot of overlap intervention.

Baltimore County got lead hazard grant. Not related to the City and other major cities in the country not getting funding.

Thoughts for next meeting December 3, 2009:

MDE to present data and contingency plans. Medicaid screening rates to be discussed. Eric Lomboy asked that members think about what new items should be covered in future meetings.

Meeting adjourned 11:30am.