



Public Health Advisory Committee

December 2, 2014, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Minneapolis City Hall, Room 132

AGENDA

Agenda Item	Presenter	Time	Committee Action
Welcome and Introductions Certificates of Recognition for: Saeng Kue, Tara Jenson	<i>Karen Soderberg</i>	6:00 – 6:10	Approve agenda
Jennie Meinz – Student Intern	<i>Jennifer Pelletier</i>	6:10 – 6:20	
PHAC Logistics and Updates Approve Minutes Approve 2015 meeting dates Member – At Large approval	<i>Karen Soderberg</i>	6:20 – 6:35	Committee review, discussion and approval
Reports from Sub-committees: <i>Communications/Operations:</i>	<i>Karen Soderberg</i>		
<i>Policy & Planning:</i>	<i>Rebecca Thoman-Dan Brady</i>		
<i>Collaboration & Engagement:</i>	<i>Margaret Schuster</i>		
Presentation: <i>Addressing Hoarding in the City of Minneapolis</i>	<i>Brittani Schmidt, MHD</i>	6:35 – 7:05 7:05 – 7:15	Informational session Questions/discussion
Department Updates	<i>Gretchen Musicant</i>	7:15 – 7:30	Discussion
Additional discussion time for sub-committees		7:30 – 8:00	Discussion time

Next Meeting of the Full Committee: January 27, 2015 Minneapolis City Hall, Room 132

Next Sub-committee meeting: February 24, 2015, Minneapolis City Hall, Rooms 132 & 333

A copy of the presentation *Addressing Hoarding in the City of Minneapolis* can be found at:
<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/health/phac/phac-agendas-minutes>

If there are any problems/changes the night of the meeting, please call 612-919-3855.

**Public Health Advisory Committee (PHAC)
Minutes**



December 02, 2014

Members Present: Dr. Happy Reynolds-Cook, Karen Soderberg, Margaret (Peggy) Reinhardt, Birdie Cunningham, Autumn Chmielewski, Linda Brandt, Jennifer Pelletier, Daniel Brady

Members Excused: Julie Ring, Sahra Noor, Abdullahi Sheikh, Sarah Dutton, Joseph Colianni

Members Unexcused: Dr. Siyad Abdullahi, Saeng Kue, Dr. Rebecca Thoman, Silvia Perez, Tamara Ward

MHD Staff Present: Gretchen Musicant, Margaret Schuster, Don Moody

Guests: Brittani Schmidt, Jennie Meinz

Karen Soderberg called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. at City Hall.

Item	Discussion	Outcome
Introduction	Members and guests introduced themselves. Jennifer Pelletier introduced Jennie Meinz, U of M MPD Candidate who will be doing her master's thesis on "Cultural Communities' Attitudes and Experiences with Breastfeeding". Jennie provided a handout summary and discussed her project with the PHAC. While doing this independently, Jennie will be coordinating with some MHD staff; e.g., help establish contacts with community leaders and organizations.	
Agenda/Min Approval	No changes to the agenda. No changes to the September Minutes	Minutes approved by unanimous consent
2015 Meeting Dates	Proposed PHAC meeting dates for 2015 were discussed	Motion to accept proposed dates, made, seconded, motion passed with unanimous consent
Reports from Sub-committees: <i>Operations / Communication</i>	On March 02, the PHAC will present the 2014 Annual Report to the Health, Environment & Community Engagement Committee. Reminded the committee there is a co-chair vacancy to be filled.	
<i>Policy & Planning</i>	At the October meeting, Wesley Butler from CPED presented to the sub-committee on Affordable Housing. The sub-committee recommends exploring steps to create a Citizens Advisory board on Housing issues, including how points are allocated for project funding. Next step towards creating such a committee would be to craft a purpose or charter and bring this to Council Member(s) for their buy in to bring to the entire council.	
<i>Collaboration & Engagement</i>	Kat Kempe of <i>Think Small</i> joined the October sub-committee meeting. We discussed how to capitalize on / coordinate efforts around viewing the upcoming "Raising of America" documentary series. Ideas included: see what can be done in cooperation or correlation with the Mayor's Cradle to K initiative and the League of Women Voters to hold public events and raise awareness and activity response level.	

