

HEALTH PROMOTION COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING SUMMARY NOTES

What: Health Promotion (HP) Committee

When: February 1, 2024

Participating: Board of Health (Board) Members Dimyana Abdelmalek (Committee Chair), Patty Hayes, Steve Kutz, Kelly Oshiro; Board staff Molly Dinardo, Andrew Kamali, Michelle Davis, Michelle Larson, Melanie Hisaw, Ashley Bell, Shay Bauman; Department of Health (Department) staff; and approximately five members of the public also attended the meeting.

Summary Notes:

Rulemaking and Other Project Updates

- Molly Dinardo, Board staff, stated that since the last committee meeting in December, the Board hasn't had any new rule filings, and there are no new major updates to Board rule projects.
- Molly then brought up the topic of kratom and mentioned that Member Kutz has asked if the Board or Health Promotion Committee could receive a briefing on the topic. Molly asked Committee Members about their interest in receiving a briefing on kratom for the May Health Promotion Committee meeting.
- Member Steve Kutz, Member Kelly Oshiro, and Member Patty Hayes supported receiving a briefing on this topic at the May meeting.
- Member Kutz also expressed concern about another substance called tianeptine. Member Kutz asked if tianeptine could be included in a future briefing and if there could eventually be a broader briefing brought to the full Board on these topics.
- Member Hayes encouraged Member Kutz to work with staff to organize a briefing for the May Health Promotion meeting as a starting point. Member Hayes said staff should see if the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is looking at these topics, and if they are, perhaps the Board could pass a resolution of concern or write a letter to ask the FDA to examine this further.
- Molly shared some information about tianeptine, stating that it is not an approved drug or substance in the U.S. Molly also added that the FDA has sent out several letters and alerts about tianeptine products.
- HP Committee Chair Dimyana Abdelmalek added that the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently reported on tianeptine in its Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR).

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- Member Kutz asked Chair Abdelmalek to send the article. Member Kutz stated that unless these substances rise to the level of a poison center notification, these addictive substances can go largely unnoticed. Member Kutz inquired how the Board can send their concern to the FDA and what mechanisms the state uses to identify substances of concern. Member Kutz emphasized that these substances are not only a concern for adults, but also kids.
- Michelle Davis, Board Executive Director, said staff would pull up the article and add it to the meeting notes so both Committee Members and the public can access it:
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/73/wr/mm7304a5.htm?s_cid=mm7304a5_w

2024 Legislative Session Updates

- Molly Dinardo, Board staff, shared that January 31 was the House of Origin Policy Committee cutoff and provided information about the number of bills Board staff are tracking and analyzing.
- Molly gave an overview of health promotion-related bill topics for this session and flagged two newborn screening related bills that staff are monitoring closely. Molly asked Committee Members if they had any questions.
- Member Hayes asked about the syphilis bill, and Molly said it passed the Senate Policy Committee and it's waiting on a floor vote in the Rules committee.

Preview March Board Meeting

- Molly Dinardo, Board staff, shared that staff are in the process of organizing two State Health report community panels, one at the March meeting, and the other at the April meeting to help inform the 2024 State Health Report to the Governor. Molly recapped Board Member feedback and questions from the January briefing and said these are considerations that staff are trying to keep in mind as they plan these upcoming panels.
- Member Oshiro thanked staff for taking Board Member feedback into consideration and stated that it's a good idea to have these panels split into two.
- Member Hayes said it would be helpful for the Board to review what we've done before as a grounding. Member Hayes also expressed interest in brainstorming how to better align Board reports, recommendations, and policies over time and stated that the high balcony framework of issues across the state should be informed by what is happening locally. Member Hayes shared conversations with Department staff about the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) and a desire to somehow align reports and priorities down the line to give the Board's State Health Report more meaning.
- Member Kutz provided feedback on recent Board community panels and stated that it would be helpful to include more time for discussion after the panels.
- John Thompson, Department staff, provided an overview of the presentation that the Department plans to present for the Newborn Screening Annual Report presentation at the March meeting. John shared that the Newborn Screening Program has quarterly reports that feed into the annual report and that in September 2022, they hired an epidemiologist, Anna Howard, to help take these

reports and input them into a data dashboard. John said they anticipate the dashboard to be live by the March meeting. Anna Howard, Department staff, shared a preview of what the dashboard visualizations will look like.

- Member Kutz expressed interest in some of the program's quality improvement measures. John said they plan to present some information on this during the full presentation in March.
- Ashley Bell, Board staff, introduced Pro-Equity Anti-Racism (PEAR) Planning and stated that the goal of a PEAR plan is to bridge disparity gaps and reduce disparities statewide and across state government. Ashley provided information about how the PEAR plan works, the goals and outcomes of a PEAR plan, and how the Board can engage in this work. Ashley shared a proposed timeline with Committee Members and added that the presentation in March will provide more details and background on the Board's upcoming PEAR plan work.
- Member Hayes asked if the PEAR Plan comes from a legislative mandate or executive order and inquired if there's a model plan that the Board could work from. Member Hayes also mentioned the Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) Equity Technical Working Group and said that in the meetings so far, no one has brought up the topic of PEAR. Member Hayes said that if the Department isn't going to bring up the topic of a PEAR plan, maybe the Board could bring that perspective in. Member Hayes also indicated that the Board has not developed an updated strategic plan and was curious about how the Board could harmonize the PEAR Plan and Strategic Plan.
- Ashley said the plan is for the Board to connect PEAR with the future Strategic Plan. Ashley also clarified that the PEAR Plan and the Office of Equity are both Executive Orders in the state.
- Michelle Davis, Board Executive Director, thanked Member Hayes for the questions and said that staff need to develop a timeline for the Strategic Plan, and in the meantime, the PEAR plan can provide us with a foundation.

Preview April Board Meeting

- Molly Dinardo, Board staff, shared that in April, the Board can expect a briefing from the Department on the recent implementation of the updated notifiable conditions rule.
- Member Hayes noted that this subject has generated a lot of public interest in the past and that Board staff may want to anticipate public comments related to this topic.
- Member Kutz commented that the notifiable conditions rule has become a treadmill. Member Kutz added that it would be helpful for the Board to get feedback about a year or so after rule implementation to assess what impact recent rule changes have had.
- Michelle Davis, Board Executive Director, said that Member Kutz brought up a good point, and hearing about implementation from the Department will be helpful.

Committee Member Comments, Questions, and Next Steps

- Member Kutz thanked staff for preparing the background work for the meeting.
- HP Committee Chair Abdelmalek thanked staff and presenters.

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