



Mayor's Task Force on AIDS
Thursday August 27, 2020 8:30 am
Virtual meeting
(see attached instructions for WebEx)

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Marge Rivera
Yanira Agudo
Laura Minor
Alice Ferguson

DeLita Rose Daniels
Hedy Kelley
Phyllis DelMastro
Diane Ashworth

1. Moment of Silence – Moment of silence for all of the unrest in our country at this time as well as those that with HIV
2. Introductions - Done
3. Approval of Minutes – February, July 2020 – February accepted with the update of attendance not available. July minutes will have corrections to names and typos – Laura and DeLita – moved and seconded – all in favor.
4. Committee Members/Roster – August Update – Please check your name and email on the list that Alice sent out so that the we can have an accurate list. Updated Ellen Zoppo's email address.
5. Mayor Task Force Chair Opening – Alice is at the end of her 60 days as chair of the committee – we need to make a decision. Alice is willing to go forward if no one else is interested in chairing the committee.
Laura Minor has offered to assist after October. We will all work to support Alice.
Laura made a movement to nominate Alice as the permanent chair. DeLita seconded movement. Vote and accepted.

6. Looking Ahead – Committee Revamp Discussion – Discussion last month with Marco to expand the scope of this committee beyond HIV. It would be a matter of bringing this idea to Mayor Zappo. We could include things like COVID or HepC – any other issue related to Health Issues.

HIV is now an issue that is not the deadly condition that it can be, so as a committee we can still make this a focus as it is still relevant, but other issues have also come up that could go to the forefront of the committee.

Laura – years ago we had the Bristol Wellness Coalition, we worked very closely with this committee, and this committee could be very similar. Several committee members served on both committees.

Phyllis – I agree with Laura, we will need to address our bylaws and we will have to narrow our scope so we can identify specific areas so we do not take on too much. We also want to make sure that HIV does not get lost in the process.

DeLita – agree with Phyllis, it is important to keep HIV in the forefront, but we can also identify 3 or 4 other areas that we can support. There is a lot of room to expand what we are doing. There are so many areas that touch HIV, social determinants of Health, Homelessness, and Racial Inequities.

Laura – it is very important that we have the support of the Health Department and the other committees so we can have support.

Phyllis – having a voice at the table is also very important. We can change our bylaws to make sure that our mission is not lost.

DeLita – Should we request a meeting with Marco so we can express our concerns and wishes. Then we can have a larger overreaching meeting with the other committees.

Laura – when we first started we had AIDS Bristol and the Mayor’s Task Force, it would be good if Alice and Marco go to the Mayor together.

DeLita- it would be very impactful as we would be dealing with WHOLE people, not just HIV/Aids.

We should have a monthly meeting with the other committees – so we can share the ideas and issues that are facing us.

Laura made a movement to have Alice and Marco meet with the Mayor to seek the changes to this group. DeLita offered assistance in this capacity as well.

DeLita Seconded –

Vote: All in favor.

7. Social Media/Marketing – This may need to wait until we revamp the committee. Diane has been placing some information on FB.

Red Ribbon (straight ribbon) is representative of Opioid Addiction and overdose awareness month. This month happens to be the same month of HIV awareness month.

Bigger issue is raising the conversation of our visible and audible voices.

We have not updated the webpage on the Mayors webpage. – can we spend some time on this at the next meeting. Laura will look at the website and see what needs to be updated on the site prior to the meeting next month.

8. Task Force Storage – Does anyone have any items belonging to the taskforce? We are going to put them in one central storage area in conjunction with Lindsey Riggors in Public Works. She will need to know how many boxes we have. Laura has one small box with candles. Diane has 2 cardboard signs, Alice has 2 manuals. Should we get a bin to put all of the things into one bin? Tablecloth and Banner? Alice will check with Valerie to see where this was placed. Alice will send out an email to Diane and Laura so we can coordinate the meeting all at once to place into storage.

9. Other Business – DeLita and Alice are fellows from the Connecticut Health Foundation, Health Equity Solutions is an offshoot from this. Last night she received an email asking Bristol to declare Racism a Health Issue.

Laura has reminded us that some of us are representatives of our organizations, so it is not us as an individual to support this as we would need to have our organizations also support this.

10. Meeting adjourned at 9:24 am.

Next meeting: September 24, 2020