**Public Health Advisory Committee (PHAC)
Minutes**



Item	Discussion	Outcome
<p>Presentation: Addressing Hoarding in the City of Minneapolis <i>Brittani Schmidt, MHD</i></p>	<p>Brittani presented on the City's efforts in addressing hoarding and its effects. People who hoard have an unusual attachment to their possessions and difficulty parting with them. This leads to excessive acquisition or saving of items and reduces the ability to use and maintain living spaces for their intended purposes. This causes significant distress or physical impairment for them.</p> <p>Other issues generally associated with hoarding; i.e., hoarding is a symptom, not the underlying cause; often has a mental health component such as unresolved grief. As of May 2013, Hoarding Disorder is a new psychiatric diagnosis in the DSM-V (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders). Though Hoarding Disorder has a high level of co-morbidity; i.e., often there is an associated diagnosis (such as OCD, dementia, TBI).</p> <p>The number of individuals with some level of hoarding disorder is estimated at 2-5% of the U.S. population; for the City of Minneapolis, this means ~7,000 to ~18,000 residents may have a hoarding disorder.</p> <p>Effects of hoarding include: danger to emergency responders (inability to safely and quickly access persons in case of an emergency response); public nuisance (issues aggravated by excessive accumulation – such as increased pest levels - which may 'spill over' to other residences in same property or neighboring areas); general deterioration to the resident (physical and emotional) and residence (physical); other hazards (e.g., excessive paper accumulation can be a fire hazard).</p> <p>Housing Code enforcement options may "clear out" a residence with excessive items. Studies show that if the underlying cause of the hoarding issue is not addressed, individuals quickly return to a level of item acquisition equal to or in excess of what they had before the clearing out (within 6 months individuals have often exceeded their initial level of accumulated items).</p> <p>The Minnesota Hoarding Task Force works to increase awareness and address the needs of individuals with hoarding behaviors with the goal of creating best practices to reduce stigma, provide outreach & support to individuals, and increase community safety.</p> <p>Brittani provided some recommendations including having designated City staff to coordinate with clients and work with a cross-City department team and outside agencies to develop policies & procedures for tracking the complaints, efforts, and progress. While the "Public Health Nuisance" ordinance can be a beginning to 'get a foot in the door', more than just clearing out excessive accumulation is needed to achieve a long term solution for the resident and their community.</p>	<p>Informational – with time for discussion and questions</p>
<p>Department Updates- Gretchen Musicant</p>	<p>The Ways & Means Budget Subcommittee met December 01, 2014. On December 10, 2014, the Minneapolis City Council holds an open meeting for discussing, then voting on, the 2015 City Budget.</p> <p>Due to State and Federal representation changes resulting from the November 2014 elections, funding the City receives may change, which may create some uncertainty for the department.</p>	<p>Informational</p>

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Don Moody and Margaret Schuster

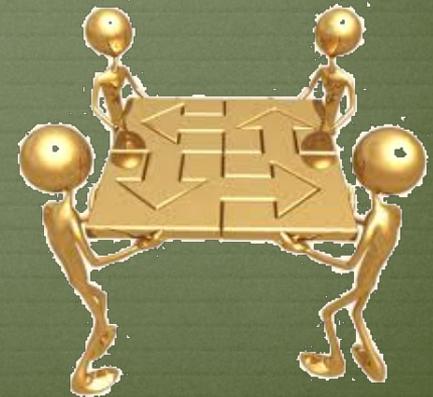
Next Full Committee Meeting: January 27, 2015, Minneapolis City Hall, Room 132, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Next Sub-Committee Meeting: February 24, 2015, Minneapolis City Hall, Room 132 & 333, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Addressing Hoarding in the City of Minneapolis

Best Practices for
Local Government

Brittani Schmidt, RN MPH
Minneapolis Health Department



Outline

- ❖ Interest within City of Minneapolis
- ❖ Background on Hoarding Disorder
- ❖ Current process
- ❖ Reasons to involve local government
- ❖ Models that work
- ❖ Evidence-based recommendations
- ❖ Minneapolis in 2014
- ❖ Challenges
- ❖ Case studies

The Seeds Were Planted...

- ❖ Healthy Homes-Senior Citizens needs assessment
- ❖ Neighborhood & Community Relations/Housing Inspections
 - ❖ Homeowner Navigation Program
 - ❖ 33 hoarding cases closed since June 2013 (only owner-occupied residences)
- ❖ Frustration among many City departments
- ❖ Research best practices

Hoarding Disorder: What is it?

American Psychiatric Association (APA):

- ❖ Excessive **acquisition/saving** of items
- ❖ **Difficulty parting** with possessions
- ❖ **Inability to use living spaces** for their intended purposes
- ❖ Unusual **attachment** to items
- ❖ Significant **distress or physical impairment**

A client is a **person who hoards**, NOT a “hoarder”

Contributing Factors

Why do people hoard?

