

Healthy St. Mary's Partnership
HEAL Action Team
April 25, 2018 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Health Connections, MedStar St. Mary's Hospital

Minutes

1. **Attendance:** Jenna Guzman – St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD), Jacquie Heaney – SMCHD, Sue Veith – Department of Economic Development (DED), Frank Allen – Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust, Christina Allen – community member, Isabel Robinson – United Health Care (UHC), Rebecca Jackson – SMCHD, Lori Norton – SMCHD, Linda Fry – Church of Ascension, Andrea Hamilton – MedStar St. Mary's Hospital (MSMH), Christi Bishop – Recreation & Parks, Kyle Kebaugh – College of Southern Maryland (CSM), Ashley Milcetic – SMCHD, Kathy Faubion – St. Mary's County Libraries (SMCL), Brian Abell - St. Mary's County Tennis Association (SMCTA), Thomas Brewer – Commission on the Environment (COE)

2. **More to Explore:** Christi passed around the site information for the *More to Explore* signs. She will send out a final revision once all of the codes are checked/moved so that you can answer community questions about the locations and so that all materials and online systems can be updated. **Those who have volunteered to move signs should have this done by the June 18th start date.** Christi passed around examples of the *More to Explore* passport for those who have not seen it before. **There will be a vote at the May 23 meeting on whether or not the team will be using current funds to print passports this year or not.**
 - a. **Sponsorship:** Jenna will do a press release on the launch of the 2018 More to Explore challenge which will give credit to all of the sponsors. Sponsors are also included on the *More to Explore* page on the HSMP website with links.
 - i. Healthiest Maryland Businesses
 1. Fitbit
 2. \$200 donation to be spent on prizes
 - a. Jenna and Jacquie will order.
 - ii. Recreation and Parks – \$25 gift card
 - iii. St. Mary's County Tennis Association – Tennis Package
 - iv. United Healthcare – Giveaways
 - v. Christina Allen/Corn Crib Studio – *The Dinner: A Sustainable Farming Documentary* DVDs
 - vi. Minority Outreach Coalition – Donated funds to bring budget balance to an even \$500
 - vii. Andrea is waiting to hear back about sponsorship from MedStar St. Mary's Hospital



3. **ArtsPark Survey:** Jenna gave a brief summary of the previous meeting's discussion with the Community Development Corporation about the plan for the St. Mary's County ArtsPark. Vicki Volk sent in a sample of the community survey for discussion.
 - a. Question 1: How did you learn about the ArtsPark? Cherry Blossom Festival, use the trail/disc golf course, read about it in the HEAL newsletter, visited the U.S. Colored Troops Memorial, social Media, other (specify)
 - b. Question 2: What would you like to have in the park? Bicycle paths, art activities, playground, game boards, events (specify), other (specify)
 - i. Suggested additions
 1. Adult exercise equipment
 2. Sensory Garden
 3. Rental Pavilion – It was noted that there is already a small pavilion with 10 tables already at the park.
 4. Scheduled Activities – Such as yoga.
 5. Community Garden – Lexington Park has a demand for a Community Garden, but the efforts have stalled in the past without a person to oversee the setup and upkeep.
 - a. Once a person has been found to oversee the project the site needs to be developed with raised beds. The Organization or Individual would then rent out plots for community members to use. The renters would then be in charge of planting, pruning, and harvesting their own garden. Some suggestions of those to get in contact with are the local boy scouts, master gardeners, 4H club, churches, the Agriculture, Seafood, and Forestry Commission, interns from NAS Patuxent River, and senior centers.
 - ii. The question was raised about if it was possible to add check boxes next to each of the options as to whether people would be willing to volunteer for that activity/set up the space.
 - c. Question 3: How often do you (or would you) visit a Lexington Park ArtsPark with the amenities you listed? Once a week, once a month, special events only, other (specify)
 - d. Suggested Question 4: Are you interested in volunteering for any of the amenities you listed? This could have an open comment section which would begin to create a database of volunteers to be called upon to help set the park up or for when an event is going to be hosted at the ArtsPark.
 - e. Suggestions will be incorporated into a draft survey which will be distributed to team members for comment, then finalized and sent back out for members to share

4. Partner Updates

- a. Recreation and Parks



- i. The new 5th District Playground is now open! Plans are in the works for the official closing of the Joseph Wieck playground at Robert Miedzinski Park before construction begins on the new playground.
 - ii. Summer Camp Registration is currently open and filling up fast.
 - iii. Very successful Easter festival with approximately 3,500 people attending.
 - b. CSM
 - i. Hosted a clean-up of their exercise trail last Saturday.
 - ii. New exercise programs being offered: Scuba Diving, Paddle Board Yoga
 - iii. Working on community outreach to promote the fitness center to the public. Revamping corporate memberships to give a 20% discount on membership.
 - c. The Allens discussed a Disaster Preparedness conference that they are participating in.
 - d. There will be a free food give away at God's house of Refuge in Lexington Park on Saturday, April 28 at 10:30.
 - e. St. Mary's County Tennis Association will be having Pop Tennis programs in May and June.
 - f. Let Andrea know of any programs you think Health Connections should include in their calendar.
 - g. The Be Active Maryland Conference will be held on May 23 in college park. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/be-active-maryland-conference-tickets-44381131158>
 - h. Sue gave an update on the bike trail project. She is coordinating with the state in developing a statewide bike trail map. Also coordinating with NAS Patuxent River to get a bike trail and bike share on base. She will also be working on a bicycle masterplan draft which will be made available for public comment once completed; email her if there is anything you think should be included.

5. Communications

- a. Share events and news with HSMP partners through the HSMP Newsletter, calendar & social media outlets! Submit information at: <http://healthystmarys.com/newsletter/> or email stmaryspartnership@gmail.com

6. Upcoming HEAL Team Meetings:

- a. May 23, 2018 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. at Health Connections.

