

GOVERNOR'S LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore MD 21230

Approved minutes (5/5/11)

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Alvin Bowles, Patrick Connor, Cheryl Hall, Melbourne Jenkins, P. Randi Johnson, Edward Landon, Patricia McLaine, Barbara Moore, Pamela Putman, and Linda Roberts.

COMMISSIONERS UNABLE TO ATTEND

Tanya Clayborn, Delegate Nathaniel Oaks, and Mary Snyder-Vogel.

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Kory Lemmert – CECLP, Michael Papi – JHHC, Dana Schmidt – MMHA, Sara Reese-Carter – DHMH, Genevieve Birkley – BCHD, Maura Dwyer – DHMH, Ruth Ann Norton – CECLP, Kirsten Day – MDE, and Tracy Smith - MDE.

Introductions – The meeting began at 9:40 am. Alvin Bowles will be facilitating this meeting and future meetings until the Governor appoints a new Chairperson.

Old Business – The February 17 and March 3, 2011 minutes were approved.

Future Meeting Dates

The Commission meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of every month. All meetings are scheduled from 9:30 am – 11:30 am at the Maryland Department of the Environment, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21230. The next Lead Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 5, 2011, in Salisbury (Wicomico County) at the Fire House. The meeting will be hosted by Donna Webster. More information will be forwarded as soon as it becomes available.

Pamela Putman announced she will be resigning from the Commission. Maura Dwyer will be taking her place.

Status of the Task Force – Pat McLaine reporting – all information has been received. The Task Force will be meeting on April 14 at 10 am. Pat McLaine - anticipated time frame – review of actual document in June hopefully.

Legislation:

Tax credit – failed in committee

Ruth Ann Norton – 1033 passed the House. HB 1033 is now in the Senate. It most likely will pass. Increase access to civil penalties by MDE. Requires dust testing on Modified Risk Reductions and Notice of Defect on homes with kids under six. Summer study

committee looking at 50-78 properties – will they be brought into law? Will make recommendations about dust test being required at time of sale. Supported by Chair of Environmental Matters Committee, Governor, and others. Owners see it sets one standard. MDE very instrumental. Commission wrote a letter about work being done on 2010 plan.

Ruth Ann Norton – Delegate committed to idea of what plan is for lead poisoning moving forward.

Alvin – 1254 – staggering of due dates for registration passed the House and is in the Senate. The Lead Rental Registry, at MDE, just started a contract to put registrations and payments online. This process is anticipated to take at least a year before it is up and running. The Lead Rental Registry will have the ability to get better information. The old system will be migrated into the new system. This will allow for better ability to contact those who haven't paid. This is the first group in the Department to go this way.

Ed Landon – The “Green Code” will most likely pass. IGCC – International Green Construction Code.

Agency Updates:

MDE – Online registration

DHMH – None

DHCD - International code council – adopting 2012 code a year early. Will start process next month. Required to meet energy standards. Local code officials asking for training. There will be information on the website. ADA recently made changes we have to adopt. Attend a course if you need to understand these. MD accessibility code is in addition to ADA. Information is on the web page.

Patrick Connor – He asked if code training staggered across state? Answer is Yes. Try to find places that are free to do training. Have grant for next three years. Web has demonstration for blower door test. International property code also to be adopted. Updated by FCC. The livability code must be followed at minimum.

BCHD – Lead abatement now officially under Housing.

Ruth Ann Norton has received calls asking about what's going on. Ruth Ann suggested to the Commission that we have someone make clear on both previous websites.

Patrick Connor – Nothing technically has changed, but local jurisdictions have changed some things. Local jurisdictions have weakened some of the code, i.e. under performance standards. We're not in a position to go after them at this point. The question is “can they lessen the code?”

Office of Childcare – Nothing to report at this time

Insurance Commission – Nothing

Coalition

A hearing is scheduled for April 12, 2011 on the loss of HUD funding and the Housing Authority issue. Suggestion made to the Commission to look at the Housing Authority issue. Using defense that it is HUD funding is an interesting argument. City does have to look at dealing with damages on both back and front end. Strong argument about what is fair and just. This is a difficult position for city employees. The Mayor should get a committee together.

June 20-23, 2011 – National Conference of HUD, CDC, and EPA. In June there will be a road block in Maryland. Airways will be saturated with lead poisoning prevention. Look at www.leadfreekids.org.

Federal shutdown – CDC recommended 50% cut to budget. It's not looking good. In 2012, the budget is the issue. HUD hazard control budget doing okay so far. Just did two reports on Green and Healthy Homes and Green and Healthy Homes national dialogue/best practices. Our new websites will have dialogue on this.

Alvin – CDC budget – last year ~\$800,000. This year \$600,000 maximum. Add on restriction that state agencies can only get one third of that. Alvin will keep the Commission posted on the status. It is across the board on all states that received CDC grants.

Ruth Ann – Anticipate 49 awards. Cities had to serve 1 million citizens or more or team up to get that number. The chance of Maryland getting full amount is high.

Pat McLaine – Issue of national budget – most of CDC budget is intact. This cut is fairly unprecedented.

Ruth Ann – A GAO report of CDC's handling of lead in water. Head of CDC talked about his frustration. Have been talking to House and Senate. It's a huge thing to overcome when Congress asks for reduction.

Ed Landon – Maryland launched an Emergency Mortgage Assistance (EMA) for people 3-12 months in arrears on a mortgage. Your income is recalculated if you've lost a job for instance. It is a \$40 M program for the next 6 months only. Patrick Connor said he referred two people and the program was able to assist. Ed Landon stated that 250,000 people have been helped. They have received 12,000 phone calls. This is still a problem.

Meeting adjourned 10:30am