

Meeting Minutes -
COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY HEALTH
OCTOBER 21, 2022 6:30 P.M.
FARMINGTON HILLS CITY HALL- COMMUNITY ROOM
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FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48336
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APPROVED

Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call: Charlie Starkman called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Each member shared their name and introduced themselves to the group.

Members Present: Charles (Charlie) Starkman, Annemarie Diakow, Molly David, Obi Ogbonnaya, Jessica Schefman

Members Absent: Bernard Hooper, Eunice Jeffries, Alexander Mott, Cheryl Patel

Others Present: Teresa Jergovich, Robert Levine

Approval of Minutes – 9/21/22: Molly David moved to approve the minutes, with Jessica Schefman supporting the motion. The minutes from the September 2022 meeting were approved.

Approval of Agenda: Annemarie Diakow moved to approve the agenda for today's meeting, with Molly David supporting the motion. The agenda for today's meeting was approved.

New Commissioner: Jarel Readous was not in attendance today.

Cannabis Public Forum 10/03 & 10/04- Commissioners Who Attended: Molly discussed her experiences at the October 4th forum, with two individuals speaking in favor of opting in and seven people in opposition to opting in. She noted that people were concerned about a potential decline of the quality of the community and being a cash-only business. On the 3rd, Jessica and Charlie indicated that more people spoke out in favor of opting in, especially for additional tax revenue that can stay in the city as opposed to going to other suburbs. The commission will stay abreast of the Council's decision on this issue.

City Wide Open House Remarks/Suggestions: Overall, the City Wide Open House was a success for the commission and the community. Molly and Annemarie shared some ideas on different interactive activities that we can use at our table next year (e.g. decorating small pumpkins). Teresa identified potentially having Poison Control stickers available, which could be a giveaway.

Winter Clothing Drive: Since 2019, the Church of Latter Day Saints in Farmington Hills has held a free clothing drive, although it did not take place in 2020 or 2021 during COVID. This year, it is being held this Friday and Saturday at the Church. There are no age or income limits for those who would like to attend. Teresa indicated that the board for this event would like someone from the commission to be on the board in planning the event next year. She noted that young children and older adults will come to the clothing drive in order to obtain

coats and boots to keep warm during the winter. Molly offered to be the commission liaison to the clothing drive event.

Adopt a Senior Holiday Program: Teresa shared information on Farmington/Farmington Hills' Adopt a Senior Holiday Program, which takes place at the Costick Center. Through this program, community members and groups can "adopt" a senior adult and deliver gifts and other goods to them during the holiday to ideally reduce the impact of social isolation. Molly asked about the commission's budget, which currently sits at \$1800. The commission is eligible for additional funding if necessary, although this has to be approved by City Council. Jessica inquired as to when the commission needs to make a decision about their involvement with this program (either as a commission or individually). Teresa encouraged commission members to notify her next month after taking a vote at the next meeting.

Farmington Area Goodfellows: Teresa provided a description of the organization and the annual food drive, which kicks off on November 1st. On the Saturday before Christmas, Goodfellows delivers goods to older adults and families; the distribution will be held this year on December 17th. Food, books, gifts, and gift cards to Heartland Market and Target are some of the items distributed to families. Teresa encouraged the commission to determine their involvement in this event as soon as possible, ideally by next month, by taking a vote at the next meeting.

****Commissioners expressed interest in taking part in the aforementioned events as a group.**

Commission T-Shirts: As Bernard was absent from today's meeting, this topic will be tabled until next meeting.

Member Comments/Announcements: Robert Levine, a Farmington Hills resident, was present for tonight's meeting. He expressed an interest in what the commission does and introduced himself to the commissioners. Jessica asked the commission if she could send out a document to the commission about school board candidates and their positions on banning books. The commissioners expressed interest in learning more about their positions. Molly discussed Digital Detox Challenge and a National Day of Unplugging and inquired whether the commission was interested in bringing this to the local schools. These events take place each March.

Next Meeting: November 16, 2022 at 6:30 PM.

Adjournment: Charlie moved to adjourn the meeting, with Molly supporting the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.