

**Minutes VtPHA meeting
March 11, 2010**

Thanks to Brian Flynn for taking the minutes!

| Action | Person Responsible |
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| The newsletter is finished and has gone out to all members! We will work on a format later. | Thanks to Heidi and Burt |
| Annual Meeting: We have decided to have a reception instead of a full meal. Bob has confirmed Tom Stearns as a speaker and he has reserved Main St. Landing for May 11th at 5:30 so please mark your calendars. There is still some interest in a possible second speaker. Bob has called Eating Well magazine with no success. Burt has suggested Dr. Koh from CDC as a possible second speaker, too. The meeting committee will make a decision and share it with us. | Bob and Annual Meeting committee |
| Advocacy Issues: At the request of the Coalition for a Tobacco Free VT, Debbie sent a letter to the head of the Joint Committee on Tax Credits in support of having an option of smoke-free housing in public housing . We were asked to weigh on Compassion Centers for the distribution of Marijuana . We decided that the process was already far along and a vote was imminent so we decided not to make a statement. VtPHA has been invited to have a paid member on the executive committee that will be organizing an initiative to expand children's access to dental care in VT. This initiative is being run by Voices for Children, who has received a grant from the Kellogg Foundation. The board acknowledged that it is an honor for us to be invited. However, we decided not to do it because we do not have a board member who can do it and we are concerned that not all the partners are at the table. We will join the coalition, a wider partnership that will be formed later. Debbie talked about her conversation with the head of the VT Dental Society and her concern that they had not been invited to participate in the executive committee. Bob and Heidi explained that a broader coalition is being planned. | Debbie Board Board Heidi will tell Vt Voices for Children our decision Debbie will tell the VT Dental Society our decision |

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| <p>We were asked to sign a letter written by APHA in support of Healthcare Reform. Debbie signed it on our behalf.</p> | <p>Debbie</p> |
| <p>Pharmacy intern - The Albany College of Pharmacy Has inquired about an internship. We agreed to refer them to Bi-State Primary Care. Debbie was also contacted by a St. Michael's student who wants an internship and she will tell them we don't have the capacity right now.</p> | <p>Debbie</p> |
| <p>National Public Health Week - Sen. Sanders office called and wanted to know if we were going to participate in it. Debbie said we were going to be involved (in some way) Our display arranged at Geriatrics Conference is what we will do that week.</p> <p>We could also send out prepared APHA press releases to VTs daily papers with some added information about VT activities. We will wait until we can see those and then send out.</p> <p>Maybe next year have annual meeting during Public Health Week</p> <p>Debbie pointed out that our strategic plan focuses on advocacy, so things like PH Week get less attention.</p> | <p>Debbie</p> <p>Debbie</p> |
| <p>Heidi was recruited her to testify on "complete streets" at House Transportation Comm. The board had endorsed this previously.</p> | <p>Heidi</p> |
| <p>Penrose asked that the fee for the April 26 Blueprint conference display fee be approved. It was.</p> | <p>Penrose</p> |
| <p>Heidi reminded us that the brochure needs to be revised. She is working with Audra to get that done.</p> | <p>Heidi</p> |
| <p>Sasha volunteered to pursue possibilities of identifying alumni from schools of public health</p> | <p>Sasha</p> |
| <p>Theo asked us to think about brainstorming on activities to attract new members. Debbie pointed out that we</p> | <p>Theo</p> |

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| have a membership committee. We also use the strategic plan to guide initiatives. | |
| Heidi asked that at the next meeting work on building an annual calendar for the organization. The board agreed. | Board |
| Heidi also said we need to start process of forming new board with a lot of transparency in the process. Bob reviewed the bylaws and said there wasn't much language about elections and we are free to do it however we see fit. Currently, there is plenty of room to add new members up to 16 members. In the past, we have asked members to serve, individually and then formally voted them in at the annual meeting. | Heidi and board |
| VtPHA (Heidi) testified in support of action by the Vermont Legislature to phase out BPA from a variety of products. | Heidi |
| Theo asked for information on how we choose policies to advocate for. Heidi sent him some language. He thought he might be able to create a more formal, written process. | Theo |

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