

Board of Health
Public Health Program Policy Committee

Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2020
Regular Meeting

The meeting was held via Zoom conference call/video.

Committee members present via Zoom

Megan Dunn
John Joplin
Jared Mead
Linda Redmon

Committee members absent

Dan Rankin

Staff present

Shawn Frederick, Christ Spitters, Heather Thomas, Nicole Thomsen, Pam Aguilar, Ragina Gray, Katie Curtis, Pia Sampaga-Khim, Therese Quinn, Linda Carl

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Program Policy Committee was called to order by Ms. Linda Redmon at 3:02 p.m. via Zoom video conference.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Ms. Linda Carl who reported there was a quorum present.

Approval of Agenda Contents and Order

It was moved by Ms. Megan Dunn and seconded by Mr. John Joplin to approve the agenda contents and order. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 absent.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Ms. Dunn and seconded by Mr. Joplin to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 21, 2020. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 absent.

Briefings

Draft medication management policy (SR 20-049)

This policy establishes a framework for the procurement of medications with additional management practices such as storage, dispensing, and chain of custody records to be developed through procedures. This formalizes the process; there are no changes from the current policy in place.

Draft staff immunization policy and procedure (SR 20-050)

This policy establishes requirements and recommendations for vaccinations or proof of immunity for personnel, temporary staff and interns within the District. This formalizes the process; there are no changes from the current policy in place. Ms. Dunn recommended that when going to the full Board, it's clear in the staff report that there are no changes being made to the current policy.

Discussion

Draft Res. 20-17 supporting equity and inclusion in public health in Snohomish County (SR 20-051)

Ms. Nicole Thomsen reported that when Mr. Frederick updated the Board at their June 9 meeting regarding the equity team's draft letter to staff, the Board requested a broader conversation and possible resolution. The equity team's purpose is to create an equitable environment both inside and outside the organization. The draft resolution as presented contains recitals, but leaves open for Board input the resolved ("therefore") section.

Committee comments included:

- This is an opportunity for our society to combat systemic inequities.
- Must be cognizant of resources and funding; ensure spreading dollars to maximize benefit.
- Perhaps implement a translation policy.

The committee recommended including in the draft resolution:

- Action items that address internal work as well as within the community.
- Action words and timelines, measurements, and/or goals.
- Resources and/or citations, and metrics.
- More "urgent" language.

Staff noted that the District's 101 policy is written to include an equity lens, although language could be strengthened. Mr. Shawn Frederick noted that adding specific commitments to the resolution could prove challenging, given the current workload related to COVID. He sees this as not short term, but an evolution. He will continue to look at long-term planning for the agency in order to budget strategically. However, a resolution will have more impact and value now than waiting several months. Some of the work is already being done, but staff needs clear objectives and next steps. The challenge will be to craft language in the resolution that's actionable but not overly prescriptive. Staff added that it would be good to fold equity in everything the District does, and some things could be addressed now without a big financial investment.

The committee recommended adding their suggestions to the draft resolution, as well as updating the staff report, then moving it to the other committees next week, then to the full Board at its next meeting.

It was moved by Ms. Dunn and seconded by Mr. Joplin to forward the updated draft Res. 20-17 supporting equity and inclusion in public health in Snohomish County to the Administration and Executive Committees next week, with the intent to forward it to the full Board on July 14 for action. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 absent.

Next Meeting Date

Thursday, July 16, at 3 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.