



BOARD OF HEALTH

The Thurston County Board of Health has responsibility and authority for public health in both incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County.

Minutes for October 14, 2014

1) 3:35 p.m. Call Board of Health Meeting to Order

In Attendance: Cathy Wolfe, Chair; Sandra Romero, Vice Chair; Karen Valenzuela, Commissioner; Don Sloma, Public Health & Social Services Department Director, Dr. Rachel Wood, Health Officer and Emmie San Nicolas, Clerk of the Board of Health

Chair Wolfe called the meeting to order.

- Vice Chair Romero moved to approve the October 14, 2014 agenda. Commissioner Valenzuela seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Vice Chair Romero moved to approve the meeting minutes for the July 8, 2014 and August 12, 2014 Board of Health and Thurston Thrives Advisory Council Meeting. Commissioner Valenzuela seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2) Thurston Thrives Advisory Council Meeting

- a) Welcome, Introductions and Purpose of Meeting –** Chair Wolfe opened the Thurston Thrives Advisory Council meeting and had the Council Members present introduce themselves.

Advisory Council Members in attendance: Curt Andino; Michael Cade; Mariella Cummings; Kevin Haughton, MD; Dennis Mahar; Lisa Smith; Shelly Willis; and Lon Wyrick;

Advisory Council Members Absent: Barbara Clarkson; Nicole Hill; Raj Manhas; Cole Mason, MD; Jay Mason, MD

Action Team Members/Leads in attendance: Chris Hawkins; Paul Knox; Wes Pruitt; Mindie Reule; and Art Starry (and several Advisory Council members who also led or participated in an action team)

Other: Christina Daniels (Small Business Owner and Chair, Asset Building Coalition); Gail Gosney (Thurston County PAO); Jeanne Marie Thomas, NeighborWorks of Grays Harbor

County, Rick Kramer (Organizational Resource Group) and Faith Trimble (Athena Group), facilitators;); and

In attendance for Public Health and Social Services Department (PHSS): Don Sloma, Director; and Rachel Wood, MD, Health

Chair Wolfe briefly announced that the meeting will be an open discussion in preparation for the November 5th, 2014 Thurston Thrives Retreat and to review the nine (9) Action Team Strategy Maps identifying gaps and determine overlaps, duplications, natural alliance, and potential mergers.

Faith Trimble, meeting facilitator, began her discussion with members announcing that during the very first Thurston Thrives meeting on May 14, 2013, key success factors were discussed around Thurston Thrives. Now, a year and a half later, Ms. Trimble reminded members of those key success factors in Thurston Thrives:

- 1) To know more what our community is doing;*
- 2) That all populations are represented in the process;*
- 3) To have the community engaged in the efforts beyond the timeline of phase one of Thurston Thrives;*
- 4) To find the nexus and connection across all the action team areas.*

Ms. Trimble explained that in preparation for the November's retreat, members will be asked to share what they have learned about the Thurston Thrives process and where are they seeing things evolving. In addition, Ms. Trimble introduced Rick Kramer, announcing that Mr. Kramer will also be assisting with the facilitation of the meeting and the retreat, and will share his findings from phone interviews compiled in the past month. Curt Andino, Executive Director of South Puget Sound Habitat for Humanity, will also share information from his interviews with community members as requested by Thurston Thrives members.

Mr. Kramer gave a brief summary of the recommendations and feedback collected during phone and in-person interviews conducted during the month of September and October from Thurston Thrives advisory councilmembers and action team leads, county staff, and other local groups supporting Thurston Thrives, funders, a stakeholder, and the Board of Health. The purpose of the confidential interview exchange was to gain input from key stakeholders of Thurston Thrives to help the planning team shape the retreat agenda. Focus of interviews on perceived strengths of the process and ideas on how to leverage the work for sustained community health improvement. What kind of organizational design will support the work moving forward?

