

**CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING
PREVENTION AND CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING**

**April 20, 2009
1:00 - 4:00 P.M.**

**Michigan Department of Community Health
Capitol View Bldg
201 Townsend
Room A
Lansing, MI**

Meeting Minutes

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Alethia Carr
Randy Barst
Kanta Bhambhani
Daniel Brant
Joan Dyer
Michael Fehler
Kim Kovalchick
Mary Morrow
Philip Schrantz
Laurel Sproul
William Parker

STAFF

Jane Nickert - MDCH, CLPPP
Nancy Peeler, MDCH
Wesley Priem - MDCH, HHS
Cynthia Cameron, Ph.D. - MPHI
Maria Ostrander – MPHI

PUBLIC

Debbie Behringer, MDCH, CLPPP
Glenn Brown (workgroup member), via
telephone

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Carole Anne Beaman, Ph.D., LLP
Rosalynn Bliss
Brindley Byrd
Irvin Poke
Clay Powell

I. CALL TO ORDER & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Carr called the meeting to order at 1:12 PM.

Chairperson Carr initiated introduction of meeting participants, including Commissioners, staff, workgroup members and general public in attendance.

Chairperson Carr thanked the Commission for their time and recommendations on the content of the 2008 Lead Commission Report to the Legislature and Executive Branch. The report has been completed and will be distributed later this year.

Chairperson Carr inquired if there were any additional announcements that the Commission would like to share. None were offered.

Chairperson Carr called upon the workgroups to present workgroup reports.

II. WORKGROUP REPORTS

Lead Hazard Remediation Subcommittee - Wes Priem

The Lead Hazard Remediation Subcommittee has met twice since the November 2008 Commission Meeting.

Wes Priem announced that approximately \$200 million was coming into Michigan through a federal weatherization program. This money would be distributed through community action agencies to replace windows in older homes (a major source of lead hazard within the state). The Healthy Homes Section (HHS) of the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) will be working with the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) to address lead hazards on these projects.

An additional \$7 million in federal dollars has been set aside for both Michigan and Indiana to address lead hazard remediation in homes. This program will provide a tremendous amount of assistance to families in both states.

New Sustainable Funding Subcommittee – Wes Priem

The New Sustainable Funding Subcommittee has met three times since the November 2008 Commission Meeting.

Richard TenHoor, Outreach Coordinator with the Rental Property Owners Association, has been added as a new member since the April 2, 2009 meeting of the subcommittee.

The group has focused its attention on money coming into the state through the President's Economic Stimulus Package as a possible source of lead abatement funding. Although the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) was recently allocated \$100 million for lead abatement activity across the country, none of this money came to Michigan.

Another avenue of potential funding pursued by the group was that of the Mattel Toy Settlement. Due to the state's continued financial struggles, any money made available to the state through the settlement would be directed into other programs at the discretion of the legislature. The possibility of a set-aside for lead programs is unlikely.

Wes Priem also reported on the group's efforts to identify a stable funding source for the Michigan Trust Fund. At the January 15th meeting, Drs. Jeff Taylor and Cynthia Cameron, of the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI), briefed the group on its previous efforts to assist the Lead Commission with this initiative. The idea has not garnered the support of the legislature or momentum within state government as a whole and would be difficult to realize. At the time of the meeting the group agreed that pursuit of the Trust Fund was no longer a viable option for the commission.

In all, the workgroup explored 25 different ways to fund lead activities. Out of that original list of 25, nine priority areas were identified. From that list of nine, the group further narrowed their focus to two main pursuits. The Subcommittee will focus attention on those items that received the most votes by members. Subcommittee member, Glenn Brown, continues research on how other states have implemented a paint tax on gallons of paint sold.

Lead Testing Subcommittee—Jane Nickert

The Lead Testing Subcommittee has not met since the November 11, 2008 meeting of the Commission.

However, a sample letter has been drafted for the Commission's review and recommendations for improvement. The letter is intended to be sent to providers who provide services to young children, and encourages providers to do testing. The letter utilized specific recommendations from AAP policy statement and MDCH for the testing of children in this state.

Jane Nickert asked commissioners to review over the course of the week and submit recommendations by Monday, 4/27/09. A copy of Michigan's statewide lead testing screening plan will accompany the letter. This document outlines the process for appropriate testing, and targets children 1-2 years of age.

Jane Nickert shared with the Commission the 2008 testing data. Approximately 300 fewer children were poisoned in 2008 than in 2007. MDCH will continue to monitor testing, but the data are showing improvements every year.

Landlord Liability and Protections Subcommittee—Mary Morrow

The Landlord Liability and Protections Subcommittee has not formally met since the last Commission meeting.

In the past, the group has focused its attention on protection for landlords. Many of the protections identified and reported on at the November Commission meeting have proven to be less than viable. The group identified implementation barriers and the absence of a centralized authority to administer rules as major sources of concern. Conceptually this seems to be a good fit for the Commission to pursue, but the infrastructure necessary to administer a policy at both the state and local level does not seem to be present.

Commissioner Morrow expressed the group's interest in pursuing liabilities for landlords through proposed CLB financing priorities (New State Rental Property Rental Fee). The group will be exploring if a requirement that rental properties be assessed for lead hazard before allowing a new family to inhabit could be tied into this plan.

Wes Priem stated the central issue is that the state does not regulate rental property owners. Regulation is provided at the local level and based on the municipality population. However, it would be possible to tweak the Lead Safe Housing registry to do this.

Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes-Alethia Carr

Upon completion of subcommittee reports, Commissioner Carr requested comment on the previous meeting's minutes. With no changes offered, Commissioner Brant offered a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Schrantz seconded the motion. Minutes were approved. A final copy of the minutes will be placed on the website.

III. COMMISSION PRIORITIES

Chairperson Carr indicated that at the last meeting discussion centered on identifying the focus of the Commission. The 2008 Annual Report of the Lead Commission provided a summary of the group's

work. Chairperson Carr indicated she would like the 2009 Annual Report to spotlight the group's accomplishments.

Chairperson Carr introduced Cindy Cameron, with MPHI, who was brought in to facilitate the planning portion of the meeting. Cindy Cameron provided the group with a framework for how the discussion would follow, and reviewed with members the enabling legislation that outlines the charge of the Commission.

The group reviewed subcommittee activities, existing available resources and programs with the group. Gaps in service and funding were identified as well as strategies for moving forward with priorities.

IV. ACTION ITEMS & NEXT STEPS

Cindy Cameron informed the group that the next step for MPHI would be to compile the comments and suggestions shared by members and research options brought to the group's attention during the meeting. Items discussed and related to workgroup activities will be assigned to workgroups for further action. Others will be brought to the full commission for consideration and assignment to appropriate workgroups or individuals.

A list of topics will be given to the group to prioritize either via survey or at the next Commission meeting.

MPHI will distribute to Commission members a copy of a map of Local Health Departments that provide lead testing services across the state as well as a copy of the draft testing letter referenced during subcommittee reports.

Commissioners will review and provide comments on the draft testing letter to Jane Nickert by Monday, 4/27/09.

Jane Nickert will look into the availability of a cost/benefits report by Marjorie Thompson. If published, she will distribute to members.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered.

VI. SUMMARY & ADJOURNMENT

Commission members will review and submit recommendations on the draft testing letter to Jane Nickert by Monday, 4/27/09.

Subcommittees will continue work in their respective areas and update the group as a whole on their progress at the next meeting of the Commission.

The next meeting of the Commission has been set for Monday, July 20, 2009, 1 – 4 PM.

With no further comments or business to attend to, Chairperson Carr adjourned the meeting at 3:45 PM.

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