



**WHBC September 2018 Quarterly Meeting,  
Worcester City Hall after 2018 Infant Mortality Summit**

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**Friday 9/7/ 2018 2:00-3:00PM**

**WELCOME, CALL-TO-ORDER, & INTRODUCTIONS**

**Attendees: Amie Lussier, Pamela Dolan-Smith, Sheilah Dooley, Steven Sycks, Sara Shields, Cathy Violette, Christina Gebel (via conference call), Heather Alker**

**ELECTIONS: Chair - Sara Shields elected to continue to serve (no other candidates), Vice Chair - group chose to defer this until the December meeting; Cathy Violette will serve until 12/31/18**

Administrative support is needed. Volunteers to be the secretary for one meeting at a time is one option. Further recruitment is needed. Suggestions of places to recruit administrative support, Vice Chair, communications, and fund raising are; United Way offers Loaned Executives, Worcester Business Journal 40 under 40.

Sara/Cathy will work on revising the description of the vice-chair duties and send to Steve Sycks re: this loaner option

**Subcommittee Reports**

**45 MIN**

Restructuring - Last met in May. 14 people signed a membership form, governance is elected. Administrative support was discussed. Christina will verify that the website is up to date with membership info. Steering committee has a vacancy because of lack of DPH representative. Discussion related to having an existing description to use for grant applications. Grants need to be looked at for sustainability going forward.

Baby Box - 1st distribution day was 6/30/18, 12 boxes were given out, neighborhood health fair, Head Start, teddy bear clinic, PERNET, will also distribute. The part time staffing manager for Baby Box had to step down, so we need a project manager. Temporarily, students will assume this duty one month at a time. Pilot data shows Mothers' knowledge increased by watching videos based on pre and post test. Roll out of 1 month post partum follow up is beginning. Additional presentations and distributions are planned. UMASS is

working with legal to have permission to distribute the boxes at the hospital.

Data--including Heather Alker's annual update - Christina and Heidi Leftwich are working on data. Professor at BU is assisting with data mapping by census tract. Christina is working on funding for a larger mapping project r/t preterm birth. Mapping the infant deaths over the last 10 yrs by addresses will be worked on by Heather Alker and Fin Mooney. Larger financial support is needed.

Communication - Website and Facebook page needs updating.  
need to be careful re: future intern choices. how to align with Worcester media.  
how to decide what should be on FB, website, TV.  
Tina G might be able to help with media contacts.  
Health Matters (Jay Broadhurst) or HealthWatch (ComCast uMMHC has designated time slot for health matters)--Deb Spano is the contact person, ?do something during PHC or with next Baby Box distribution.  
Tina will send Sara the phone number for the T&G person to submit the As I See It.

**Strategic Goals: are we on track (1, 2, 3 year) 10 MIN**

bphc--Christina says FIMR didn't get passed this round, will look into what happens next. Email sent, Sara will send around.

CHIP: CHA has just been finished, end of November will have report on this (Thurs 11/29 at 8am at Boys and Girls Club)--Steve Sycks went to the library meeting and says IM was definitely being talked about, Monica Lowell is writing it up with the city (Cathy to reach out).The CHIP will get written from the CHA but we should keep this up there as a talking point. The more of our members who can get to these meetings as the CHIP is being written, the more likely that IM will be higher up.

Worcester still has racial/ethnic disparities in IM/PTB even if overall number looks better so keep saying that. We need to be in the CHIP in order to keep our foot in the door with DPH and hopefully get some staffing support.

low-dose ASA meeting 11/27--registration link.

- December 3 Quarterly Membership Meeting 8:00 am – 10:00 am WDPH
- at this meeting will have election for vice chair