Folks Interviewed: 21 interviews

10 Advisory Council Members

3 Commissioners

3 Funders: Community Foundation of South Puget Sound, NW Venture Philanthropy,
United Way of Thurston County

2 Action Team Leads

2 County Staff

1 Stakeholder: Asset Building Coalition Chair

Questions focused on the following areas:

- Identification of strengths and benefits from this collective impact effort
 - Is this backbone support and infrastructure for improved community health something you want for Thurston County? Why or why not?
 - What kind of support services or key functions should a backbone provide? What should it not provide?
 - What kind of infrastructure needs to be funded and by whom?
 - How can we best leverage existing efforts to develop backbone support?
 - How should this backbone support and infrastructure be governed? Who are the decision makers?
 - What are the outcomes appropriate for our November retreat?
1. As you reflect on the Thurston Thrives initiative, please identify key strengths and benefits provided from the collective impact effort?
 - Strong engagement- Community leaders and Commissioners
 - Comprehensive framework for community health
 - Partnerships formed (new)
 - Valued reports / Strategy maps
 - Silos broken down
 - Increased focus of folks' work
 - Policy makers engaged with health planning
 - Strong organizing structure
 2. Is a backbone support and infrastructure for improved community health something you want for Thurston County? Why or why not?
 - Almost all participants responded yes – there needs to be some kind of ongoing structure to move this work forward given the value that has been gained.
 3. Assuming we want to have backbone organization(s) in Thurston County to support initiatives identified to improve community health.....

What kind of support services or key functions should a backbone provide? What should it not provide?

- Meeting coordination, facilitation and neutral convenor-9
- Non-political-5
- Communication strategy development and deployment-5
- Strong team relationships-3
- Research and procure funding-3
- Scorekeeper- keep an eye on the indicators-2
- Support accountability-2
- Cheerleader/ highlighting successes-2

4. What kind of infrastructure needs to be funded and by whom?
 - Diverse funding partnership- government, foundations, businesses, non-profit-6
 - County government-2
 - Philanthropy
 - Government support- beyond county (possibly federal, state or other local)
 - Majority referenced diverse funding sources
5. How can we best leverage existing efforts to develop backbone support?
 - Asset Building Coalition possible backbone-4
 - TT already leverages a lot of what is already going on -Build on the current operating structure/foundation
 - TRPC or EDC- could be background supports.
6. How should this backbone support and infrastructure be governed? Who are the decision makers?
 - Advisory Council as it exists, -2
 - Co-governed among partners
 - Collaborative decision making. Need to be consensus focused.
 - Reflect multi-sector partnership—
 - Action Team Leaders-
 - A Board of Directors-
 - Informal Structure-
 - Backbone not having decision making authority.
 - Board of Health (BOH) should be a member of ABC
 - Create a steering committee- approved by BOH.
 - Two tier structure- One is executive level and Advisory Council
7. What would be successful outcomes from this November meeting?
 - Focus on a clear governance structure with defined responsibilities -9
 - Celebrate the many successes / gains-3
 - Address the tensions / learnings from the past / Phase 1 -3
 - Determine where the money will come from/ Target budgets-2

There were several other ideas expressed – the facilitators will use this information to design the November meeting.

b) Discussion – Where are the connections, redundancies – Ms. Trimble led the group on a brief discussion on the general function of each Thurston Thrives Action Team's Strategy Maps asking for comments pertaining to the following two (2) questions:

- 1) What are we learning about the interdependencies and inter-relationships of actions teams and the strategy maps? (*connections, duplications, gaps, etc.*)
- 2) What do you see happening in the natural evolution of the action team?

