# **HEALTH** **COUNCIL**

## COUNCIL

THE DUKES COUNTY

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 20, 2017

Public Safety Building – West Tisbury

approved May 18, 2017

Present: Eleanor Beth, Kevin Carey, Leslie Clapp, Bill Croke, Jay Ferriter, Victoria Haeselbarth, Tom Hallahan, Charles Hodge, Mary Holmes, Karen Kukolich, Robert Laskowski, Marina Lent, Patsy McCornack, Bob Moore, Paddy Moore, Kathleen Perrotta, Dan Pesch, Lena Prisco, Megan Rose, Ashley Shattuck, Myra Stark, Joyce Stiles Tucker, , Berta Giles Welch, Mary Jane Williams

7:30 AM **Welcome, Approval of Minutes**—Charlie Hodge

Minutes of the April 20, 2017 meeting were approved.

Megan Rose was welcomed to the Health Council. Megan succeeded Jacque Cage as the Vineyard based Director of Elder Services for the Cape and Islands.

7:35   **Status of Rural Scholars Project submissions**—

Dan Pesch noted that the Committee was in the process of reviewing proposals. The Committee has received a number of proposals so far. The Committee will recommend one proposal to the full Health Council for approval. Bob Laskowski asked that the proposals that are not finally recommended by the Committee also be shared with the Health Council. He noted that these proposals are likely to be important and may become agenda items for future Health Council priorities, despite not being chosen as a Rural Scholar activity.

7:40   **Health Council Member Feedback on new website** –Victoria Haeselbarth and Charlie Hodge—Health Council member feedback on the new website was overwhelmingly positive. Charlie thanked Victoria and other Communication Workgroup members for their excellent work.

7:50   **Martha’s Vineyard Hospital Update- CEO Joe Woodin**--

Joe Wooden gave a presentation concerning MV Hospital. He began by reiterating the Hospital’s mission of service to the community. He noted that this mission guides the decisions that that the hospital makes every day. He then briefly summarized the Hospital’s history and highlighted important developments. These included the affiliation with MGH that occurred in 2004. Joe stated that the affiliation has had very important benefits for the community and for the hospital’s physicians by dramatically improving access to critically needed services that MGH has. In particular, he cited the ease of transfer of patients to MGH, the helpfulness of remote monitoring of the Hospital’s ICU, Pain Management and other telemedicine services. He then reviewed briefly the master planning process that the hospital has engaged in during the last year. The previous master plan had been done prior to the development of the new hospital building and was now outdated. Joe noted that the population estimates on which the new Master Plan were based were relatively “stable.” Several members of the Health Council pointed out projections that predicted a dramatic increase in the number of full-time Vineyard residents over the age of 65 that is anticipated by 2030. They urged that this fact be considered as the Hospital considers its planning efforts. Joe further noted that the current hospital site poses some severe constraints on future physical campus development. In particular, the desirability of on campus temporary housing for hospital employees hired to meet the summer season demand is not easily accommodated by the site. Other topics discussed included: Primary care services; Mental Health service needs; the implementation of the EPIC electronic health record and population health initiatives. There was some discussion on the recent decision by the Hospital to close its independent living units. Joe reported that the units were currently underused and a significant financial burden for the Hospital. He was committed to helping find suitable new living accommodations for current residents. Joe ended the discussion by thanking the Health Council for the invitation to meet and by emphasizing his and the Hospital’s interest in “innovative” ideas that could better serve the community.

8:55 **Committee/Working Group Updates**—Chairs of Committee/Working Groups None other than reported above

8:55  **Agenda for May Meeting** –Charlie Hodge announced that the Coordinating Committee was completing its review of the Health Council Bylaws. He planned on distributing suggested changes for review, discussion and potential approval at the May meeting.

9:00 AM **Meeting**  **Adjourned**