

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
Minutes  
December 13, 2022

The City of Middletown Board of Health met in regular session at 7:30 AM on December 13, 2022.

Members Present

Mayor Nicole Condrey, BS, President  
Margie Davis, RN  
Sally Kash, MS, RN  
Jeff Bonnell  
David Schul

Health Department Staff Present

Jackie Phillips Carter, MPH, BSN, RN  
Carla Ealy, BS, REHS  
Chandra Corbin, BSN, RN  
Amanda McDonald, Vital Statistics Registrar

Absent and Excused

Charlene Kurtz, BSN, RN  
Ruth Lolli  
Dr. Ken Patrick, DVM

Guest

Kristy Duritsch, Safety Council of Southwestern Ohio

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ROLL CALL

Motion: Ms. Kash moved, seconded by Mr. Schul to excuse absent board members.

Roll call vote: Yes-4 (Davis, Kash, Bonnell, Schul). No-0. Motion Passed.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- November 2022

Motion: Mr. Schul moved, seconded by Ms. Kash to approve the November 2022 Board of Health meeting minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes-4 (Davis, Kash, Bonnell, Schul). No-0. Motion Passed.

RECEIVE AND FILE FINANCIAL REPORT-November 2022

Motion: Ms. Kash moved, seconded by Mr. Schul to receive and file the November 2022 Financial Report.

Roll call vote: Yes-4 (Davis, Kash, Bonnell, Schul). No-0. Motion Passed.

Education Presentation- Middletown Connect-OHIZ Grant-Kristy Duritsch

Ms. Duritsch provided the board of health with an overview of the Ohio Health Improvement Zone (OHIZ) Grant.

Ms. Duritsch explained that the OHIZ Pilot Project is a place-based initiative seeking to foster health equity, address social determinants of health, and improve healthy behaviors through meaningful community engagement and cross-sector collaboration.

The Ohio Department of Health grant was awarded to the Safety Council of Southwestern Ohio in partnership with the City of Middletown Health Department. Ms. Duritsch provided the board with a timeline which included receiving notification of the award in August 2022, establishing priorities by December 2022 and implementation by February 2023. Pieces of the OHIZ Grant include: a fiscal agent, Strategic Innovations Group, Health Improvement Partners (HIP Team), Core Team, Community Ambassadors, monthly deliverables, key activity-engage and assess and key activity-engage and implement.

Social determinants of health include: education access and quality, healthcare access and quality, neighborhood and built environment, social and community context and economic stability. The social determinants of health are used to determine the Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) of an area. The highest possible SVI score is 1.0, any census tract with a score of 0.75 or higher is considered vulnerable based on low performing indicators in the following areas: high poverty rates; high disability rates; high number of households with children; single parent households; high population of minority residents; high concentration of multi-unit, rental and mobile homes and limited access to transportation. Middletown Connect has identified three focus census tracts in Middletown (census tracts 130, 131 and 132) with SVI scores all greater than 0.091.

Fifty-six percent of Middletown's sixteen census tracts are considered vulnerable. Life expectancy varies by more than twelve years across census tracts. This project will focus on three particularly vulnerable, contiguous census tracts and includes tract 131 which has the lowest life expectancy in the city.

Data reveals that the total population of Middletown is 50,987. The total population for the focus census tracts is 7,174 or 14.07% of the total population of Middletown. In 2019 these three census tracts accounted for 41.05% of all overdoses, 18.21% of all suicides and 50.00% of all homicides. Middletown Connect is gathering input and feedback from the residents within the focus census tracts to identify barriers to achieving health by holding community conversations. The HIP Teams assist by providing knowledge about the resources/services and the prevention programs that are already underway that could be brought to these focus census tracts. HIP Teams will identify policy changes that can be made by their organization to increase access, engagement and utilization to their resources and services.

Middletown Connect asks that city leaders be open and willing to hear from them as they go through the process and consult with OHIZ Project Core Team as plans within these census tracts are made so that efforts may be aligned.

#### Discussions

Mr. Bonnell asked what type of business would be of the most benefit to one of these census tracts.

Ms. Duritsch stated that data is still being collected to try to determine that answer. They are finding that access to fresh food and a laundromat is a recurring concern in those areas.

Mayor Condrey asked how much money the grant provides.

Ms. Duritsch stated that the grant is \$300,000.

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### PHAB

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the BOH that PHAB has granted CMHD accreditation status.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### Travel Authorizations

There were no travel authorizations requested.

**Motion to Read MBHE Ordinance No. 2022-06 and MBHE Ordinance No. 2022-07 by Title Only and Declaring an Emergency**

**Motion:** Mr. Schul moved, seconded by Ms. Kash to read MBHE Ordinance No. 2022-06 and MBHE Ordinance No. 2022-07 by title only and declaring an emergency.

**Roll call vote:** Yes-4 (Davis, Kash, Bonnell, Schul). No-0. Motion Passed.

##### Approval of MBHE Ordinance No. 2022-06-Pay and Benefits

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that City Council has approved the 2023 Pay and Benefits, it needs to be approved by the Board of Health.

