



Healthy Pontiac, We Can!

Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2022

Members Present:

Bonnie Balduf	Pontiac Public Library
Anita Barksdale	St. Joseph Mercy Oakland
Olivia Barrera	Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency
David Bowman	St. Joseph Mercy Oakland
Lisa Braddix	Greater Detroit Area Health Council
Karen Chappell	Girl Scouts
Judith Cox	Pontiac Regional Chamber / Mindfulness Institute
Elizabeth Crenshaw	Wayne State University
Justin Daniels	Pontiac Promise Zone
Lauren Fuller	Oakland County Sheriff PAL
Deidre Hurse	OUWB School of Medicine
Lawanda Jackson	Molina Healthcare
Susana Jackwiewicz	Gary Burnstein Community Health Clinic
Jennifer Lucarelli	Oakland University
DaJaneil McCree	Oakland County Health Division
Michelle Malmgren	Community Housing Network
Kelsey Merz	Oakland County Health Division
Coco Moulder	Pontiac Promise Zone
Austin Oard	Oakland Community Health Network
Brenda Ortega	Centro Multicultural La Familia
Kristina Ottenwess	Oakland County Health Division
Leona Patterson	Lancaster Village
Marijayne Renny	Dobrusin Law Firm
Avonlea Rickerson	Black Mothers Breast Feeding Association
Katelyn Smoger	Farm at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland
Arian Spanta	Blue Cross Complete
Virginia Uhley	OUWB School of Medicine
Suzanne Weinert	Oakland Community Health Network
Kristen Wiltfang	OC Economic Development & Community Affairs
Jose Ybarra	Pontiac Community Foundation

Others Present:

M. Ann Williams Bowman	Oakland County Health Division
Claudio Cortes	OUWB School of Medicine
Mark Manning	Oakland University

Staff Present:

Signa Metivier	Oakland County Health Division
Jessica Williams	Oakland County Health Division

1. Introductions & Partnership Updates

E. Crenshaw welcomed members to the virtual meeting of Healthy Pontiac, We Can! at 1:00 p.m. on April 12, 2022.

Members provided agency introductions and the following event information. Send agency events and updates to Jessica Williams, williamsjr@oakgov.com between meeting dates.

E. Crenshaw – Wayne State University’s mobile unit has the capacity to partner with other agencies.

L. Braddix – MI Public Health Institute, Southeastern MI Perinatal Quality Improvement Coalition: April 26, 2022, 1 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Theta Lambda Omega Chapter: “Target Three Building Our Economic Legacy” April 23, 2022, 11 A.M. Available on Eventbrite.

Women’s Wellness Meet Up Event, “Emerging from the COVID Crisis: Strategies for Coping” May 7, 2022, 10 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Available on Eventbrite.

J. Williams – Pontiac Community Clean Up, April 18th.

C. Cortes – looking for undergraduate students to team up with medical students to run a program starting June 21, 2022, on Mondays for four weeks.

SAT Program – runs through the month of July starting after July 4th, Monday through Thursday, 9 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. Looking for undergraduate students who are passionate about teaching Hispanic to teens who are studying for the SAT.

K. Chappell – Girl Scouts is looking for female volunteers to do badge workshops in the areas of healthy living, financial literacy, and life skills.

A. Oard – Veteran’s Event to celebrate military veterans and their families on May 21, 2022, at the United Wholesale Mortgage Complex.

S. Weinert – Planning a parent informational session in Pontiac on Monday, May 16, 2022, from 5 P.M. to 7 P.M. to provide mental health resources for parents and school staff who may be dealing with students who have behavioral health needs. Location to be determined.

B. Ortega – Children’s Day event, May 1, 2022.

National Sport Week, May 2nd – 8th, at Consulate of Mexico. Workshops on physical activity and exercise will be provided.

D. Bowman – As part of “Black Maternal Health Awareness Week” there will be an in-person doula training on Monday, April 18, 2022, 10 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. at New Birth International Church, Pontiac.

K. Smoger – If you are interested in the St. Joes farm share or to increase food security in Pontiac go to <https://stjoesfarm.org/>. If you or your organization is interested in volunteering on Saturday’s email Oaklandfarm@stjoesfarm.org.

J. Lucarelli – Pontiac Collective Impact Partnership will host a summer event on Saturday, June 25, 2022, for families to learn about what opportunities are available for their children. A collaborative brochure will be emailed to all households in Pontiac.

