



Steering Committee Meeting Highlights | 13 December 2017, 12:00 pm

Gulf Coast Community Design Studio:

Tracy Wyman, Landscape Architect and Healthy Communities Liaison

Members in Attendance:

Austin Coomer, *United Way of South Mississippi*; **Stephen Deal**, *Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant*; **Geneva Dummer**, *The Meeting Place & Heritage Trails Partnership*; **Julie Egressy**, *Mercy Housing & Human Development*; **Patrick Bonck**, *Harrison County Zoning*; **Brad Williams**, *Mississippi Department of Health*

Other Attendees:

Andrea Francway, Climb CDC

Agenda Items (in bold)

1. **Calendar additions request**

Added the following events: *Climb's December PJ & Blanket Give-Away*

2. **Announcements**

a. **Mayoral Health Council Update**

We are partnering with the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) to assist in the establishment of Mayoral Health Councils for each Gulf Coast City. The Community ExCHANGE data platform will be a valuable tool in this process, and we are proposing to develop City Health Profiles for each of the municipalities that agrees to establish a Mayoral Health Council. The healthy communities liaison will develop a one-page template for community health data visualization, to be used in meetings with mayoral staff.

b. **Metropolitan Planning Organization Presentation**

Tracy Wyman and Toni Richardson will be presenting at the December 14 Metropolitan Planning Organization Annual Meeting to a) update on the direction of the Community ExCHANGE; b) introduce the Gulf Coast Healthy Communities Collaborative; and c) introduce the partnership of MSDH and the collaborative in the establishment of Mayoral Health Councils.

c. The Gulf Coast Health Communities Collaborative

With funding from Invest Health, we will move forward to develop and promote the Gulf Coast Healthy Communities Collaborative. The Collaborative will seek funding to support the annual data platform fee of \$32,500 which can be made in 4 quarterly payments, beginning January 15, 2018. The contract between Conduent Community Health Solutions and Mississippi State University has been drafted and is currently in the review phase. We will seek local financial partners in order to fund the data platform and demonstrate local buy-in, thus enabling us to reach out for national funding for the long-term vision. A financial partner packet will be developed, and published on the Community ExCHANGE before presenting to potential partners.

- Developing a Local Financial Partners/Stakeholder List. The group brainstormed stakeholders to be included as we reach out to build the Collaborative in the coming months. It was noted that the best SMPDD contacts would be the duo of Kristen Gunter and Leonard Bentz and/or Allison Beasley.

Potential Stakeholders List:

- Gulf Coast Business Council
- Chemours (formerly DuPont)
- Mississippi Power
- Coast Electric
- Singing River Power
- Renaissance Corporation
- Hope Enterprises
- Community College may be a good resource to point us to funding opportunities
- Wal-Mart, Lowes, Office Depot
- Casinos
- Hospitals
- United Health
- Department of Health & Human Services
- Insurance providers: Humana, Sigma
- Northrup-Grummlon
- Chevron

It was noted that it is important as we reach out to solicit funding partners and bring the message of Community Development and Health, that we are accompanied by the *right person* (i.e, Community Foundation, SMPDD, etc.), This has been discussed in the past, but it can be reiterated that as we reach out to various partners to expand the collaborative, we'll have the presentation well-in-order and plan to be accompanied by the right partners.

It was also noted that we can be looking at IT funding and Tech Grants to fund the data platform, and that we should be open to thinking 'rural' as this area is still considered rural by some definitions.