



Environmental Health Action Team Meeting

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Walkable Neighborhoods
3. Transportation
4. Food Security
5. Proclamation for WALKTOBER and Walk Maryland Day
6. 2024 Advocacy Agenda
7. Partner Updates

Introductions

- Welcome! Please take a moment to [sign in](#).

Walkable Neighborhoods

- Our next Walking Group meets October 18 (tonight) at 5:30 PM!
 - The [Walking Group](#) is hosted on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Lexington Manor Passive Park.
- The HSMP [Walking Maps & Resources webpage](#) is LIVE!
 - Please share the corresponding [flyer](#) and [postcard](#) with your networks!
 - Feedback:
 - Overall, the team approved of the webpage.
 - The team discussed adding local walking events to this page as we hear about them to this page. If you hear of or know of any local runs/walks please send them to Shan/Aniko
 - Any additional feedback/updates email stmaryspartnership@gmail.com .
- “Walk With A Doc” Updates:
 - The walk on September 30 at MedStar St. Mary’s Hospital from 10am-am was successful with 8 attendees.
 - The second event was postponed to the rain date of October 28 at Lexington Manor Passive Park from 9:30am-11:30am. **Please note this is a time change from previous announcements due to provider availability.**
 - Aniko met with Temeria Wilcox to discuss he participation and she has agreed to join us as the provider for this event.
 - Interested in being a vendor for this event- contact Shan, Aniko, or Christine.
 - We are looking for volunteers to support the event.
 - Karly and Ashlyn both volunteered.
 - IF you are interested, please contact Shan, Aniko, or Christine.

Transportation

- The team discussed pinning the SMC Bike Share Program for now, as we need the infrastructure to support biking first.
- **Action item:** Shan and Aniko will email Nate Evans, the State Bicycle Coordinator, and invite him to the next subcommittee meeting to discuss bicycle plans in Southern Maryland and St. Mary's County and get input on what criteria would make a bike infrastructure project more likely to be funded.
 - The next grant period is in mid-June/early July, so we have time to prepare.
- The Secretary of Transportation presented to the County Commissioners on October 17. His team mentioned some funding that was recently awarded to the county (including bikeways grant & three notch trail phase 7).
 - Please take some time to review the recording of [this presentation](#) to learn about FY 24 & 25 items.
- Recreation & Parks updates:
 - Christi shared information about the Three Notch Trail Phase 7 project. This phase includes a 3.3 mile section from by Harris Teeter north to the old Hollywood Rescue Squad future location (now owned by the county and will be a new trailhead with parking and potentially a future bike share location). The county is hoping to have this submitted for permitting this fall and then go to bid next fiscal year for construction.
 - Christi will share more about bikeways grant soon.
- **Action Item:** Shan/Aniko will coordinate with [Ashlyn Dishman](#) to schedule a subcommittee meeting.
- Tri-County Council held its BIAC meeting on September 14.
 - They are widening parts of Three Notch Trail and are working on a regional transportation priority letter soon.
 - Their next meeting is on December 14 at 12:30. Email [Jessica Richards](#) for more information.
- The Transportation Association of Maryland issued their [policy agenda](#) for the 2024 Legislative Session.

Food Security

- During the 2023 HSMP Annual Meeting's interactive planning session, meeting attendees worked together on a [poster](#) focusing on food security. Find notes from all of the projects from the planning session [here](#).
- SoMD Fridges Program Update:
 - We are continuing to look for potential fridge sites. St. Mary's Caring, The Mission, The Church of The Ascension have been contacted for their input and will need follow up.
 - Charles County has 24 hour lighting and security cameras on the fridge.
 - We discussed Three Oaks as potential site for the fridge in St. Mary's County.
- [Bag Hunger SoMD](#) on October 7 was a big success!
 - We packaged 60,000 servings of fortified Mac & Cheese for distribution through the local pantries.
- Promoting healthy food drives:
 - Following the Annual Meeting, HSMP donated 2 boxes of food to St. Mary's County Health Hub's Food Pantry and to the homeless community on Great Mills Rd!
 - Employees of St. Mary's County did a food drive at their Health & Wellness Day and were able to donate 6 boxes of food.
 - Please encourage event organizers to implement a Healthy Food Drive at their event, using the [toolkit](#) on the HSMP website!
 - Sue Veith will be including the toolkit in the newsletter they send to businesses regularly.
 - **Action Item:** The team decided to add language to the Healthy Meeting Toolkit that will assist in food waste/donation after events.
- HSMP's Food Pantry Platform is in development! More information coming soon. Jacquie and Aniko have a meeting about the platform this afternoon.
- EHAT's [Food Connection Map](#) will be receiving updates!
 - Please submit suggested edits for the map [here](#) and verify food pantry phone numbers if you have some time!
- Next Food Security Subcommittee Meeting will be on November 2 at 2:00 p.m.

Proclamation for WALKTOBER and Walk Maryland Day

- On October 3, 2023 The St. Mary's County Commissioners issued a Proclamation for WALKTOBER and Walk Maryland Day. WALKTOBER is a month to promote walking activities and to celebrate Maryland's state exercise!



2024 Advocacy Agenda

- Chesapeake Climate Action Network reached out asking for support of The Responding to Emergency Needs from Extreme Weather (RENEW) Act
 - The team discussed this legislation and is interested in learning more.
 - Action Item: Jacquie will reach back out and invite them to our November action team meeting to present and share more information about this legislation.
 - Per the HSMP bylaws - if the team is interested in supporting this legislation we will need to vote and then send the legislation to the Steering Committee to vote to add it to our Advocacy Agenda.

Partner Updates

- HSMP's Walking Group met October 18 at 5:30 PM at Lancaster Park - near the basketball courts.
 - Please join the next walk on November 15 if you are able!
- Walk with a Doc will be Saturday October 28 from 9:30 -11:30 am at Lexington Manor Passive Park at the Renell Pavilion by the restrooms.
 - Temeria Wilcox CRNP has agreed to be our provider for the walk!
- SMCHD is hosting Flu & Updated Covid Vaccine Clinics for Children 18 and under. Clinics have been scheduled for the following dates and locations:
 - Friday, October 20 (2:00 - 6:00 p.m.) St. Mary's County Health Hub (drive-thru)
 - Friday, October 27 (2:00 - 6:00 p.m) St. Mary's County Health Hub (drive-thru)
 - Saturday, November 4 (12:00 - 3:00 p.m.) Charlotte Hall Library
 - Wednesday, November 8 (3:00 - 6:00 p.m.) Spring Ridge Middle School School-Based Health Center
 - Saturday, November 18 (9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.) Margaret Brent Middle School School-Based Health Center
- TCC partnered with Chesapeake Region Safety Council to host Impairment Education and Cannabis Use Workshops for employers.
- St. Mary's Gymnastics Academy Ribbon Cutting is Tuesday, October 24!
- Lexington Manor Passive Park Community Garden ground has been broken!
 - Tax credit program available for donations to the project - Contact the St. Mary's County Community Development Corporation for more info.

Communications

- Submit event and news updates/information at:
healthystmarys.com/newsletter or email stmaryspartnership@gmail.com
- Follow HSMP on Social Media
 - Facebook: [Healthy St. Mary's Partnership](#)
 - Twitter: [@HealthyStMarys](#)

Upcoming Meetings

- **Wednesday, November 15, 2023 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.**
- Interested in being in our Partner Spotlight? [Sign up here!](#)