



#HealthierMO

Transforming the Future of Public Health in Missouri

**#HealthierMO Executive Committee
Telephone Conference / Zoom Meeting
December 2, 2021, 1:00 p.m.**

Those in attendance were: Dalen Duitsman, Linda Cooperstock, Larry Jones, Audrey Gough, Andrew Warlen, Diane Weber, Jaci McReynolds, Stephen Njenga, Spring Schmidt, Martha Smith, Dan Luebbert, Emily Fessler, and Sandra Boeckman.

MINUTES from the August 18, 2021 meeting were reviewed: A motion was made by Linda Cooperstock and seconded by Diane Weber to approve the minutes as presented. On a vote this motion was approved.

Health Equity Work: Emily Fessler reported that HealthierMO is working with Consilience Group to develop a shared definition of Health Equity, design a health equity education plan, and integrate health equity into the implementation workbook for Missouri's FPHS Model. A Health Equity Design Team (HEDT) was formulated and a meeting was held in November and another coming up this Tuesday. Emily shared the timeline for the HEDT which showed the Stakeholder Guidance meeting in November, Curriculum Prioritization in December, Health Equity Training review in January, review training and tools and priorities in February, Workbook Enhancements in March and the Implementation Plan in April.

Missouri Budget Project: Emily Fessler discussed the Missouri Budget Project's recommendations for allocating American Rescue Plan funds. They are asking organizations to sign on to this plan, which will go to Governor Parson. One key area is to Strengthen and Modernize Missouri's Public Health system. She will send a copy of the Plan to the committee for review.

Professional Organizations: A Retreat was held for MPHA, MoALPHA and MOCPE to discuss advocacy and lobbying and it was facilitated by Eric Armbrecht. The main idea discussed is the realization that at some point public health should join as one united voice to monitor/fight/introduce legislation. There are many bills already introduced regarding vaccinations, masks and communicable disease. Infrastructure bills will be introduced later, but local public health is under the most direct threat. It was discussed how MFH was involved in this retreat, and they ended up paying for Eric's services, who is currently involved with a grant from MFH to coordinate advocacy efforts among three of the public health organizations.

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Executive Committee: Emily Fessler initiated a discussion about participant suggestions on the Executive Committee. Geographic or organizational representation should be considered. Several people were suggested. This discussion will continue through emails but will center on getting representation from Southeast Missouri.

Sustainability of #HealthierMO: Emily led a discussion on where the funding would be coming from for HealthierMO rather than from MFH. What role should HealthierMO play moving forward? Long Term Sustainability is very important beyond the grant. Options discussed included establishing a Public Health institute and providing assistance through the universities or doing contract work for DHSS. Development of the Foundational Public Health Services Model and the research that has been formulated over the last three years is important to continue.

Project Manager Updates: See attached

Communications Coordinator Updates: See attached

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.