

Chicago Board of Health
Meeting Summary
Wednesday November 18, 2015
DePaul Center, 333 South State Street

Roll Call

Board Members Present

Carolyn C. Lopez, M.D., President
Caswell A. Evans, Jr., D.D.S., M.P.H.
Steven K. Rothschild, M.D.
Horace E. Smith, M.D.
Joseph B. Starshak

Board Members Absent

Carl C. Bell, M.D.
Adele Joy Cobbs, M.D.
Melanie Dreher, RN, PhD.
Victor M. Gonzalez

For the Department

Julie Morita, M.D., Commissioner

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Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Dr. Lopez, Board President.

Approval of Minutes: The October 2015 minutes were unanimously approved.

Commissioner's Update: Dr. Morita reported that on Monday she joined White House Advisor to the President Valerie Jarrett and Mayor Emanuel to announce Chicago's participation in the White House's Healthy Communities Challenge (HCC) – a national initiative to assist and encourage uninsured residents to sign up for health coverage through the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) marketplace. More than 225,000 Chicago residents have gained access to the ACA since 2013. However, more than 100,000 residents who qualify are still uninsured. Coinciding with the HCC, CDPH re-launched "Enroll Chicago", the citywide effort to inform and engage residents. Nearly every city agency is participating in the effort, hosting special events for residents to enroll. For example, this week, the Department of Cultural Affairs will host an enrollment event for artists, who are often self-employed and without health insurance. The Office of Business Affairs will host Navigators at their taxi license bureau, whereby cab drivers can sign up for insurance at the same time they renew their license. Police, Libraries and City Colleges have also agreed to host Navigators at events across the city – especially in neighborhoods where enrollment numbers are lowest. The City of Chicago's 311 Center has added Illinois' toll free ACA enrollment number to its menu for any callers asking about health insurance. Lastly, CDPH has launched a digital and radio ad campaign targeting African American and Latino men ages 18-34.

In addition, Dr. Morita reported the following:

- Chicago hosted the American Public Health Association (APHA) at the beginning of this month, bringing more than 25,000 public health professionals to Chicago. More than 30 CDPH staff attended the event, including more than a dozen who presented on topics ranging from HIV surveillance to violence prevention. The theme of the conference was "Health in All Policies" (HIAP). The Department and its partners were invited to present at APHA on Chicago's HIAP project, which Janis Sayer will present later during this meeting.
- Last week, CDPH published our first report based on the Healthy Chicago Telephone Survey. A copy of "Measuring Chicago's Health" provides detail data on health and health behaviors of Chicago residents, based on our own telephone survey. As a reminder, the survey was launched in 2014. A total of 2,500 randomly selected adults were interviewed via phone to gather information on their health status, health access patterns, disease and risk behavior prevalence. These data have been instrumental in CDPH's planning process for Healthy Chicago 2.0. The results will be used to focus our attention on issues and communities where there is a greater burden. The survey will be conducted on an annual basis using the results to measure and iterate the strategies included in Healthy Chicago 2.0. By 2016, CDPH will have sufficient information from the survey to create neighborhood-level health assessments. As part of the launch, CDPH hosted a roundtable sponsored by Otho S.A. Sprague Foundation, with leading researchers and epidemiologists on ways these data and other data can be better leveraged to improve CDPH's work.
- Later this month, CDPH plans to launch a new phase in our meningitis prevention work, with new bus ads targeting gay and bisexual African American men. This group was disproportionately impacted by the outbreak this past summer, and the CDC has provided CDPH an additional 2,500 doses of the vaccine to ensure community members are vaccinated.

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- Lastly, Dr. Morita reported December 1st is World AIDS Day and CDPH plans a number of special events. First, the release of our annual HIV/AIDS surveillance report, which provides the most recent data on the prevalence of the disease – data that both CDPH and our partners use to influence decisions in combatting the spread of the disease and to ensure HIV-positive individuals get the care they deserve. In addition, a team of staff and volunteers, including students from the Art Institute will pass out condoms at select CTA stations that day. And our partners at Mikva Challenge will launch a citywide campaign designed by CPS high school students encouraging condom use.

Comments by the Board President: Dr. Lopez welcomed all the students and members of the public. Dr. Lopez provided an overview of the Board of Health’s history and explained the Board’s advisory and regulatory role in matters of public health.

Policy Update: Brian Richardson provided the following policy updates:

- The City Council passed a tax on e-cigarette liquid on October 28. The tax will help fund five school-based health centers over the next four years, benefiting an estimated 3,000 Chicago youth. It will also help keep youth and young adults from getting hooked on nicotine. Ald. Moreno has introduced an ordinance to adjust the tax slightly before it goes into effect in January, and if passed by City Council today, the tax level will be \$0.80/container and \$0.55/ml. This adjustment will still preserve the benefits of the tax. CDPH will soon begin a marketing campaign on public transportation and in other areas to discourage youth from vaping.
- Charles Watkins is starting today as our new Director Legislative Affairs and Policy Analyst. He comes to us from the state of Illinois and will coordinate Board meetings, manage our relationships with the City Council and help develop research and implement policies.
- The Chicago-Cook Task Force on Heroin is set to begin meeting in the next two weeks to explore ways of improving the public response to the heroin epidemic. The Task Force will investigate issues such as treatment, overdose response, and law enforcement approaches. CDPH will be on the Task Force and help shape the discussion on issues related to public health.

Presentation: “Health and Equity in Chicago: Health in All Policies and the Englewood Line Trail Health Impact Assessment,” Jaime Dirksen, Managing Deputy Commissioner and Janis Sayer, Chief Planning Analyst

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Comment: A student had a question regarding if the department is tracking staff capacity due to lack of funds. Jaime Dirksen commented that CDPH is aware of the budget cuts and the impacts on our department. The challenge is monitoring the budget in real time. Another student asked if the Englewood Line Trail project is part of train safety? Janice Sayer responded that this project is not related and the train tracks are no longer in use.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, December 16, 2015, 9:00 a.m.