



HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 10, 2020 | 9 – 10 a.m.
Teleconference

Commissioners present:

Mary Daly, Chair | Presiding
Lisa Carlson
Lisa Senecal

Staff:

Lilly Talbert (Recording)

Meeting called to order 9:04 a.m.

VOTE: Approve minutes

Lisa S. motions Lisa C. seconds. Minutes approved, with changes discussed to page 3.

Discussion of [S.223](#) and [H.812](#), relating to universal school breakfast and lunch for all public school students

Lisa S. reported as of this date, there has been no legislative action on either bill. Lisa C. offered to get back in touch with Rebecca Mitchell, Child Nutrition Initiatives Manager at Hunger Free Vermont (HFV), whose work is focused on aiding schools switching over to the program. The group would like to know:

- What is the role of the **Agency of Education** re: school meals? How does HFV and other programs coordinate with AOE? Is there a way to integrate nutrition education into school curriculums statewide? There are federal standards for nutrition content, but are there state standards or regulations for school meal nutrition? What and where are they?
- How is the **nutrition education hub** marketed to schools? Is there data about how many and which Vermont schools are using it? Is there an existing document that shows the matrix of organizations working on this issue and their role?
- What is **Becca** hearing from the schools she works with, i.e.; feedback, barriers, successes, generally where schools are at.

Group discussion turned to the question, *Given the work of the many food and nutrition-based organizations involved statewide, what is the most effective role VCW can play?* A few general examples of ways VCW takes action: fact-based testimony about impact of this issue on women and girls; letters of support; press releases; partnering in conferences, reports and events; coordinating opportunities for those experiencing the issue first-hand to testify. Brock Miller, director of food service at Cabot School could be encouraged to testify before those committees about his experience.

Outcome: Mary will report out at this Wednesday's VCW meeting about our information-gathering



efforts and the bills. Lisa will report out on conversation with Becca.

Discussion of [H.572](#), Maternal Mortality Review Panel

Committee members addressed concerns about confidentiality and privacy in data collection, the need for and the challenge of generating accurate data about women of color and health outcomes; forces and factors impacting this issue like access to prenatal care, Ob.Gyn providers, insurance, and transportation for rural residents.

Outcome: It looks like this bill passed. The Committee requested an update re: what the legislation accomplished and what is left that it didn't accomplish. Lilly will request an update from Shayla Livingston, Public Health Policy Advisor, Department of Health.

Meeting adjourned 9:51