

The Health Council of Marin

Minutes of Regular Meeting: Tuesday, November 29, 2022

Meeting via Zoom; the meeting was recorded

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

Members Absent: Kevin Hogan

Guests: Loretta Rogers (Secretary)

Handouts: *Agenda; Minutes of October 25, 2022, Health Council of Marin monthly meetin;, Board of Supervisors Legislative Agenda for 2022; Health Council of Marin Biennial Report for 2022-2024.*

1. **Call to Order:** Vice-President Roberta Anthes called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** Vice President Roberta Anthes 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:** Vice President Roberta Anthes asked for a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously.
4. **Approval of Minutes of the October 25, 2022, Health Council of Marin Meeting.** Vice President Roberta Anthes asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2022, Health Council of Marin meeting. The motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously
5. **Report from the Nominating Committee:**
 1. Sandy Ross reported that Connie Barker's application for renewal of her HCM membership was approved by the Board of Supervisors.
 2. Sandy Ross reported that Kawa Chiu's application for membership on the HCM was approved by the Board of Supervisors. Kawa Chiu introduced herself.
 3. Sandy Ross reported that President Kevin Hogan was unable to attend the meeting due to work related issues.
6. **Report from Executive Committee.**
 1. Vice President Roberta Anthes reported that Larry Bragman of the Marin Municipal Water District has agreed to present at the January 24, 2023, meeting.
 2. **Legislative Calendar:** Jennifer Rienks shared her screen and showed the Board of Supervisors Legislative Calendar / Guidelines. Vice President Roberta Anthes stated that the Board of Supervisors (BOS) publishes the 2022 Federal and State Legislative Program and Policy Guidelines. The Health Council of Marin (HCM) submits a biennial report to the Board of Supervisors which has five or six goals which the HCM has chosen to work on for the next two years. Roberta Anthes and members of the HCM review the Legislative Calendar to determine how the HCM goals match up to the BOS guidelines to see where the HCM can contribute and make comments.

Roberta Anthes reported that she had already reviewed the guidelines and found ten areas where the Board of Supervisors either copied HCM ideas and wrote them down verbatim in their document or echoed HCM ideas. Here are the areas:

- Section D, Item 2: **Whole Person Care / Homekey Ongoing Funding:** This reflects the data-sharing among County and agencies recommendations contained in a lot of places in HCM's Biennial Report.
- Item 5: **Improved Access to Health Care/Mental Health Parity:** This was another area that the HCM has concentrated on.

- Item 7: **Older Adults in Marin County:** This corresponds to Goal 2c in HCM's Biennial Report.
- Item 11: **Acute and Transitional Behavioral Health Care Services:** This is verbatim from HCM Goal 2b in HCM's Biennial Report.
- Item 15: **Continuum of Comprehensive Health Services:** This item echoes HCM's Goal 2b and recommendation for data-sharing.
- Item 19: **In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Funding:** This is specifically mentioned in HCM's Goal 2c.
- Item 30: **Environmental Toxins:** This is almost verbatim of HCM's Goal 3a.
- Section E, Item 1: **Disaster/Pandemic Preparedness:** Reflects HCM's recommendation regarding older adults and persons with disabilities in Goal 2c.
- Section F, Item 1: **Fire Prevention/Suppression:** This is reflective of HCM's Goal 4d.
- Section I, Item 1: **Internet Broadband:** This reflects HCM's Goal 1e.
- Item 3: **Telecommunications/5G Wireless Broadband:** This is close to verbatim of Goal 1a.
- Item 4: **Broadband Infrastructure:** This also reflects HCM's Goal 1a.

There was general discussion afterwards. It was decided that the HCM would send the BOS a cover letter with member comments. Over December, each HCM member will review the Legislative document and write up a short paragraph with their comments / recommendations. Each member will send this paragraph to Loretta Rogers by January 9, 2023. Loretta Rogers will send out a reminder on January 4, 2023. At the January 10, 2023, Executive Committee meeting, the Executive Committee will review all submissions and create an agenda item for the January 24, 2023, monthly meeting for discussion and agreement on the letter to the BOS.

7. **HHS Update:** None.
8. **Presentation:** None.
9. **Update from Council President:** None as President Kevin Hogan was absent.
10. **Update from Council Members:** Vice President Roberta Anthes asked for updates from members.
 1. Connie Barker reported that she and her partner Jan received dental services at the University of the Pacific Dental School. The facilities were very impressive. She noted that they do have a unisex bathroom which is fragrance free. She found the experience very gratifying.
 2. Roberta Anthes reported that she had dental work done at a private dentist's office which had a scented candle and other strong fragrances. It took her a day to recover. She did inform that dental office of the effects of strong fragrances on sensitive individuals. They listened, but she does not think they fully understood. Roberta Anthes reported that Sandy Ross told her of a dental office which is totally fragrance free in Fairfax.
 3. Bobby Moske reported that he has had multiple problems getting dental services. He has struggled with this for over two years, and he is on almost all committees that affect these services. There has been some progress, but progress is very slow.
 4. Barbara Wientjes reported that she and her husband had purchased a new EMF detecting meter and did a test of houses around their home. They found six houses with high emissions.
 5. Ginger Souders-Mason reported that she had cataract surgery in one eye a week ago. The improvement in her sight has been remarkable. The surgery was easy and now she sees with much greater clarity.
11. **Public Comment:** None.
12. **Adjournment:** A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm. The next meeting will be on January 24, 2023.