- ❖ Usually related to unresolved **grief, loss or trauma.**
- ❖ Other contributing factors include:
 - ❖ OCD
 - ❖ Dementia
 - ❖ TBI
 - ❖ Maybe genetics

Prevalence

- ❖ APA: 2-5% of U.S. population
- ❖ Hoarding affects:
 - ❖ ANY age, gender, race, income level, marital or living arrangement status, mental or physical health status
 - ❖ MORE LIKELY to affect the elderly and people of low socioeconomic status

DSM-V

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders

- ❖ “New” diagnosis (as of May 2013)
 - ❖ Distinct disorder, distinct treatments
- ❖ Significance:
 - ❖ Increase public awareness
 - ❖ Improve identification of cases
 - ❖ Stimulate both research and the development of specific treatments for hoarding disorder
 - ❖ Clinicians can bill insurance companies for it...
theoretically

Current Process

- ❖ Housing Code Enforcement
 - ❖ Condemnation, forced clean-out
 - ❖ Quick fix
- ❖ Minimal resources involved
- ❖ No mental health support
- ❖ Identification by chance or complaint



Why Should Government Care?

We all do our jobs for the betterment of residents, neighbors and communities

We are public servants: it's in our nature to care



Why Should Government Be Involved?

- ❖ Danger to our public servants (EMS, police, fire, etc.)
- ❖ Public nuisance, public health, public safety
- ❖ Danger to resident
 - ❖ Physical
 - ❖ Emotional
- ❖ Cost-benefit
 - ❖ Cost of forced clean-out vs. multidimensional approach
 - ❖ Recidivism

Models That Work

Example:

- ❖ Ramsey County
 - ❖ “Fire marshals don’t just call Kay. They *work* with Kay”
 - ❖ House Calls (Kay) calls utility companies, dumpster companies, hotels, make mental health connection
 - ❖ Inspectors come back on a regular basis to “check in”
- ❖ The Hoarding Project
 - ❖ Janet Yeats, co-founder
 - ❖ Lower-income clients can see mental health interns on sliding fee scale
 - ❖ City of Shoreview pilot project

Recommendations

1. Designate city staff (ex. LSW, PHN) to work with clients
2. Identify collaborative team across City departments and with outside agencies*
3. Develop a procedure for city departments to follow*
 - ❖ Standardize terminology and strengthen ordinances
 - ❖ Track complaints and cases*
4. Maintain presence in Minnesota Hoarding Task Force

*A work already in progress!

Designate City Staff Member

- ❖ Point of contact within collaborative team
- ❖ Builds trusting relationship with clients
 - ❖ Encourages mental health treatment
- ❖ Coordinates services among
 - ❖ City agencies
 - ❖ Outside resources
 - ❖ Dumpster services
 - ❖ Family/friends/neighbors (if warranted, applicable and/or desired)
 - ❖ Temporary housing
 - ❖ Utility companies
- ❖ Ensures progress
- ❖ “Data keeper”

Identify Collaborative Team

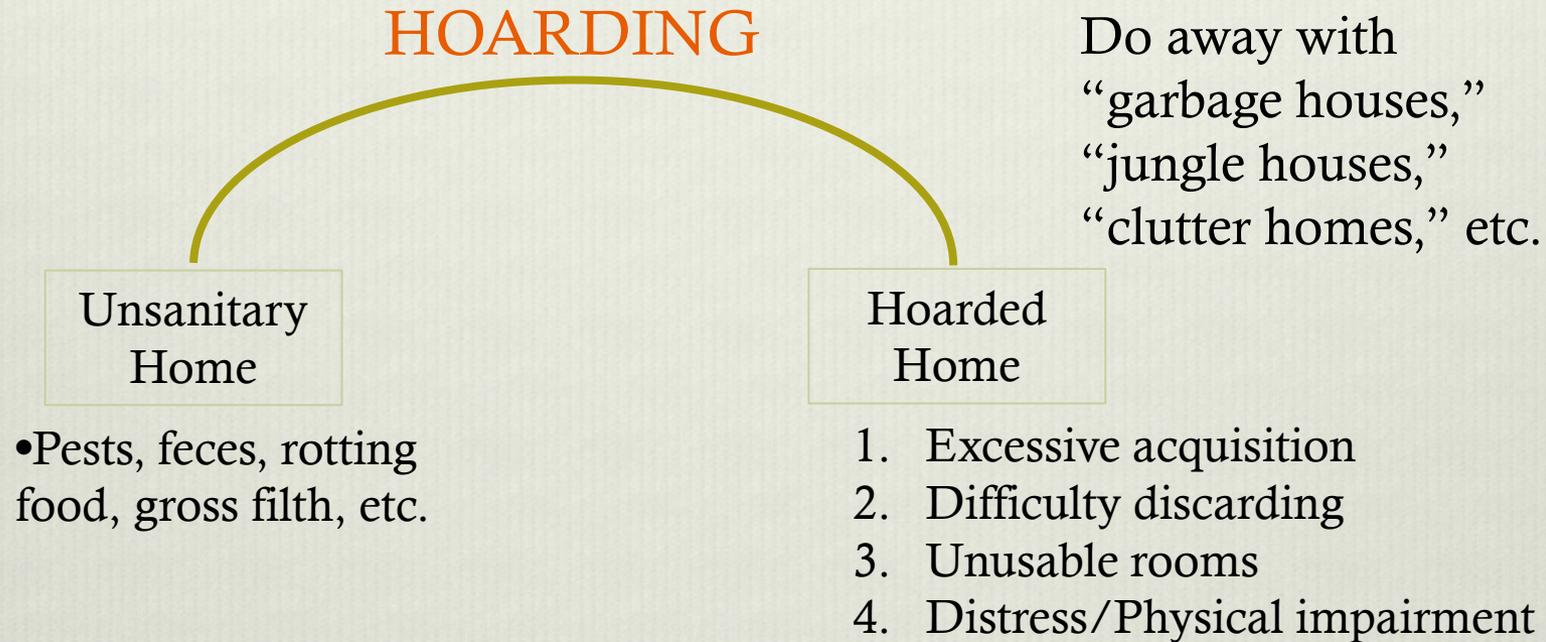
Designate a liaison from:

