

Silver Thread Public Health District Board of Health Meeting Notes
Thursday, August 13, 2020

Attendees:

Lyn Lampert
Scott Lamb
Susan Thompson
Jody Stroh
Jim Loud
Tara Hardy
Community Members and some Public Health Staff

Meeting called to order at 10:10am by Lyn Lampert

Community Communications – none

COVID Update

- Tara gave situational updates for counties; Alamosa; Gunnison
- District holding steady at 0 active cases for both counties
- Mineral County variances have been reinstated

PH Infrastructure

- Received a couple of inquiries for Assistant Director, one person might submit a resume

Health Equity/Why Pronouns Matter Discussion

Isaac presented the outline for the Health Equity landing page:

- STHPD Commitment to Health Equity
- Value Statement
- Vision Statement – no vision statement at this time, but Commitment to Health Equity is very close to a vision statement.
- Resource Pages that will include links to resources; core subjects to choose from
 - Health Equity
 - Racism is a Public Health Crisis
 - Economic Inequality is a PH Crisis
 - Bias-Based Bullying Prevention
 - Language Justice
 - Harm Reduction

Proposal – standardization of signature line used by STPHD employees, with unique components as each person chooses as long as it is in line with the mission statement, adding a link ‘Learn more about Health Equity’ that leads to landing page.

Discussion on link in signature line and would appear on STPHD correspondence

- 'Learn more about Health Equity' link leads back to main, landing page
- Have personal pronouns a link to Bias Based Bullying Prevention section where Why Pronouns Matter lives
- The more info that is presented, the more controversial issues that people will find and we will need to explain and back-up
- Invites more research opportunity
- Understanding that Tara and staff were going to present policy, but there is no policy because staff believes having the landing page on the web-site is more valuable. And staff did not definitively decide on anything in particular
- Bullying is PH issue and a priority to educate
- It is important to defend pronouns as a PH issue and not a political statement
- Using landing page would promote a broad approach and not single out 1 topic
- The whole point of education and pronouns is lost if we get too general
- Can be confusing to put pronoun preference and not specifically address it
- There is a request for neutrality
- PH can't be neutral, must take a stance as they do with all topics they address
- Why can't the pronouns be a link to Bias Based Bullying section and there can be another, separate link that states 'Learn more about health equity' that leads to the landing page

Susan made motion: STPHD employee email signature can have employee preferred pronouns linked to Bias Based Bullying section and a separate link 'Learn More About Health Equity' that leads to the landing page on the STPHD website.

Further discussion: staff is good with the motion; Scott prefers to keep simple and only 1 link to the landing page for general information

Roll Call and vote: 2 no's, 3 yes – motion carries

Conflict of Interest

Jody brought to BOH attention that she has been paid for contact tracing work she did for STPHD According to Bylaws any BOH member who does paid work for PH will need to disclose it to BOH. All agreed that she was good to be paid by PH for her work.

Director Report

- Gina Carr leaving Lake City on Oct 15th. Tara asking the BOH if they agree that Gina can remain on board at the Health Director remotely. Statutes state that the Health Director does not have to live in the county in which they serve. May have vote later.
- 1st draft of budget will be due Sep 21st; Hinsdale starting on 9/2, Mineral to start mid-September; Tara will have budget to submit at mid-September meeting
- Senator Bennet will be at joint Commissioner meeting. Tara will be presenting and Senator will go to Lake City after meeting.
- State school guidelines released on surveillance and mitigation plan. It was not received well, so being redone. The new set has just been released and Tara will be reviewing. Both schools are opening in person and Tara feels confident about opening in person.
- Ski area discussion have started – reviewing/looking at economic impacts, testing, tracing, capacity. State will be putting out guidelines.
- Kristen has started conversations with both Chambers about the videos on businesses and impact of COVID

Economic Impact Statement has not been in paper. Tara will follow-up with Kristen.

There has been some misinformation on social media posted by community members and questioning of numbers, mask wearing, and treatment. Is there anything that can be done to guide this misinformation?

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 27th at 10am.

Meeting adjourned