

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION May 2, 2024 • 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. • Hybrid Meeting Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Benita Cooper	Paula Montgomery	Paul Rogers
Anna Davis	Barbara Moore	Adam Skolnik
Susan Kleinhammer	Ruth Ann Norton	Thelonious Williams
Cliff Mitchell	Manjula Paul	

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar	Jacob Benzaquen	Senator Jill Carter
		Christina Peusch

Guests Present:

Sandra-Public	Shamola Dye-MDE	Wendy Phillips-MDE
LaTricea Adams-WHEJC	Sheneka Frasier-Kyer-MDE	DeShanette Ponzo-Brown-MDE
Fred Banks-MDE	Felicia Graves-MDE	Tiffeny Price-MDH
Elyce Bloomfield-GHHI	Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD	Nekia Randall-BC-DHCD
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE	Samantha	Jonathan Riddix-BC-DHCD
Colin Choney-GHHI	Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD	Tim Rule-MDE
Abby Cocke-GHHI	Eunice Johnson-GES	Nancy Servatius-MDH
Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE	Dawn Joy-AMA	Reva Smith-MWPH
Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE	Wade McCord-MDE	Anastasia Solano-MDE
Jack Daniels-MD-DHCD	Joy McFadden-Public	Kevin Stanley-MDE
Julie DiGirolamo-BCHD	Angela Hall-GHHI	George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
William Doyle-HCHD	Tasha Peterson-Public	Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD
		Chris White-ARC

Documents Distributed:

- Agenda 240502
- Draft Minutes 240404
- Young, Gifted & Green's Lead Service Line Replacement Community-Outreach Model
- Legislative Tracking 2024
- DHCD LHRP Lead Commission
- Lead Commission Presentation 5.2.24

Website links provided in Chat:

- MHIC Website EPA RRP Rule: <https://labor.maryland.gov/license/mhic/mhicepa.shtml>
- MHIC Website: Lead Paint FAQs – EPA RRP Rule Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) - Maryland Home Improvement Commission (MHIC) - Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing: <https://labor.maryland.gov/license/mhic/mhicfaqs.shtml>
- Biden Administration Announces \$3B in Funding For Lead Pipe Replacement: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-3-billion-lead-pipe-replacement-advance-safe>
- Lead Safe Housing For Kids Act BiPartisan Legislation: <https://chuygarcia.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-garcia-senators-durbin-and-young-introduce-bipartisan-legislation-to-protect-children-from-lead-poisoning>

Welcome and Introductions:

Ruth Ann Norton, President of the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) and Commission Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

- **7th Annual Maryland Asthma Summit 2024:** Chair Norton and Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell, Health Bureau Director for the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) informed the Commission that the MDH will be hosting an Asthma Summit at Bowie State University on May 7, 2024. For those interested you can find more information at the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/7th-annual-maryland-asthma-summit-2024-tickets-883418377147?aff=erelxpm1t>.
- Chair Norton recommended a letter be sent to Secretary Tisha Edwards from the Governor's Appointments Office; Senator Bill Ferguson, President of the Senate; and Speaker Adrienne Jones, Speaker of the House, in order to encourage the lead commission member nominations for the House and Senate to move forward. Chair Norton hopes to have a meeting with MDE individuals to discuss the content of the letters and get them before the next commission meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Paula Montgomery, Lead Outreach and Education Coordinator for the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), seconded by Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell to accept the April 4, 2024 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old & New Business:

