



Maryland Commission on LGBTQIA+ Affairs

Health & Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2024, 7:00pm - 8:00pm
Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

Mickey Dhir, Committee Chair
Anthony Fox, Vice Chair
Tina Jones
Stephen Martin
Paula Neira
Ex-officio: Lee Blinder

Committee members absent:

Jeremy Browning - Director, Maryland Commission on LGBTQIA+ Affairs
Taylor Harer - Special Assistant, Maryland Commission on LGBTQIA+ Affairs

- I. Meeting called to order by Committee Chair at 7:01pm.
- II. Committee Chair Dhir acknowledged housekeeping and meeting guidelines.
- III. Roll call was conducted by Committee Chair Dhir.
- IV. Approval of Agenda: The agenda was presented to the Committee and there were no comments or questions. Using unanimous consent, the agenda was approved
- V. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the last meeting were presented and the floor was opened up for discussion. After hearing no comments or additions, Committee Vice Chair Fox made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Neira and the minutes were approved unanimously.
- VI. Discussion: Meeting Cadence - Director Browning recommended holding monthly meetings, while Commissioner Neira suggested bimonthly due to the Committee's workload. Commissioner Martin introduced the idea of holding space on the calendar for a meeting every month and canceling as needed. It was agreed to hold meetings on the 4th Monday of each month, with cancellations as necessary.

- VII. Discussion: PrEP Access - Chair Dhir shared information regarding how insurance providers handle PrEP coverage. It was noted that there are many unknowns at the moment surrounding the specifics of the coverage of this medication. There was discussion around scheduling a meeting with a representative of the Maryland Department of Health to gain further clarification on the matter. The next steps will involve scheduling the meeting, after which the Committee will determine how to proceed based on that information.
- VIII. Discussion: 2025 Health& Wellness Committee Priorities - Director Browning suggested that the Committee review and build upon the priorities that the Policy Committee outlined in their Policy Priorities Document. Commissioner Fox expressed concern that it would be challenging to discuss priorities until after the meeting with the MDH representative. The Committee would like to extend an invitation to MDH to have a representative present at their next meeting. Additionally, a discussion took place regarding healthcare funding.
- IX. Adjournment: The Committee Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:52pm.

Meeting minutes submitted respectfully by: Taylor Harer, Special Assistant