

Maternal Child Adolescent Health Advisory Board Minutes

May 5, 2022

Members	
Attendees	Absent
Jeff Miller	Hannah Watson
Viveka Rydell-Anderson	Stephanie Montez*
Elizabeth Smith	Rachel Napoli
Ashley Chavez	Melissa Apuya
Natalie Johnson	
Mayra Gallegos	
Renée Alger	
Gina Cuclis	
Annie Nicol	
Kathy Kane	
Carla Denner**	
Elizabeth Vermilyea**	

*Excused absence

**Pending Approval by Sonoma County Board of Supervisors

Staff Present Janette Allee, Administrative Aide, Colette Mc Geough, RN, PHN Supervisor, MCAH/CHVP Director

Call to Order Dr. Jeff Miller called the meeting to order at 12:32 pm and introductions were made.

Meeting Minutes Gina Cuclis motioned to approve the April minutes, Annie Nicol seconded the motion to approve, and the minutes were approved.

Correspondence Impact Sonoma and the Tobacco-Free Sonoma County Coalition have requested an updated letter to present to the Board of Supervisors in July or August to support the prohibition of flavored tobacco and vaping products, they will provide data points to the members by mid-May so members can revise the previously drafted letter and it will be added to June agenda.

Also, Bonnie Hayne and Leatisia Mankaa have both submitted their resignations. Dr. Hannah Watson also responded to the email regarding attendance stating the MCAH AB meetings are at the same time as the hospital staff meetings. This brought up some discussion about possible meeting day and time changes. Creating a Doodle Poll to provide more options to members was suggested and everyone agreed.

Discussion Dr. Miller brought up the topic of members' attendance, and whether the group would like to update the bylaws to possibly include stricter guidelines. Previous bylaws had stated that after more than two consecutive unexcused absences a member could be removed. Gina requested that the term excused absence be defined. Dr. Miller clarified that giving notice would suffice as an excused absence. Viveka stated that if this board wants to represent a diverse population and embody empathy they should not expect perfection. Dr. Miller said perhaps then if a member has two consecutive absences an inquiry could be made on their behalf to check in on the member instead of an automatic suspension. Colette requested the most recent bylaws be sent out and reviewed by the members to determine if they need updating.

Dr. Miller then announced that he has been following what's been going on with the Health Action Team and trying to get a connection with someone who is on the MCAH AB to participate with the Health Action Team, but when he reached out last they were in transition. They may still be in that transition mode, but he reached out again this time contacting Leah Benz, informing her that the MCAH viewpoint is important to continue to pursue, and she stated that she agreed. Gina suggested that we request that they attend one of our MCAH AB meetings and present their new 2.0 version which they recently broke from the county giving them more flexibility. Janette will reach out and offer them an invitation to attend and present.

Dr. Miller then brought the conversation back to the topic of the MCAH AB Vision, Mission, and Goals previously discussed in the April meeting. Focus centered on the wording 'birthing persons'

which some suggested leaves out; adoptive mothers and surrogates. Renee mentioned that First 5 is currently working on a similar project with their own committee to ensure they are using the proper language as well. Other proposed wording suggestions were caretakers, caregivers, families, and guardians. Colette stated that this is also a topic at MCAH state meetings that generates heated debates, and perhaps we should wait to see what they determine is best so as to align with them. Gina agreed, stating that if there is a larger forum already working on the issue we should wait and see what they decide. Dr. Miller also agreed and said we will review again in August.

State Legislature Gina Cuclis shared that the Governor’s May revised budget will come out on the 13th so both the assembly and the senate have come out with their new proposals and the good news is they both are more money for public education. Originally they only proposed a COLA, but now are offering a more substantial not just a one-time increase. We’ll see how this continues between May and June when it passes.

Staff Report Colette reported that there is nothing new to report regarding staff updates, other than to say there have been new outreach measures to Sonoma clinics to educate on the benefits of home visiting programs and recruiting to get more first-time mom clients.

Public Comment

Brittany Lobo, Health Program Manager for Home Visiting (HV) Teams added that the staffing is very close to pre-pandemic staffing levels. There is only one vacancy for a PHN in our Field Nursing Program, but Nurse-Family Partnership and Teen Parent Connections are fully staffed. In fact, they are currently doing a referral contest to drum up new clients for the new NFP nurse just hired to build her caseload quickly

Announcements – Dr. Miller announced that at the next meeting, the new Director of DHS, Tina Rivera will attend.

Meeting Adjourned- The meeting adjourned at 1:27 pm.

Passed Motions	
Minutes from April were approved.	
Handouts	
Action Items	

2022 Meeting Dates			
June 2	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
August 4	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
September 1	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
October 6	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
November 3	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
December 1	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
MCAH AB WebSite			
https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Maternal-Child-and-Adolescent-Health-Advisory-Board/			