
Health Needs and Human Services Commission Minutes

Wednesday, October 12, 2016 12:00 p.m.
Harrigan Centennial Hall

Commission Members: Doug Osborne, Dr. Myron Fribush, Loyd Platson,
Jeff Arndt, Clara Gray, Barbara Kendall, Melissa Viator
Tristan Guevin (Assembly Liaison)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Osborne called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Doug Osborne, Loyd Platson, Jeff Arndt, Clara Gray (arrived at 12:01 p.m.), Barbara Kendall, Melissa Viator

Absent: Myron Fribush (unexcused)

III. AGENDA CHANGES

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M - Arndt/S - Viator moved to approve the September 21, 2016 meeting minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

V. PERSONS TO BE HEARD/CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Osborne read out loud the correspondence that was in the packet regarding Mim McConnell's email.

VI. REPORTS

Chair - Osborne told of Be Bright at Night 2.0 raffle.

Commissioners - Platson gave an update on grants. Viator reported on the Sitka Community Playground group with regards to funding. Arndt updated the Commission of the plastic bag tax meeting. Kendall told there was a new full-time Public Health Nurse. Gray reported received funding for suicide and meth prevention in conjunction with two other communities.

City Staff - Henshaw reported she advertised for co-hosting of the Health Summit.

Assembly Liaison - Guevin suggested increase of communication with the Assembly. Thought to schedule a presentation on the Commission's items and mentioned potential revenue taxes the Assembly would be looking at in the near future.

M - Arndt/S - Viator moved to meet with the Assembly sometime in December. Motion carried unanimously.

Guevin suggested that the Commission be specific rather than general and broad in their discussions/goals.

Other(s) - None.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. 2016 Goals

- 1) Chair Osborne showed slides of process of the Health Summit and told of the need for a broad group of participants.

- 2) Not discussed.
- 3) Not discussed.

B. Banning Plastic Bag Ordinance

Arndt reminded of the *Bag It* movie showing at the Library next week. Wondered about banned bags versus taxed bags. He thought to ban them and offer alternatives stating other communities have been able to accomplish that route. Guevin told of need of buy in from grocery stores. Gray wondered if the Chamber had any ideas and if there was a way to get people to use reusable bags. Kendall stated that store buy in was necessary, was not in favor of taxing, but in favor of prohibiting. Viator thought to include a timeline in the proposal. Platson was in favor of banning not taxing, mentioned that community feedback was needed, and stated education could take place. This item will be discussed at further meetings.

C. Sample Ordinance of Minimum Legal Sales Age of 21 for Tobacco Products

Chair Osborne stated this was on the back burner, no discussion occurred.

D. Sugar Sweetened Beverage Excise Tax Ordinance

Chair Osborne asked for Commissioner thoughts. Platson stated it should be addressed at some point. Viator said the information was out there and that she would like to move forward. Arndt though bags had an added environmental health aspect to them. Kendall was in favor. Gray thought involvement of kids to help promote would be a good idea. Guevin although personally supported this, thought it had low probability of passing.

Chair Osborne thought that a matrix was needed for the three items.

Osborne – heating fuel tax then tobacco

Platson – tobacco then bags

Viator – bags then sugar then tobacco

Arndt – tobacco then bags then sugar

Kendall – bags then sugar then tobacco

Gray – sugar then tobacco then bags

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

E. Hope Coalition representative

Platson told of history stating the next meeting would be November 8th at 3:30 p.m. at Sitka Counseling. Chair Osborne asked if any Commissioners would be interested in being the HOPE Coalition representative. Gray expressed interest, but needed to communicate with her work place. Guevin reminded that this item would need Assembly approval.

F. Meeting times

Chair Osborne confirmed with Commissioners that the noon meeting time was a good time to meet.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A. Agenda items for next meeting.

The following item was added to the next agenda: Heating Fuel Tax

B. Set next meeting date.

The next regular meeting was set for Wednesday, November 9, 2016 at noon.

M – Platson/S – Viator moved to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objection the

meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.

Attest:
Melissa Henshaw, Deputy Clerk