

REPORT FOR THE BOARD OF HEALTH

Public Health Advisory Council Meeting

Regular meeting of September 25, 2019

Committee members present:

Amy Beth Cook, Lake Stevens School District
Jeff Clarke, Alderwood Water and Wastewater District
Lisa George, PRMCE
Robert Goetz, Snoh. Regional Drug Task Force
Korey MacKenzie, Diamond Knot Alehouse (Vice Chair)
Midori Larrabee, EvergreenHealth Monroe
Sid Roberts, The Roberts Group (Chair)
Jim Welsh, ChildStrive

Staff present: Dr. Chris Spitters, Bruce Straughn, Heather Thomas, Nicole Thomsen, Jennifer Reid, Linda Carl

The meeting was called to order at 7:47 a.m.

Motions passed at this meeting:

- Approved minutes of the regular meeting of July 24, 2019.

Briefings

Public Health Foundation

Ms. Heather Thomas shared her research on public health foundations around the country. A non-profit 501(c)3 foundation could provide a way to raise funds for the District; legal counsel has been contacted to determine state restrictions. Mr. Jeff Clark indicated support of considering a foundation, but expressed concern that the county and cities might be less inclined to contribute to public health funding. The council was supportive of moving forward, and several members expressed interest in being on an ad hoc committee should the Board decide to proceed in that direction.

Vaping in Snohomish County

Ms. Jennifer Reid, Health Community Specialist, gave a briefing and noted there were six new cases in the state of respiratory illness caused by vaping products. Dr. Chris Spitters added that no specific cause has been identified and the cause may be multifactorial. We continue to review medical records, but reporting by clinicians isn't mandatory. Vaping is new and unregulated so we don't know the short- and long-term effects yet; more study and oversight are needed.

Strategic Planning

KelloggWatson shared a draft of discussion items and received input from the council. The next strategic planning session with the Board is Oct. 8.

2020 Legislative Agenda

Ms. Nicole Thomsen reviewed the Health District's draft 2020 priorities, which include foundational public health services, adult mortality review, vapor products, sharps product stewardship, suicide as a notifiable condition, quarantined or isolation employment protections, and Title X. The council was

supportive of the priorities. This list will be discussed at the Board's Program Policy Committee meeting in October.

Updates

District Leadership

The Board is expected to approve its division of responsibilities document at the next Board meeting. Three leadership position descriptions have been updated – administrative officer, deputy administrative officer, and health officer. Recruitment for the new health officer will be accomplished in-house unless a qualified candidate isn't found. Interviews for the EH director will occur in a few weeks.

Next meeting: Wednesday, Nov. 27, 7:45 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.