Members were asked to write down their thoughts and asked to share with other team members. Discussion followed and concluded as follows:

Question (1):

- How relatively insignificant the healthcare industry is to the overall population health and how important other topics were such as housing, education, and economy. The issues that we are facing are solvable.
- It's difficult to unhitch one of the team from another as there are a lot of interdependencies among teams in particular those that are focused on the environment and the quality of the living environment we are in. Whether it may be community design, housing, or physical environment, all are closely related to neighborhood quality and quality of life. These factors, along with child development, schools and jobs, affect the health of the community across people's lifespans. There is a lot of mutual reinforcement among teams. Multiple teams help with the transition into early development through adulthood making it as healthy as possible.
- Commonalities of roles and themes are found across all strategies. For future successes, how do we present the overlapping or interdependency in a way that is equal as key to long term success of projects. In addition, by the nature of the work of the action teams, teams still became silo of natural areas of interest and influence.
- Observed great aspirations and great connections between strategies. Some strategies come in at different levels, concrete or broad. The opportunity to communicate well and to ensure those are "unstuck" from their normal ways of business is necessary to succeed.
- The themes of community awareness and access seem to be common across all teams. Teams that were naturally aligned with existing coalitions had amazing synergy.

Question (2):

- The Housing Action Team has good concrete ideas and incentives and is ready to go. Examples were shared.
- Where there is capacity and good leadership with the action teams things are already happening such as in Education and Child and Youth Resiliency. We need to be more focused and selective as a whole in order to be successful.
- What is the optimal number of teams? Keeping it under seven (7) is possible. What is manageable?
- The teams no matter if they got started early or late seemed to have gone through some sort of a natural evolution that took them a year to a year and a half to develop a process by getting members in a room, talk about the great ideas, build a preliminary map that is a great vision, put some measures together, and finally the moment of truth of who is going to do what then changed the strategy maps, allowed folks to volunteer, find financial funding, and projects began. From this, a sense of discomfort set in for some knowing that a year has passed and the question on what tangible items have been developed surfaces. Some teams have gone to action on new things such as determining and keeping track of key things that are already happening in our community and without adding a lot to the process managed to capture and articulate what their strategy is.
- Some teams have awakened new champions in the community to their important role in helping with improvements while other teams found their strategy to be completely

overwhelming. On the other hand, some teams have demonstrated a real opportunity for consolidation solidifying some of the gains that comes from Thurston Thrives strategizing by working in partnership with existing coalitions.

Mr. Andino reported that in late July, he spoke with nine (9) individuals in the areas of real estate, development, retail, and property management about Thurston Thrives posing the question on what they would like to see the Thurston Thrives organization look like so that they would want to be involved in it. These individuals asked:

- **Who runs it?**

Mr. Andino explained that Thurston Thrives gets its authority from the Thurston County Board of Health which some found very appealing. Interest was expressed in assembling a board that would represent business, community wealth, and community knowledge to steer the initiative. This authorizing board would supervise an individual who would then manage the program.

- **Who funds it?**

It would be great if the county had seed money or be able to co-write on grants that the organization could then receive and use the overhead to fund the rest of the operations. The remainder of the money would then come from the community. Several expressed interest in providing funding, if they could see demonstration projects from teams to show how it could work so that they can bring back to their business to determine participation. Mr. Andino provided examples of what he thought these leaders were asking for: concrete, on-the-ground projects where they could see the impacts.

c) Letters of Interest – Support for Thurston Thrives

Chair Wolfe presented letters for Thurston Thrives from local organizations who are willing to provide continued support of the ongoing structure including financially. The organizations are listed below with comments from their representatives (if present):

- **Thurston County Board of Health**

Chair Wolfe explained that the purpose of the Thurston County Board of Health letter of support is to address the concerns of the Thurston Thrives Advisory Committee, provide information about financial support, and the role of the county commissioners. That the intent is for the County to be an ongoing partner and not be a sole owner of the initiative.

- **Asset Building Coalition**

Christina Daniels provided a verbal statement of the coalition support with the mention of its mission is to connect partners and community resources that provide opportunities with people with limited income to become more resilience and prosperous. The coalition is also excited to possibly help move the action teams forward and align with their hubs in place and functioning over the years toward a community driven focus.

