

**Community Health Council
Policy and Advocacy Committee Meeting
October 25, 2017**

Meeting Notes

Those present: Fiona McAnally, Joe Miles, Erin Read, Eve Thomas, Amanda Weber (by phone), and Ellen Zavisca

- I. Welcome/Check-ins
- II. Old Business:
 - a. Sidewalks:
 - i. MPC Advocacy: We discussed the sidewalk regulations that MPC approved, and which should take effect in February. We thanked Eve for her advocacy at the MPC meeting!
 - ii. City of Knoxville Ordinance:
 - 1. We discussed a City of Knoxville sidewalk ordinance, which also is consistent with the top health priorities of the CHC. The Active Knox team suggested that CHC representatives might meet with the mayor to advocate about this. We would like two CHC members to meet with the Mayor to let them know that we are aware of this ordinance and that the CHC is behind it. The two people we talked about doing this were Mitch Olszewski, as he represents AARP, which has a livability push, and Kristy Altman. Joe will reach out to Mitch and Kristy and ask them if they will be willing to do this. The Committee will make sure that they are fully prepared before the meeting, should they be willing to do this advocacy.
 - iii. We discussed a thank you letter RE: Knox County's new "pedestrian islands with flashing beacons." Joe will draft the letter, share it with the Committee and, once approved, will send it to Mayor Burchett, Knox County Commissioners, and Cindy Pionke.
 - b. American Cancer Society Advocacy
 - i. This issue came up at the beginning of summer: Local control of the issue of tobacco (Preemption – making local laws more strict than the state). Michael Holtz is the volunteer advocate for ACS and talked with Fiona about this. When this came up this summer, the CHC determined that we would advocate, but that we cannot take the lead on this issue. Fiona will reach out to the ACS to let them know that we are ready and willing to advocate, when they are ready.
- III. New Business:
 - a. Discussion on strategies
 - i. We will soon need to talk about educating new City Council members and other elected officials about CHC and what we do. Should get them on their agendas? Invite them to a CHC meeting?

- b. Next meeting
 - i. We will meet next in January 2018