



Prince George's County Council

County Administration Building
14741 Governor Oden Bowie
Drive
Upper Marlboro, Maryland
20772-3050

Meeting Minutes - Final Sitting as the Board of Health

Tuesday, March 31, 2020

1:15 PM

Council Hearing Room

1:15 P.M. - CALL TO ORDER - (COUNCIL HEARING ROOM)

This virtual meeting was called to order by Council Chair Turner at 1:16 p.m. with 11 members present at roll call. Council Vice Chair Calvin Hawkins was present in person.

Present: 11 - Council Chair Todd Turner
Member Monique Anderson-Walker
Member Derrick Davis
Member Thomas Dernoga
Member Mel Franklin
Member Dannielle Glaros
Member Sydney Harrison
Vice Chair Calvin S. Hawkins
Member Jolene Ivey
Member Rodney Streeter
Member Deni Taveras

Also present:

Robert J. Williams, Jr., Council Administrator (in person)
William M. Hunt, Deputy Council Administrator
Donna J. Brown, Clerk of the Council (in person)
Monica Best-James, Legislative Officer
Colette R. Gresham, Legislative Officer
Terry L. Bell, Council Liaison, Office of the County Executive
Sakinda L. Skinner, Office of Law

[BR 03312020](#)**COVID-19 - CORONAVIRUS UPDATE**

Ernest L. Carter, MD, Health Officer

George L. Askew, MD, DCAO Health, Human Services & Education

Terrence Fullum, MD, MBA, Liaison to the Board of Health

Yolandra Hancock, MD, MPH, Advisor to the Board of Health

Dr. George Askew provided an overview/history of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 and explained the related challenges. Dr. Ernest Carter provided a update, including the number of confirmed cases, deaths and hospitalizations. Dr. Carter also spoke to the emergency operations at the Fed-Ex Field Testing Site, noting that the first day was very successful with 67 screenings and 60 tests performed. Testing is by appointment only; citizens should call the Covid-19 hotline at 301-883-6627. Dr. Carter provided an update on the availability of personal protective equipment, critical staffing and public messaging. Dr. Terrence Fullum spoke to the importance of preventing the spread of the virus by practicing social distancing, staying home as much as possible and also explained the ways the virus is spread. Dr. Fullum also stressed that there is currently no treatment or vaccine available. If you develop symptoms, please contact your doctor. Dr. Yolanda Hancock commented on the statistics being provided through the media and also spoke to the individuals that are considered "at risk" and the positive percentage of those who recover.

The panelists responded to questions posed by Council Members regarding medicare expansion available to undocumented individuals, advice being given to large households and overcrowded housing communities; data collection and dissemination; level of coordination, how test results are communicated back to patients; ways to provide temporary housing for the homeless community; safeguards and special testing for frontline individuals; contact tracing; childcare options for essential workers; supply drop-off locations; distribution of food to residents and monitoring of senior facilities. Mr. Ronald E. Gill, Director, Department of the Environment, was also available to respond to questions by Council Members.

The panelists provided concluding remarks. The County's dedicated Coronavirus website is: health.mypgc.us/coronavirus

Dr. Carter was accompanied by Diane Young, RN, Associate Director, Family Health Services Division and Donna Perkins, Epidemiologist, Manager, Office of Assessment and Planning.

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ADJOURN

A motion was made by Member Davis, seconded by Member Streeter, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

Prepared by:

Theresa D. Myers, Legislative Assistant

Submitted by:

Donna J. Brown, Clerk of the Council