O. Barrera – OLHSA’s summer food service program will run from June 21, 2022, through the second week of August in Pontiac, Monday through Friday. Currently looking for youth programs that meet regularly and in need of lunch food service.

S. Jackwiewicz – Gary Burnstein Community Health Clinic is participating in an initiative called “Better Together” on April 30, 2022, from 12 P.M. to 4 P.M. at the Word Believing Christian Community Church on University Dr. in Pontiac. The event is open to the entire Pontiac community and the church is providing groceries and diapers. Gary Burnstein clinic will provide health care information, applications, and COVID-19 vaccines. The Area Agency on Aging and Centro Multicultural La Familia will also be there providing information on their services and resources.

Gary Burnstein clinic is partnering with U of M on a veteran dental program which begins in May. The partnership will increase their capacity to serve veterans and the program is for veterans only.

K. Wiltfang – The first 2022 NoHaz event for household hazardous waste takes place, April 30, 2022, from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. at the Oakland County Service Center. Pontiac residents can participate for free but need to register online or at the event.

Construction is beginning on Clinton River Trail Project from Pontiac Drive to Bagley St., the piece of trail by the mill dam in Beaudette Park and goes behind Home Depot and Wessen Tennis Courts.

A. Rickerson – Information session for anyone interested in becoming a Doula on Monday, April 18, 2022, 10 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. at New Birth International Church, Pontiac.

2. Pontiac Skateboard Project – Marijayne Renny

M. Renny told members the Pontiac Skateboard Project’s goal is to build a 10,000 square foot concrete skatepark in Pontiac. Pontiac Skateboard Project is a group of volunteers, skaters, and community activists working toward the goal. Oakland County Sheriff PAL is the fiscal sponsor for the project, and the group has applied for a grant from the Tony Hawk Foundation. She said the youth of Pontiac will benefit from having a state-of-the-art skatepark available to them not just because it is fun but because physical activity is important and helps to build confidence, self-expression, and good physical and mental health.

Sponsors for the project include McLaren Oakland; “Built to Play” a Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation initiative; Skateboard Project; Girls Friendly Society; Oakland County; and Oakland County Ministerial Fellowship and Pastor Jones who did a lot of work to get community backing for the project.

The skatepark will be located in Oakland Park and they are currently taking bids from builders who specialize in skateparks. The skatepark will be completed by November 2022 per the grant. Once the skatepark is built they will continue to provide programming, access to equipment, and through their partnership with PAL reach out to an entire network of new skaters.

3. Physical Activity Workgroup Updates

J. Ybarra told members he met with Lisa, Jessica, and Lauren to go over the physical activities that are happening in the city of Pontiac. Their goal was to not duplicate work but identify current initiatives that HPWC can support as well as gaps and opportunities that we can leverage to help move the strategic plan and objectives forward. He said there are several groups and organizations that want the same objectives and HPWC’s role will be to work with others to ensure everyone is meeting the same goal. He said some of the physical activity strategic plan goals they would like to improve are infrastructure and amenities through park facility upgrades, more walkable and bikeable community, support and promote diverse physical activity, advocate for outdated community centers, and facilitate open use and joint agreements with schools and other recreational facilities. The workgroup will gather more information and insight on the new city’s administration plan for parks and recreation and the budget for the initiatives. They will also learn more about what Pontiac schools and charter schools are offering as programming and identify partnership gaps. The next steps are to connect with the Pontiac Youth Enrichment Group, attend Councilwoman James, District Four’s public safety and

recreational subcommittee meeting, and synergize with other collaborators to understand what work is being done to accomplish the initiatives. Discussion ensued.

4. Nutrition Workgroup Updates

L. Fuller told members the nutrition workgroup meeting included members from Sprout and the St. Joe's farmer's market. The primary goals are to support expansion of urban and home gardening classes, work to increase access to fresh produce through the expansion and implementation of pop-up produce stands and farmers markets in the city and in alternative retail settings, support the expansion and promotion of double up food bucks, and to advocate for increased accessibility to healthy food for seniors through mobile food service delivery, fresh produce, and healthy vending machines at senior centers, etc. They identified current programs/initiatives that HPWC can support to meet the goals. The next steps will be to consolidate a list of produce giveaways in the City of Pontiac, invite Growing Pontiac and the Pontiac Farmers Market to the workgroup meetings, and connect to the Senior Market Fresh program. Discussion ensued.

5. Adjournment

J. Williams adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m. The next HPWC! meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Signa Metivier

Approved by: Jessica Williams