

The Health Council of Marin

Minutes of Regular Meeting: Tuesday, October 4, 2022

Meeting via Zoom; the meeting was recorded

Members Present: Kevin Hogan (President), Roberta Anthes, Connie Barker, Sandy Ross, Jennifer Rienks, Ginger Souders-Mason, Barbara Wientjes

Members Absent: Bobby Moske

Guests: Loretta Rogers (Secretary)

Handouts: *Agenda*

1. **Call to Order:** President Kevin Hogan called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** President Kevin Hogan asked for a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously.
3. **Resolution regarding Tele/Video Conference Meetings during the COVID-19 State of Emergency:** President Kevin Hogan asked for a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously.
4. **Approval of Minutes of the July 26, 2022, Health Council of Marin Meeting.** President Kevin Hogan asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2022, Health Council of Marin meeting. The motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously
5. **Report from the Nominating Committee:**
 1. Sandy Ross moved to accept the resignation of Dorice Seid Tau. The motion passed unanimously.
 2. Sandy Ross moved to accept the resignation of Ginger Souders-Mason as president, but not from the Council. She also moved to install Kevin Hogan as president, Roberta Anthes as vice-president and Jennifer Rienks as secretary. The motion passed unanimously.
 3. President Kevin Hogan reported that he will attend the next Board of Supervisors meeting at which he plans to present the new members of the executive committee along with Ginger Souders-Mason's resignation as president. He asked Roberta Anthes and Jennifer Rienks to send him a brief paragraph relating their background which he will use in his presentation. Sandy Ross suggested that Kevin Hogan also include in his presentation to the Board a review of the Council's goals and their current status plus ask the Board what they could use from the Council. Jennifer Rienks suggested that Kevin Hogan ask the Board if there is any particular issue they would like the Health Council to look into.
6. **Report from Executive Committee.** President Kevin Hogan reported the following:
 1. The biennial goals were reviewed. Kevin Hogan is still looking for a speaker from one of the hospitals to speak on how hospitals are working to keep rooms as allergy-free as possible. Jennifer Rienks stated that she will reach out to staff at MarinHealth to find a speaker.
 2. Sandra Ross reported that she has about half a dozen books on healthy hospitals. She is willing to mail them out to HCM members if she receives member addresses from Loretta Rogers.
 3. County meeting protocols which Kevin Hogan had reviewed with County Counsel were discussed. One important item was assuring that there is a quorum throughout a meeting. The New Member Handbook was also discussed along with Ginger Souders-Mason's departure as president of HCM.
7. **HHS Update:** Loretta Rogers reported that COVID-19 infection transmission rate is now at a low level in Marin County. Monkeypox risk is low. On Sept. 22, 2022, Dr. Matt Willis made a

- presentation in Washington, DC to the Dept. of Health & Human Services, National Vaccine Advisory Committee regarding Marin's success in vaccinating its residents. This presentation was reported in the New York Times. In future, HHS will be focusing on climate change, overdose prevention and other issues.
8. **Presentation: New Council Member Handbook, overview/discussion of HCM meeting protocols as per Brown Act, Roberts Rules of Order, and guidance of Marin County Counsel:** President Kevin Hogan reviewed the New Council Member Handbook, meeting protocols per the Brown Act, Roberts Rules of Order and the guidance of County Counsel.
 1. He described the reason why he created the New Member Handbook. He urged every member to take the Brown Act training which is online.
 2. He defined serial meetings and outlined what is allowable and what is not under the Brown Act.
 3. He reported that the HCM by-laws are out of date; they haven't been reviewed or revised since 2017. He will have access to the by-laws of another commission so that the HCM can use that as a model.
 4. Jennifer moved that the Health Council of Marin approve the materials assembled by President Kevin Hogan to constitute the HCM membership packet which will be distributed to all new HCM members. Sandy Ross seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 9. **Presentation: Persistent Smoke Exposure and Possible Solutions:** Sandy Ross reported that Gordan Medical of San Rafael, headed by Dr. Eric Gordan, has a new partner, Nafsya Parpia, ND, who is excellent and was consulted for this presentation. They are reporting a lot of patients with lung problems during fire season. She described the damage to lungs and other parts of the body, caused by breathing smoke from wildfires. She described measures individuals can take to protect themselves from harm. She recommended air filters and supplements as well. There was brief discussion. She will send her presentation to Loretta Rogers to be distributed to the HCM members.
 10. **Update from Council Members:** President Hogan asked for updates from members.
 1. President Kevin Hogan stated that he is pursuing a return to in-person HCM meetings or hybrid meetings at MarinHealth due to the low incidence of COVID in the county. The ADA number at the bottom of the agenda which allows access to disabled persons has to be corrected.
 2. Kevin Hogam will reach out to HHS and the Board of Supervisors to determine what they want the HCM to investigate or promote.
 3. Kevin Hogan announced that he has a new job which is working out well.
 4. Kevin Hogan stated that a goal for the HCM would be to get more members from different parts of the county and different communities.
 5. Jennifer Rienks stated that there are a lot of undocumented persons in the county who are hesitant to apply for benefits due to the public charge policy which is now no longer in effect. She suggested inviting a speaker from County Public Health to inform the HCM about food insecurity in Marin. She and Kevin Hogan stated that providers should screen patients for food insecurity.
 6. Barbara Wientjes spoke about the effect of climate change on pharmaceuticals. Many people have drugs mailed to them. These drugs can sit out in the sun for hours, which may cause a reduction in their effectiveness. This issue needs to be looked at.
 7. Ginger Souders-Mason reported that two weekends ago she attended a day and a half conference at Terra Firma Farm. She learned information about soil health and environmental health. She has so far edited ten programs and has four left to do. Once finished, they will be uploaded to the Web and will be available to all.
 11. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:59pm. The next meeting will be on October 25, 2022.