



**COLUMBIA HEALTH, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

The Columbia Health, Social, and Environmental Affairs Committee conducted a meeting on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at City Hall (Mayor's Conference Room), Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Aditi Bussells, Chair called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Aditi Bussells	Chair	Present
Howard E. Duvall	At-Large	Present
Edward H. McDowell	District II	Present

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. Do Good Columbia Update - Ms. Melanie Huggins, Executive Director / Richland Library – *Received as information*

Ms. Melanie Huggins, Executive Director of Richland Library presented findings from the recent Do Good Columbia event held during February 1-3. Since 2017, this human-centered design initiative has aimed to facilitate civic engagement. This year's event involved 66 participants, including city task force members and 33 service providers. Teams presented ideas on how to enhance support and collaboration among service providers for those experiencing homelessness. The winning proposal will receive \$30,000 to develop the idea for community benefit.

There was a discussion about the difficulty of getting identification paperwork; the winning team's idea; providers for afterhours and/or weekend assistance; and criteria for partnering with the City in regards to resources.

2. Alliance for Healthier South Carolina Update - Mr. Monty Robertson, MHA, Executive Director / Alliance for Healthier South Carolina – *Received as information*

Mr. Monty Robertson, MHA, Executive Director of the Alliance for Healthier South Carolina emphasized that improving state health requires efforts beyond hospitals and clinics. The organization's mission is to connect diverse stakeholders to enhance health and well-being across South Carolina, with a vision for equitable health outcomes for all. The Alliance has 63 members, including hospitals, healthcare systems, state agencies, and universities. Their focus is on providing data to decision-makers and fostering collaborative leadership for health improvement.



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There was discussion about system level changes; a local coalition; the State Health Improvement Plan; membership and funding; and the Health Equity Pledge.

2. Washable Utility Marking Paint - Ms. Dana R. Higgins, PE, LEED AP, Director of Engineering – *Received as information*

Ms. Dana R. Higgins, P.E., LEED AP, Director of Engineering explained the color coding for utility markings as per the American Public Works Association Color Uniform Code: yellow for electric, blue for water, green for sewer, and pink for temporary survey markings. The city uses water-based paint, while Dominion uses solvent-based paint. The Underground Facility Damage Prevention Act enacted in June 2012 mandates agencies to mark their utilities within three business days and allows contractors to begin digging on the fourth day. Markings are required to last 15 working days. Although municipalities cannot mandate paint types or removal timelines, the city is advocating for the use of water-based paint within city limits and has included a preference for removal of utility paint in its utility application permit. Water-based paint typically lasts one to two months, whereas solvent-based paint lasts four to six months.

There was discussion about the notification center and encouraging the change to water based paint.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC
City Clerk