- **Northwest Venture Philanthropy**

- **Thurston Chamber of Commerce**

On behalf of the Thurston Chamber of Commerce, Don Sloma mentioned that the letter of support from the organization was very complimentary of Thurston Thrives work and

financial support. The Chamber supports the collaborative efforts of the Thurston Thrives process. Mariella Cummings and Michael Cade were instrumental in supporting Thurston Thrives advocating the support of Thurston Chamber of Commerce.

- **United Way of Thurston County**

Paul Knox reported that the letter of support from United Way of Thurston County embraces the Thurston Thrives concept and is prepared for the work in Phase II. Mr. Knox is also appreciative that the process will not be driven by the Board of County Commissioners, but instead, a collaborative effort.

d) Discussion – What should be the future of the initiative, action teams, or expectations for the November retreat?

- *Lon Wyrick* – looking forward to November 5th's retreat to make hard decision for the next phase and future of Thurston Thrives. Finding support for future organizations is crucial to moving forward and local government members of TRPC would like to see the structure in place.
- *Mariella Cummings* – thanked all members especially the Board of Health and Don Sloma for their participation in getting the process off the ground and thrilled to know of the long term commitment to a shared public/private partnership and moving in the right direction for collective impact that will be the motivator to move on to the next phase.
- *Christina Daniels* – is excited to see the evolution and culture change amongst leaders, to pull together and make things stronger with collaborative resources. It was also refreshing to meet with Thurston County to talk about how ABC and Thurston Thrives will work or not work together. County representatives were very receptive to the concerns.
- *Mindie Reule* – offered the Asset Building Coalition staff assistance if additional input or information for the November Retreat from the coalition or steering committee members.
- *Chris Hawkins* – is excited about moving forward as the process is very different from other counties in regard to health improvement efforts and the collection of collective impact efforts.
- *Don Sloma* – looking forward to November's retreat and is amazed on the collaboration of the group and the focus to make Thurston County a better place.
- *Dennis Mahar* – looking forward to the generational change, collective impact, vision with partners and residence, and the ability to move resources and identify who "wants in".
- *Lisa Smith* – agrees with Mariella Cumming's statement and is appreciative of everyone's efforts. She is intrigued to work together in small groups and the power of possibilities in a tent (structure) that has such diversity.
- *Kevin Haughton* – is excited to see the vision become a reality in the next couple of years.
- *Art Starry* – is looking forward to the November's retreat and appreciates having a group of leaders who are willing to hear about and consider environmental health.
- *Chair Wolfe* – thanked all in attendance and is excited to see the aligning groups partnering and doing great things.

- *Vice Chair Romero* – agrees with all that has been said and is encouraged by the process and finds it so much richer to see everyone working together.
- *Wes Pruitt* – would like to see the schools engaged in our community. It is important to ensure that the schools are involved in the process to accomplish goals.
- *Paul Knox* – excited to see core engagement, alignment and improvement. Is hopeful that November's retreat will bring firm agreement for the future and commitment to a continuous improvement.
- *Commissioner Valenzuela* – houses and our neighborhoods are key determinants of our health and has always been a concern since becoming a public health worker prior to becoming a commissioner. The expectation is for members on the Housing Action Team to continue the discussion.

e) Wrap up and next steps

Ms. Trimble mentioned that she has been charged to help Thurston Thrives members come to a conclusion about the Thurston Thrives task and to recommend a preferred coordinating structure that sustains, promotes, and measures community efforts that improve health in Thurston County. Ms. Trimble encourages all those who plan on attending the retreat to think about their recommendations and prepare to share at the retreat.

3) Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board of Health

Jeanne Marie Thomas, Outreach Consultant NeighborWorks of Grays Harbor County provided information about the organization whose focus is to ensure access to high quality pre-purchase education, individual counseling and referrals to high quality loan products. Homeownership, because it provides an essential foundation for healthy living, could be a key strategy for multiple action teams in Thurston Thrives. Through a state nonprofit collaborative, NeighborWorks of Grays Harbor County serves Thurston and surrounding counties and puts people in charge of their own home buying process. With unbiased high quality education and counseling, buyers are more able to qualify for reliable mortgages and are less like to struggle or go into default. For more information, please contact local staff of NeighborWorks of Grays Harbor County at (360) 480-9244, or visit: <http://www.aberdeen-nhs.com/>.

