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 September 10, 2013

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

In Attendance: Karen Valenzuela, Chair; Cathy Wolfe, Vice Chair; Sandra Romero, Commissioner; Cliff Moore, Interim County Manager; Don Sloma, Public Health & Social Services Department Director; Art Starry, Environmental Health Division Director and Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board of Health

Chair Valenzuela called the Board of Health meeting to order.

♦ **Approval of the Board of Health Agenda:** Vice Chair Wolfe moved to approve the agenda for September 10, 2013. Commissioner Romero seconded the motion. Motion carried.

♦ **Approval of Board of Health meeting minutes:** Vice Chair Wolfe moved to approve the Board of Health meeting minutes from August 13, 2013. Commissioner Romero seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2) Thurston Thrives Advisory Council Meeting

Chair Valenzuela opened the Thurston Thrives Advisory Council meeting.

a) **Introductions** - Advisory Council Members introduced themselves.

In attendance: Curt Andino; Kevin Haughton; Nicole Hill; Dennis Mahar; Raj Manhas; Cole Mason, MD; Jay Mason, MD; and Lisa Smith
Absent: Michael Cade; Barbara Clarkson; Mariella Cummings; Shelly Willis; and Lon Wyrick

In attendance for Public Health and Social Services Department (PHSS) staff: Don Sloma, Director; Mary Ann O'Garro, Epidemiologist and Chris Hawkins, Active Healthy Communities Coordinator.

In attendance for Thurston County staff: Terri Thomas (Public Works); Gail Gosney (Prosecuting Attorney Office)

Chair Valenzuela introduced Community Design Action Team Lead Chris Hawkins. Team Members introduced themselves.

In attendance: Chris Van Daalen; Jeremy Davis; Karen Parkhurst; Pete Kmet and Karen Valenzuela.

b) **Topic Area Definition and Health Implications**
Mary Ann O'Garro, Public Health and Social Services Department (PHSS) Epidemiologist, gave a presentation that provided a summary of implications and community data which also included information on how community design influences and impacts our health and what we know locally based on the data collected within our community by the Thurston Thrives Community Design Action Team. Questions and discussion followed.

c) **Community Data/Assessment and Risks**
Ms. O'Garro provided a Data Snapshot Report of the most current local data that supports the work of the Thurston Thrives Community Design Action Team emphasizing community design and its connection to health. The report provided a current snapshot of community health issues associated with active transportation, land use, destinations and health consequences of community design. The purpose of the report is to provide support to those examining the connections between the community design and health. Questions and discussion followed.

d) **Community Analysis of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats**
Chris Hawkins, Team Lead, gave a presentation focusing on Community Design Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) to the community. The SWOT summarized Thurston County has many assets that support active living such as trails; urban and urbanizing areas with improving street environments; and access to activity. Although many barriers exist for those choosing to be physically active, local governments, neighborhoods and the development community can do something to change those barriers. Comments, questions and discussion followed.

e) **Recommended Strategic Map and Plan**
Mr. Hawkins presented the Community Design Action Team's Recommendations which included a Vision, Problem Statement, Objectives and Logic Model. The Objectives included to increase opportunities for physical activity by 1) enhancing places or areas; 2) improving connections and infrastructure for active transportation; and 3) improving development codes and processes. The Conclusions of the Recommendations are to revitalize centers and corridors through a focus on walk ability; build on major assets – help the trails system fulfill its promise of being the arterial network for active transportation through redevelopment; and re-energize development process around the opportunity to capture the market for walkable places. Community Design Action Team Member, Tumwater City Mayor Peter Kmet, addressed the Board of Health and Advisory Board Members sharing a few projects in the City of Tumwater consistent with the Recommendations. Mr. Kmet noted the projects were completed with a transportation perspective but supports the emphasis of the public health perspective by the Team. He also shared his opinion that in order for the recommendations to become a reality the private sector needs to be included. Comments, questions and discussion followed.

f) **Other Action Team Comments** – Chris Van Daalen of NW EcoBuilding Guild addressed the importance of housing quality to the health of the built environment and mentioned an upcoming presentation on Green Urbanism on October 26th, 2013.

g) **Questions and Answers – Board and Advisors**

Advisory Board Members expressed their concerns and shared information in regards to the SWOT and Recommendations. Questions and discussion followed.

h) Opportunity for Public Comments from Community Members - none

i) Discussion – Board, Advisors and Action Team
The Board of Health Members, Advisory Board Members and Action Team Members shared information and discussion followed.

j) Closing – The next meeting of the Thurston Thrives Advisory Council is December 10, 2013, when the Housing Action Team will present its recommendations.

k) Chris Hawkins noted comments on the Community Design Action Team plan are welcome and encouraged by visiting http://www.ThurstonThrives-CommunityDesign.blogspot.com. He also encouraged comments on the draft Thurston Regional Sustainability Plan which can be viewed at www.sustainablethurston.org . Mr. Hawkins stated the draft plan contains a lot of overlapping and reinforcing activities also identified by the Community Design Action Team Plan.

3) <u>Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board of Health</u> - None

4) <u>Board of Health Members' Reports</u> – Board of Health Members reported on recent public health and social services involvements.

- ◆ **Vice Chair Wolfe reported on**:
  - o Regional Health Improvement Council (RHIC)
  - o Housing meetings
  - o Treatment Sales Tax Committee Meeting
  - o Family Support Center meeting

- ◆ **Commissioner Romero reported on:**
  - o Children and Youth Resilience Thurston Thrives Action Team meeting
  - o TCTV taping with Health Officer Dr. Diana Yu

- ◆ **Chair Valenzuela reported on:**
  - o Homelessness issue – shared two Olympian articles: an August 15, 2013 editorial article and her August 20, 2013 response article

5) <u>Director's Report</u> - Don Sloma reported on:

- ◆ E.coli (Shiga Toxin) update - 15 cases this year
- ◆ Childhood Vaccination Clinic being held at Group Health Cooperative Olympia facility on September 21st - free childhood vaccines to children ages 3 to 18
- ◆ Met with City of Olympia officials recently to discuss their concerns about issues with the Syringe Exchange Program operation downtown, - the Department is actively engaged in looking for solutions
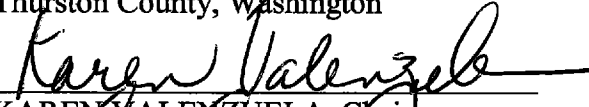
♦ Met with the State of Washington regarding the Nurse Family Partnership Program – hoping for funding assistance through Medicaid
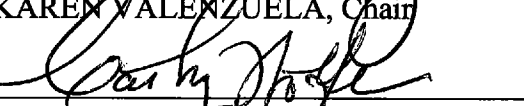
Chair Valenzuela noted the next Thurston Thrives Advisory Council meeting will be held at the December 10, 2013 Board of Health meeting. The Thurston Thrives Housing Action Team is scheduled to present at that time. Chair Valenzuela thanked the Community Design Action Team for their informative presentation.

6) **Adjournment**
   Vice Chair Wolfe moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Romero seconded the motion. The motion carried.
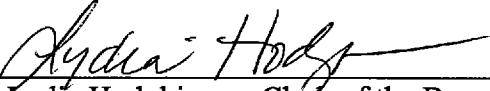
BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington

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KAREN VALENZUELA, Chair

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CATHY WOLFE, Vice Chair

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SANDRA ROMERO, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board of Health

Date: _October 8, 2013_