**Motion:** Ms. Kash moved, seconded by Mr. Schul to approve MBHE Ordinance No. 2022-06-Pay and Benefits.

**Roll call vote:** Yes-4 (Davis, Kash, Bonnell, Schul). No-0. Motion Passed.

**Approval of MBHE Ordinance No. 2022-07-Health Department Budget**

**Motion:** Mr. Schul moved, seconded by Ms. Kash to approve MBHE Ordinance No. 2022-07.

**Roll call vote:** Yes-4 (Davis, Kash, Bonnell, Schul). No-0. Motion Passed.

**Approval of Lease Agreement-City of Middletown, Middletown Board of Health & Environment and Butler County Health Consortium aka Primary Health Solutions**

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that this is a renewal of an agreement that has been in place for several years regarding Primary Health Solution's building lease.

**Motion:** Ms. Kash moved, seconded by Ms. Davis to approve the Lease Agreement.

**Roll call vote:** Yes-4 (Davis, Kash, Bonnell, Schul). No-0. Motion Passed.

**2023 Board of Health Meeting Dates**

Board of Health Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30am, a calendar of 2023 meeting dates was included in the BOH packet.

**REPORTS**

**Health Commissioner**

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that the OHIZ grant is exciting and informed the board that HIP partners are looking at new ways of bringing the community together while focusing on innovative ways to increase health outcomes.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that she continues to work with city leaders on addressing the unhoused. Shalom is scheduled to be operating by January 1, 2023.

**Medical Director**

In Dr. Jennewine's absence, Ms. Corbin reported the communicable diseases for November 2022.

Chlamydia infection	27
COVID-19	320
Gonococcal infection	9
Hepatitis B	4
Hepatitis C	6
HIV	2
Influenza-associated hospitalization	16
Pertussis	1
Streptococcus pneumoniae-invasive	2
Syphilis	1

**Director of Nursing**

Ms. Corbin informed the board that there has been an increase in cases of influenza. There were 16 hospitalizations in November due to flu, there have already been 15 hospitalizations due to flu in December. Ms. Corbin stated that CMHD continues to offer the flu vaccine in addition to COVID vaccines at the bi-weekly vaccine clinics.

Ms. Corbin stated that CMHD is currently only offering the Bivalent Moderna COVID vaccine. Ms. Corbin continued that it has now been two years since the COVID vaccine was approved for administration, to date there have been 11,498 doses of COVID vaccine administered in Middletown.

Ms. Corbin informed the board that there is currently a measles outbreak in Columbus, Ohio.

**Environmental Director**

Ms. Ealy informed the board that CMHD is currently in the process of collecting license renewal fees and issuing permits for household septic systems and septic businesses (haulers, installers and service providers) as well as collecting license renewal fees and issuing licenses for tattoo/body art.

Ms. Ealy stated that CMHD has received and approved plans for Fatty's Patties and a new micro market in Phoenix Metals. Ms. Ealy stated that the City Jail inspection was completed this month.

In a follow-up to the septic system discussion at the November BOH meeting, Ms. Ealy informed the board that CMHD has reached out to several other local health departments to discuss their procedures regarding drywells.

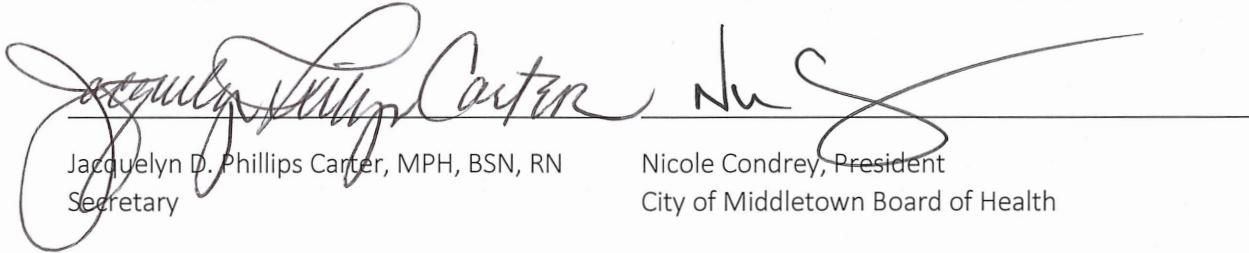
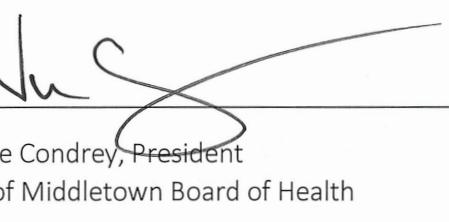
Ms. Ealy informed the board that she has met with Primo, a new steak house that will be located on Central Avenue and there is a soft opening planned for Valentine's Day 2023.

**Discussions**

Ms. Kash informed the board that she had participated in a ride-along with the City of Middletown Police Department and stated that it was a very enlightening experience especially in regards to the unhoused situation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 AM. The next meeting will be held on January 10, 2023 at 7:30 AM.

  
Jazquelyn D. Phillips Carter, MPH, BSN, RN  
Secretary  
Nicole Condrey, President  
City of Middletown Board of Health