4) Department Items - Approval of Resolution H-2-2014 - Appointing Health Officers

Art Starry, Environmental Health Division Director reported on Article I Section 2.9 of the Thurston County Sanitary Code requires the Thurston County Board of Health to appoint people to perform the duties of hearing officers as described in the code. Resolution H-2-2014 revises the appointed hearing officers by removing Dr. Diana Yu and adding Dr. Rachel Wood. The remaining appointed hearing officers by the previous approved Resolution H-1-2013 remain the same. Vice-Chair Romero asked how often hearing officers are used. Mr. Starry mentioned that hearing officers are not used very often perhaps two (2) – three (3) times a year and provided examples.

Chair Wolfe requested that the appointment effective date stated on Section 2 on the revised Resolution H-2-2014 be changed to a current date of October 14, 2014.

Vice Chair Romero moved to approve Resolution H-2-2014 appointing the Hearing Officers for the Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Department. Commissioner Valenzuela seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5) Board of Health Members' Reports –

- Vice Chair Romero reported on the kickoff of Thurston Bountiful Byway, a 60-mile horseshoe tour highlighting the county's agriculture industry and local farms. The celebration was held at Schilter Family Farm in Olympia on October 13, 2014 that brought county residents together to think about their health, healthy eating, and also growing their own food making it readily available for people in our community to purchase.
- Chair Wolfe announced the upcoming Cascade Pacific Action Alliance (CPAA) Meeting to be held on Thursday, October 16th, 2014.

6) Director's Report –

Mr. Don Sloma reported on:

Washington State Public Health Association (WSPHA)

- WSPHA Annual Joint Meeting was held on October 12th, 2014 in Wenatchee, Washington. Don Sloma and Deborah Allen, Public Health and Social Services Disease Control and Prevention Division Director were in attendance.
- Thurston Thrives was presented.
- Washington State plans on privatizing and regionalizing the medical care and social services that are delivered to Medicaid Programs. Plans for improving health, containing cost, and improving patients experience in healthcare was presented, however, environmental health, social environment, and social determination (income, education, housing) for health was not included and very concerning. Public are encouraged to speak about the disconnect as health representatives continue to work with medical system reform and other parties (Dept. Commerce, Employment Security, etc.) to look at the broader implications causing a shift in health improvements.
- Keynote Speaker, Dr. David Williams with Harvard University presentation on health equity issues included information on literature for the past 30 years that aligns with Thurston Thrives focus.

Great American Shake Out

- Staff will participate in the National Great American Shake Out Drill on October 16th at 10:16AM.

Beach Closures

- People should check for advisories before they go swimming, boating or gather shellfish.
 - Go to Fecal Matters, the Department of Health or Thurston County websites.
 - Call the Red Tide Hotline at 1-800-562-5632 or Thurston County Public Health at (360) 867-2626 to get the latest beach advisory information.

Women's Health - Year Four Funding Awarded

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health renewed its funding for the Thurston Coalition for Women's Health and Girls Circle programs. This year, the Coalition will focus on domestic violence prevention and expand the Girls Circle program.

Scatter Creek Aquifer Septic System Management Project

- The citizen's advisory committee presented recommendations to protect water quality in the Scatter Creek aquifer area to community members on September 30th.

Mental Health – Hardened Triage Facility

- An architect has been selected through an RFP process. Next step is for the architect to write a scope of work upon which we will contract with them for the design phase of this project.
- This week there is a meeting to finalize a decision to work this project through the Department of Enterprise Services. To work with DES would gain considerable input for energy savings as well as reduction in the time it takes to build this facility.
- Mark Freedman has been meeting with Daryl Rodriguez and Joe Wheeler to begin a plan for setting criteria and the legal status for police to use as a guideline for when to bring somebody to the Triage vs. the Jail.
- Once the initial draft of the plan is done then we will vet this through the Police and Sheriff Depts. for review and agreement.

