



HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

November 6, 2023 6:30pm

PRESENT: Hon. LaQuita Henry, Hon. Elizabeth Eastman, Hon Monique Hardin-Cordero, Hon. Heather Jason. Hon. Dr. Clotilde Monguya, Hon. Amir Sadeghi.

ABSENT: Hon. Patricia Ramos

OFFICIAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Hon. Dr. Edwin Torres

I. Call to Order

The hybrid meeting was called to order at 6:37 PM by Co-Chair LaQuita Henry, who explained the new setup for Committee and General Board meetings. Mentioned the lack of quorum initially, but was fortunate to have 8 members, with 5 present in person. Members on Zoom are required to have their cameras on, she said.

II. Adoption of Agenda

Discussed on the agenda, Amir moves to accept the agenda, and acceptance of the minutes from the previous meeting.

IV. Introductions/Presentations/Announcements:

- The main agenda item focused on Residential Issues, which involved presentations from various speakers.
- The importance of fostering diverse ideas and engaging in thoughtful discussions about residential issues and their implications was underscored.
- A robust dialogue ensued, encompassing challenges, and benefits related to residential topics, such as pricing dynamics, parking space allocation, and their repercussions on the community.
- Philip Miatkowski shared valuable insights concerning Residential Parking.
- Sara Lind provided an alternative perspective, highlighting potential consequences associated with residential parking permits.
- The meeting was enriched by community members' viewpoints and an open discussion on the topic of residential parking permits.

V. Presentations:

A. NYC Department of Health and Mental Health:

- Unfortunately, detailed notes pertaining to Pauline Ferrante's presentation were not provided.

B. NYC Climate Dashboard:

- Stephanie Fox delivered an extensive presentation on the NYC Climate Dashboard, a tool designed to monitor the city's progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

- Stephanie meticulously walked through the various sections of the dashboard, elucidating its features, which encompassed energy, emissions, climate finance, environmental quality, land use, resiliency, heat risk, and community preparedness.
- Detailed data on air quality, water quality, land pollution, and their spatial distribution were presented.
- The granularity of the dashboard was discussed, encompassing topics such as lead service lines, brownfield cleanup sites, and bulk storage facilities.
- Resiliency aspects were emphasized, including coastal flood risk, flash flood risk, heat vulnerability, community preparedness, and a feedback mechanism.
- The presentation also delved into the district's vulnerability to flooding and how the dashboard provided crucial information on this matter.
- Stephanie Fox extended an invitation for more in-depth training sessions on climate data.
- The session concluded with closing remarks, gratitude expressed for Stephanie Fox's presentation, and a discussion about organizing detailed training sessions and potential dates.

VI. Report on Conferences in London Sickle Cell Disease:

- Dr. Clotilde Monguya presented her insights from conferences in London, with a focus on sickle cell disease.
- She elucidated the genetic nature of sickle cell disease, highlighting its impact on red blood cells, particularly among specific ethnicities.
- Symptoms and complications, including anemia, pain crises, and infection risks, were discussed.
- Current treatments, such as hydroxyurea, blood transfusions, bone marrow transplants, and emerging therapies like gene therapy, were highlighted.
- Challenges faced by individuals with sickle cell disease in emergency rooms were brought to light.
- Dr. Monguya provided updates on conferences scheduled for the Middle East in April 2024.
- The meeting also touched upon the upcoming public health forum, cultural competence in healthcare, and audience engagement.
- During audience engagement, Monica raised a point regarding testing often conducted at birth, leading to a discussion about the possibility of incorporating sickle cell testing at the public health forum.
- Participants expressed appreciation for Dr. Clotilde Monguya's comprehensive report, emphasizing the importance of education and awareness among healthcare providers.

VII. New Business/Old Business:

- Diverse topics were addressed, including the budget process, resolutions, and letters of support.
- Extensive discussions took place on overdose prevention centers and harm reduction.
- Broadway Community presented on their services and challenges.
- A discussion was held on the LGBTQ community, including an upcoming health equity forum.

VIII. Adjournment:

- To conclude the meeting, Amir proposed a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Monique and Elizabeth.
- The meeting officially adjourned at 9:05 PM, marking the end of the proceedings.