

**Philadelphia HIV Integrated Planning Council
Positive Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2017
12:00-2:00p.m.**

Office of HIV Planning, 340 N. 12th Street, Suite 320, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Present: PH (17), PA (0), NJ (3)

Guests: David Griffith

Staff: Antonio Boone, Debbie Law, Stephen Budhu

Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Introductions: A. Boone called the meeting to order at 12:11 pm, and followed up with a moment of silence

Approval of Agenda: A. Boone presented the agenda for approval. **Motion: J.W. moved, D.G. seconded to approve the agenda. Motion passed: All in favor.**

Approval of Minutes (*August 14, 2017*): A. Boone presented the minutes for approval. **Motion: J.M. moved, D.G. seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed: All in favor.**

Report of Chair: Nothing to report.

Report of Staff: A. Boone announced the HIV Integrated Planning Council will meet on Thursday, September 14, 2017. A. Boone reminded the committee all are welcome to attend, and the committees are always looking for new members. J.M. inquired about the Finance Committee meeting, specifically the cancelled September meeting. A. Boone explained since FY 2018 allocations were just approved the Finance committee did not have an agenda for September; however the committee will meet in October, and he informed the committee committees only meet when they have work to do.

A. Boone informed the committee the newsletter was complete, and copies are available for those who are interested.

Discussion Items:

Nominations:

A. Boone stated the Positive Committee had a vacancy for co-chair, and potential candidates would have to be nominated by the committee. A. Boone also noted the nominee had to give their consent to be considered a candidate.

A. Boone explained the position of committee co-chair is more of a leadership role. He noted he communicates regularly with co-chairs via email. A. Boone clarified that the committee co-chairs work with him to set meeting agendas.

A. Boone opened the floor for nominations. The Committee conducted the nominations process and nominated three of its members: D.G., J.M., and M.W. A. Boone explained to the committee, they would vote on the nominees for co-chair at the next meeting.

D.G. reminded the committee the next meeting would be on the third Monday in October, because of the Holiday.

Newsletter

A. Boone stated the Positive Committee Newsletter was finished. He explained he was looking for input from the committee for material to be featured in the next issue. D.G. inquired about the frequency of the newsletter, and A. Boone replied quarterly, the next issue would be ready by December.

VICE News videos:

Narcan¹

After the video A. Boone inquired if anyone has seen Narcan being administered. D.G. responded at a conference he attended Philadelphia Fight had a demonstration table. D.G. explained he learned that chest compressions were a more effective resuscitation technique as opposed to the mouth-to-mouth method. M.C. replied there is an FDA approved nasal spray version of Narcan now available. He stated one of the main issues with Narcan in the HIV- positive community is people are reluctant to administer Narcan to HIV- positive individuals because they are scared of infection. M.C. also noted the chest compression method of CPR is prone to fracture people's sternums. D.G. agreed chest injury is possible; however, it is the most effective method.

HIV epidemic in the South²:

After the video A. Boone asked the committee for their thoughts. The committee shared personal stories relating to living with HIV and how their families cope or failed to cope with their serostatus.

A. Boone asked the committee what were some the similarities in healthcare between Philadelphia and Jackson, Mississippi. The consensus of the committee was transportation was a barrier to access of care. D.G. explained in the suburbs of Philadelphia it is difficult to get to and from primary care checkups. A. Boone followed up by saying transportation is a major barrier to care in Philadelphia, and SEPTA is prone to have issues. A. Boone asked the committee for any suggestions on improving transportation. J.M. replied the best way to handle transportation is to go through your case manager and use logistic care. She continued to say that when she visits her doctors often she is given two tokens. S.T. stated with Logisticare in New Jersey they are late, do not show up, or are an hour early. A. Boone asked if Logisticare does anything to fix the issue(s). S.T. replied they do give bus tickets in lieu of rides. D.G. noted he had the same issue with logistic care in Philadelphia. He explained you have to go through the process to make a formal complaint, and it starts with your case manager and then a written complaint to the agency. J.M. stated New Jersey has had issues with transportation for 15 years, and not much has been done to alleviate the issue. He followed up by saying there is poor leadership in the Ryan White council, since the issue has been around for almost two decades. A. Boone asked if there were any suggestions to improve transportation across the Philadelphia EMA. The committee discussed changes of transportation vendors in the EMA.

A. Boone asked the committee for any other issues for access to care. The committee responded with waitlists and housing, and poor communication from support services.

G.T. stated she was able to relate to the boy in the video that was reluctant to share his serostatus. G.T. explained when you first learn your serostatus it's shocking and you begin to question how you will survive. D.G. stated the boy felt better about his serostatus when he was exposed to long term survivors of HIV.

1. https://video.vice.com/en_us/video/how-to-administer-naloxone/581a1bbfabcb66366a55bd82
2. https://video.vice.com/en_us/video/no-access-young-black-and-positive-in-the-us/582c7c758cd031aa77075eba

A. Boone replied the housing situation was favorable for the boy in the video, and he was able to learn how to cope with his status and learn self-acceptance.

J.M. stated that she understands people are ill-treated because they are HIV positive and they are alienated from society. She explained people are scared of the risk of infection, and the general population does not understand what being HIV-positive means.

G.J. stated, he learned self-acceptance from his pastor and he was lucky his pastor was open and up to date with HIV. He explained it is uncommon the general public accepts those with HIV, so having his pastor helped him.

Old Business: None

New Business: D.G. stated the newsletter should include events for the next issue. A. Boone informed the committee he will take announcements/events for the first quarter of 2018, to be published in the December issue.

J.M. inquired about the nominations process, specifically the number of chairs up for nomination. A. Boone replied there was one chair vacancy, and the committee would elect one of the nominated candidates at the next meeting. J.M. replied he felt as though there should have been two vacant chair spots, and he inquired if A. Boone was filling the vacancy until the new co-chair was elected. A. Boone replied, he was not filling the vacancy, and reminded the committee he was just staff support for the committee. He explained his role would not change when the new co-chair was elected and he would still aid in leading the committee meetings, as necessary.

Announcements: David Griffith, Director of Programs Outreach for LGBT initiative, stated next Monday, September 18, 2017 at 12:00pm there is an Elder Initiative event on N. Broad Street. He explained there would be a geriatrician offering free exams to the community, and the event would have lunch. He noted that those interested in coming needed to RSVP. J.M. asked at what age is a person considered to be aging considerably. D. Griffith responded there is no age that can be pinpointed to define aging, or elder. He explained aging is composed of different processes and can be attributed a lot to someone's lifestyle; therefore people age at varying rates. D. Griffith clarified the Elder Initiative event is not targeted to any specific age range, and people of all ages are welcome. He explained the event was inclusive of all races, ages, and sexual orientation and all are welcome to attend.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by general consensus at 1:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Stephen Budhu, Staff

Handouts distributed at the meeting:

- Meeting Agenda
- August 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes
- Positive Committee News Letter
- OHP Calendar