- ❖ Police
- ❖ Fire 
- ❖ EMS
- ❖ Animal Control
- ❖ Health/Environmental Health
- ❖ Regulatory Services
- ❖ And appropriate outside resources
 - ❖ Ex. Mental health professionals, dumpsters, biohazard remediation, professional organizers

Facilitates short- AND long-term success

Develop a Procedure:

Standardize Terminology and Strengthen Ordinances



- ❖ Potential to use “Public Health Nuisance” ordinance
 - ❖ Determine legal process for entering homes, citing violations, rights of residents vs. rights of community
 - ❖ Determine best solution for Minneapolis
 - ❖ Strengthen that ordinance

Develop a Procedure: Track cases and complaints

- ❖ Homeowner Navigation Program
 - ❖ Captures owner-occupied residences only
 - ❖ Funneled mostly from housing inspectors
- ❖  311 Minneapolis
 - ❖ 10 separate homes reported by the community since August
 - ❖ Data goes to Housing or Fire Inspection Services
 - ❖ Ultimately want to build capacity for additional follow-up beyond code enforcement
 - ❖ Essential: Mental health involvement and long-term follow up by designated City staff member

Minnesota Hoarding Task Force

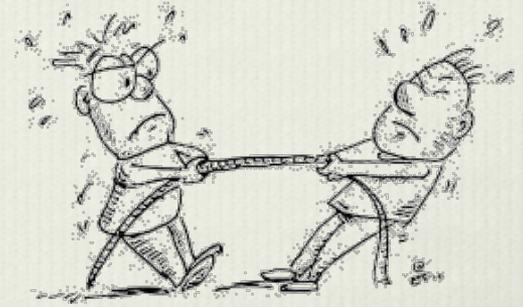
- ❖ Many conscientious organizations are present
 - ❖ This is the “in” group
- ❖ Network
- ❖ Educate
- ❖ Keep current with practices, legislation, etc.
- ❖ Will push and support future legislation



Minneapolis in 2014

- ❖ 2014 Partnership between Healthy Homes and Homeowner Navigation Program
 - ❖ Healthy Homes funding has gone away...
- ❖ Identify sustainable funding
 - ❖ Low-interest/forgivable loans?
 - ❖ At very least, mechanism to assess service fees to property tax

Challenges



- ❖ City-County jurisdictional relationships
 - ❖ APS
 - ❖ Social work
 - ❖ Mental health resources

- ❖ Legal changes
 - ❖ Ordinances
 - ❖ Housing Codes

- ❖ Funding
 - ❖ Grants

- ❖ Capacity
 - ❖ Where does hoarding “live” in the long-term?

Case Study -1

Background: 3-generation family facing condemnation

Case Study -2

Background: 2-generation family facing condemnation

The Question is Not: If? It is: How?

- ❖ “People don’t buy what you do, they buy why you do it.”
 - Simon Sinek, leadership expert and author of *Start With Why* and *Leaders Eat Last*
- ❖ http://www.ted.com/talks/simon_sinek_how_great_leaders_inspire_action

