



HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 8, 2021 | 9 – 10 a.m.
Online

Commissioners present: Mary Daly, Lisa Senecal, Lisa Carlson

Staff present: Lilly Talbert

Presiding: Mary Daly

Recording: Lilly Talbert

Meeting called to order at 9:03 AM

VOTE: Review, discuss and vote to approve [December 7, 2020 Draft MINUTES](#)

Lisa C. motions to approve minutes, Lisa S. seconds, minutes approved.

Nutrition in schools | review, discussion and planning

In keeping with committee work on this topic over the last year, members reviewed the [Universal School Meals organizational support letter](#), organized by Hunger Free Vermont, to consider proposing it to the full commission. Upon hearing the full content of the letter, Lisa C. expressed support: as while it is costly, it's an investment and the long-term benefits to children and families are worth it. Lisa S. is on board with this letter and its intention: it will pay dividends in savings in the future. She feels the letter touches on multiple issues and reasons to make universal school lunch available permanently. Mary but doesn't like the cost but does like the idea, especially during this time of great need. The Committee recommend the full Commission review at next meeting and sign on.

Lisa C. said that in her most recent conversation with Danville school Food Services Director *Ken Cyr*, he reported that the lunches kids pack and bring to school are of very poor nutritional quality. The food research and action circle she's joined which combines Orange East and Caledonia Central districts plans to meet soon, to build robust, long lasting, and integrated farm to school programs, addressing whole school change through classroom curriculum, school meal programs, and community building. Lisa S. thanked Lisa for her considerable work on nutrition and women's health and requested any hunger talking points for a VT Digger commentary she's writing. Lisa C. will consider putting together personal testimony for universal school meals using the information she's gathered and her experience in educational settings.

Women's health project | discussion and planning

Lisa C. recommended committee members review the [Women's Preventative Services Initiative's site](#), particularly the [well woman chart](#), and the interactive chart, part of that page. It's a tool that breaks down by age groups and by the health screenings recommended within those age groups. The committee would like to work collaboratively to create flyers and perhaps other materials calling attention to the tool, around the theme, *Taking Control of Your Own Health*. Lisa C. also offered the [United States Preventive Services Taskforce](#) as a guide to determine recommendations for preventative care. Lilly will work on drafts for submittal before next committee meeting and focusing on inclusive content. The Committee will plan to consult with Advisors later in the process.

Lisa C. is working on a book review document to share Dr. Lisa Mosconi's *The XX Brain* with VCW. She may share a draft and request edits. She asked about the top medical health care concerns for Vermont women. Lilly will provide contact information for Advisors Kim Swartz, now head of Maternal and Child Health Division at the Department of Health. The committee also discussed health care insurance coverage for preventative care, and tabled the discussion, "What tests are covered under health care plans?" Another resource of use to women in Vermont might be a blog where doctors can share women's health information. Lily will check with UVM medical school and will report back if there is one in place. Lisa C. reported back about post-partum at home visits: the home health nurses visiting program has increased in volume in her region.

Transgender Women and Transgender Youth policy statements | Vote

VOTE: passing the Transgender policies to VCW's Civil & Legal Rights committee for review and editing process within the broader framework of gender equity.

Lisa C. motions, Lisa S. seconds, committee will forward statements.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.

Next meetings:

- March 8th
- April 12th
- May 10th
- June 14th