- **Presentation on Young, Gifted and Green (YGG) Lead Poisoning Prevention**
Community-Outreach Model: LeTricia Adams founder of YGG, presented a PowerPoint to the Commission. The PowerPoint titled, “Young, Gifted & Green’s Lead Service Line Replacement Community-Outreach Model” was included in the meeting materials and is available on the Lead Commission web page. Ms. Adams discussed efforts being made on lead safe service lines and work happening in Memphis, Tennessee on lead that was recently covered by The Washington Post. Highlights in the presentation included: History of YGG; Canvassing/Door Knocking Campaign; Shop Talks; Black and Brown Alliance; and the YGG Model.
- **Update on Implementation of new Blood Lead Reference Level:** Commissioner, Dr. Cliff Mitchell provided an update and discussed MDH’s ongoing collaboration with the Green and Healthy Home Initiative (GHHI) to revise clinical practice guidelines, the adoption of a 3.5 µg/dL blood-lead reference value by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Maryland, increased physician inquiries, the need for clinical community education, and efforts to ensure providers receive necessary testing information.
- **Lead Funding/Unit Production:** Katherine Taylor, Director of the Lead Hazard Reduction Program for Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development Baltimore City (BC-DHCD), presented a PowerPoint to the Commission. The PowerPoint titled, “DHCD LHRP Lead Commission” was included in the meeting materials and available on the Lead Commission web page. Ms. Taylor discussed lead hazard reduction grants. Highlights in the presentation included: Purpose; Unit Production Progress; Funding; Challenges and Solutions; and Expansion of the Jurisdiction Area of 2019 Lead Grant.

Legislation/Pending Legislative Outcome & Action Dates

The outcome of the tracked bills for the 2024 Legislative Session are listed below:

The following bills were passed and approved by the Governor:

- [HB0097/SB0723 - Baby Food - Toxic Heavy Metals - Testing and Labeling](#)
- [HB0241/SB308 - Housing and Community Development - Just Community Designation](#)
- [HB0693/SB0481 - Renters' Rights and Stabilization Act of 2024](#)
- [HB0864 - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plans](#)
- [SB0482/HB0694 - Governor's Office for Children - Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households \(ENOUGH\) Grant Program \(ENOUGH Act of 2024\)](#)

The following bills did not pass:

- [HB0245 - Department of the Environment - Fees, Penalties, Funding, and Regulation](#)
- [HB0351/SB0361 - Creation of a State Debt - Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2024, and the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loans of 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023.](#)
- [HB1473/SB0983 - Hunting - Lead and Lead-Based Ammunition - Phase-Out](#)

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Commissioner, Manjula Paul, Nurse Consultant for the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), reported that the Office of Child Care (OCC) met with MDE to discuss funding for testing and replacing water service lines for lead. OCC gave MDE the addresses of the locations using public water or well water. Discussions are ongoing regarding the implementation of this project.
- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Theo Williams reported that MD-DHCD recently hired a new director for their building and energy programs, who used to be the director of energy programs. With this new director, MD-DHCD is now focusing more on improving homes as a whole. They are identifying homes that need energy upgrades and those that need critical repairs, and making sure both needs are met. Currently, MD-DHCD is looking at homes that received critical repairs and checking if they also need weatherization upgrades to save energy. They have committed four million dollars in grants to work with six counties that handle local weatherization. This helps identify homes with problems like lead or mold. If a home has these issues, the local weatherization agencies, which are also the housing departments, will help connect the homeowners with MD-DHCD. MD-DHCD will then help these homeowners enroll in their critical repair program to fix these problems first. After the repairs, the homes can then get weatherization upgrades. Of the six counties, MD-DHCD has agreements with four, and is still working on agreements with the other two. Lastly, HUD has acknowledged MD-DHCD's request for a debrief but has not scheduled any meetings yet. They will contact MD-DHCD to schedule these debriefs in the future.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Nicole Hart, Homeownership and Housing Preservation Deputy Commissioner for BC-DHCD reported that they have a program called the Emergency Mortgage and Homeowner Assistance Program. This program helps people with their mortgages, taxes, and water bills, especially after COVID-19. The money for this program comes from federal COVID-19 relief funds. BC-DHCD made some changes to the program. Now, they can give more than \$5,000 in help and can assist people earning up to 120% of the area median income (AMI). They can also help renters with their water bills. If you know someone who needs help, they can find the application on the BC-DHCD website.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): Julie DiGirolamo, Director for BCHD, reported that the Greater Baltimore Asthma Alliance is having a meeting on May 17 at which time it will be going over results of the 2024 legislative session as well as any updates related to asthma.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, June 6, 2024, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- EPA Technical Assistance Center Presentation (University of MD Sacoby Wilson Group)
- Educational Programs (Maryland Home Improvement Commission)
- Commissioner membership updates and renewals due in September (Wendy Phillips)