LOTT Reclaimed Water Infiltration Study

- The LOTT Board of Directors authorized the contract to begin the groundwater study.
- A one-year study that will sample the Budd Inlet and Martin Way plants to identify concentrations of residual chemicals in raw sewage and at different treatment stages will begin in November. This will confirm the quality of reclaimed water before it is infiltrated into the aquifer.
- The study will take over three years to complete.

7) Health Officer's Report –

Dr. Rachel Wood reported on:

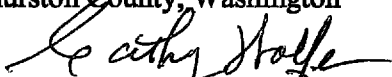
Ebola as of Tuesday, October 14th, 2014

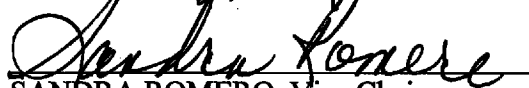
- No reported case(s) of Ebola in the State of Washington;
- No reported cases of Ebola in Thurston County;
- No individual has been reported to be sick with symptoms and no monitoring is being conducted for onset symptoms;
- Preparation continues at the state and local levels;
- Washington State Department of Health (DOH) is actively preparing and have conducted conference calls with all counties to discuss subject areas such as availability of personal protective gear and hazardous waste management, and the ongoing work taking place at the state level;
- DOH has a website that includes current Ebola information, useful documents, and education materials for the public, local providers, and community partners;
- Washington State Medical Association has provided information to members that speaks to following proper infection control practices;
- Washington State Hospital Association through DOH conducted a joint conference call with association members reinforcing the importance of keeping a travel history when encountering an individual who may need medical assistance, the need to reinforce infection control and isolation procedures, and to notify and work closely with public health representatives;

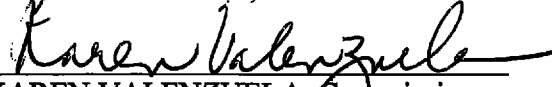
- Thurston County Public Health and Social Services convened a meeting on Monday, October 13th, 2014, with local partners involved in the safety of public health that included representatives from local hospitals, labs, emergency medical services, Medic One, Providence St. Peter Hospital, Infection Preventionist, schools, etc. to discuss and address concerns about Ebola and preparing to respond in an emergency situation in the event an individual presents the need for care who appears to have a positive history for exposure and exhibiting symptoms compatible with possible Ebola infection. Dr. Wood is delighted with the response of thirty (30) participants who attended the meeting to collaborate and identify concerns in their area of expertise, and determine how can we work to address each concerns relying on DOH for guidance;
- Disease monitoring and surveillance continue at the public health level. Department staff keep Dr. Wood informed of updates as they monitor the normal media and the medical and scientific media;
- Primary care medical providers were concerned on how to handle care for an individual showing signs of Ebola symptoms in an outpatient clinic. A letter was sent to providers from Dr. Wood on October 8th, 2014, with attachments providing information on evaluating patients for possible Ebola Virus Disease, the correct way to put on and take off personal protective equipment, and recommendation for Healthcare Personnel and Health Officials.

8) Adjournment – meeting was adjourned at 5:29PM

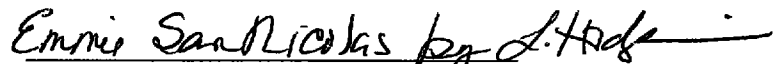
BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington


CATHY WOLFE, Chair


SANDRA ROMERO, Vice Chair


KAREN VALENZUELA, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Emmie San Nicolas, Clerk of the Board

Date: December 9, 2014

Thurston Community Television (TCTV)

The Board of Health meetings are aired on TCTV each week on Sundays at 3:30 p.m., Mondays at 8:00 p.m., Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m., and Fridays at 6:30 a.m. and at 5:00 p.m.