

Public Health Advisory Committee Report of 2013 Activities

The Public Health Advisory Committee began the year under a new structure, rotating meetings between a full committee and sub-committees. *The role of the Public Health Advisory Committee is to advise the City Council and the Health Department on policy matters affecting the health of Minneapolis residents and to serve as liaisons between the City and the community in addressing health concerns.*

Highlights / accomplishments from 2013 include:

Topic / Area	Action / Result	
Committee Operations	Action:	A meeting schedule for the year was established based on the results of re-organization activities in 2012.
	Result:	Full committee meets in odd months; three sub-committees meet during even months and bring actions/recommendations forward to the full committee.
Strategic Planning	Action:	Several members of the PHAC participated with Health Department staff and leadership in a facilitated strategic planning session to discuss the development of new Vision, Mission, and Value Statements. (more details follow)
	Result:	PHAC members engaged in a prioritizing activity to determine Committee priorities in relation to the Health Department's goals. The Policy & Planning sub-committee will propose a 2014 work plan based on these results.
Tobacco-free policy for U of MN Twin Cities campus	Action:	The Committee heard presentations on tobacco cessation, smoke-free living, and non-smoking policies on college campuses. Letters of support for a tobacco-free campus policy for the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campuses were sent to both President Kahler and the Board of Regents. (more details follow)
	Result:	President Kahler responded and supports the University Senate proposed smoking ban. In May 2013, the University Senate passed a resolution supporting a smoking ban-with few exceptions-on the Twin Cities campuses.
Healthy Food Policy proposed by Minneapolis Parks & Rec Board	Action:	The Committee heard presentations on healthy food policies related to the Minneapolis Parks & Rec Board. Letters of support endorsing the healthy food policy proposed by the Minneapolis Parks & Rec board were sent to Superintendent Miller and Board President Erwin.
	Result:	MPRB passed a healthy food policy in September 2013 and are currently in the implementation stage.
Committee Membership	Action & Result:	Applications from interested residents were reviewed by MHD staff and the Communications / Operations sub-committee. At-Large candidates interviewed and two vacancies for at-large positions were filled. Additionally, one member representative position and one Ward rep were filled.

Public Health Week April 1-7, 2013	Action:	Highlight the work of Public Health in Minneapolis and the partners who contribute to it. PHAC committee members were encouraged to nominate a Local Public Hero and publicize Public Health Week events within their communities.
	Result:	The department held / hosted several events during Public Health Week including a celebration of Local Public Health Heroes to honor outstanding contributions of community partners, individuals, and organizations. Gretchen Musicant, Commissioner, emceed; Paul Aasen, City Coordinator, read a proclamation declaring Public Health week in Minneapolis; CM's Samuels and Glidden presented awards. A resource fair provided opportunity to interact with MHD staff in areas of hand washing, lead testing, emergency preparedness, healthy living, research and program development, and school-based clinics. Additionally, the department hosted a 'Walk with Your Mayor' during which RT Rybak laid out his vision for the new Vikings Stadium and development of a city park between the stadium and City Hall.

Along with these accomplishments, PHAC received informative presentations on various public health related matters, which included:

- **Cancer Prevention Study – 3 (American Cancer Society):** **January 2013**
 Pamela Mason, CPS-3 Project Coordinator for the Midwest Division shared information about the most recent Cancer Study initiated by the American Cancer Society. This study has a target enrollment of 300,000 individuals who will be followed over a 30-year period. The goal of CPS-3 is to better understand factors (lifestyle, environmental, genetic) that cause or prevent cancer by studying dietary patterns, amount of exercise, effects of medication, exposure to environmental factors, etc.
- **Tobacco Initiatives:** **March 2013**
 Lara Pratt, SHIP Manager for MHD, presented information on the department's initiatives related to tobacco cessation and smoke-free living. Emily Anderson, Program Director – AnsrMN.org provided data related to tobacco use and trends in student populations and reviewed non-smoking policies on college campuses. This discussion led to PHAC actions noted above.
- **Minneapolis Staple Foods Ordinance:** **May 2013**
 Kristen Klingler, MHD Sr. Public Health Specialist, and Robin Garwood, Aide to Council Member Cam Gordon, presented information on: proposed changes to the Staple Foods Ordinance, the process for community and business engagement, and potential timeline for action. The proposed changes were discussed. The Committee agreed to the concepts in the proposed changes and emphasized that changes to the Ordinance should reflect the needs of the diverse communities of the City.
- **Overview of Environmental Health division of the Minneapolis Health Department:** **July 2013**
 Dan Huff, Director of MHD's Environmental Health division, provided an overview of the services and areas of responsibility for Food, Lodging and Pools; Lead and Healthy Homes; and, Environmental Services. He also presented information on environmental initiatives, regulatory activities related to elevated blood lead response, lead poisoning, lead hazard reduction, and abrasive blasting. He reviewed grant funded projects: Healthy Homes Thriving Communities, and Safe and Healthy Homes.

- **Health Dept. Goals, Updated Vision-Mission-Values and Strategic Priorities** **Sept. 2013**
Gretchen Musicant, Commissioner, presented details and results of the Strategic Planning process the department engaged in. New Vision- Mission-Values statements were reviewed as were Strategic Priorities for strengthening functions within the department. New goals as a merged Health Department were reviewed and discussed.
- **What's new in SHIP 3.0?** **Nov. 2013**
Lara Pratt, SHIP Manager – MHD, provided a report on the latest round of State Health Improvement Program (SHIP) grants and the Strategies for Healthy Living 2014-2015. MHD received 2 SHIP grants totaling \$1.8 million for the next two year period (November 2013-October 2015). These grants, awarded by the Minnesota Department of Health, include expansion of current initiatives and new ones to help create healthy environments, increased opportunities for physical activity, healthy eating, and tobacco-free living. The PHAC has already acted upon some of these areas as noted above: supporting tobacco-free Metro campuses, healthy food policy with MPRB, and the concepts included in the Staple Foods Ordinance.