

Chicago Board of Health
Meeting Summary: April 20, 2016
DePaul Center, 333 South State Street

Roll Call

Board Members Present

Carolyn C. Lopez, M.D., President
Carl C. Bell, M.D.
Adele Joy Cobbs, M.D.
Melanie Dreher, RN, PhD.
Victor M. Gonzalez
Steven Rothschild, M.D.
Horace E. Smith, M.D.
Joseph B. Starshak

Board Members Absent

Julie Morita, M.D., Commissioner
Caswell A. Evans, Jr., DDS, MPH

For the Department

Brian Richardson, Deputy Commissioner

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Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Brian Richardson, Deputy Commissioner.

Approval of Minutes: February and March 2016 minutes were approved.

Commissioner's Update: Brian Richardson, Deputy Commissioner provided the following updates:

Tobacco Ordinance

- On March 16th, the City Council passed the Tobacco-Control Ordinance. The Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) has started outreach to retailers to ensure that they are prepared for the upcoming transition of the new law that requires purchasers of tobacco products in Chicago to be at least 21 years of age, effective July 1, 2016.
- Tobacco dealers must completely cease the sale of tobacco products and accessories to people under age 21 and train all employees to implement the change. And retailers must post a sign near the point-of-sale that makes clear that there is a new minimum age requirement. This newest tobacco prevention ordinance also includes a tax on cigars and smoking, smokeless tobacco products, and a ban on redeeming coupons and other discount vouchers

Sporting Venue Smokeless Tobacco Ban

- Also, on March 16th, the City Council passed an ordinance that bans the use of smokeless tobacco at sporting venues.

Healthy Chicago 2.0

- On March 29th, Commissioner Morita and I joined more than 400 community leaders and public health advocates to launch Healthy Chicago 2.0, the citywide plan to assure health equity in our communities and neighborhoods. The event was a huge success, and now we begin the real work of implementing this ambitious plan. We will discuss the plan more in depth at a series of town hall style community meetings, and also conduct our own CDPH All Staff meeting later this summer. Janis Sayer will share more about Healthy Chicago 2.0 a little later in the meeting.

Meningococcal Meningitis

- CDPH's Communicable Disease, Immunization and STI/HIV staff have been doing a great job of monitoring and committing the necessary follow-ups to last summer's outbreak of meningococcal meningitis. In fact, since the start of this outbreak in May of 2015, CDPH has distributed nearly 18,000 vaccinations, of which 14,653 have been administered.
- When we recently detected two new cases, CDPH stepped up our efforts to update Chicago healthcare providers, community partners and the general public. On Tuesday, Allison Arwady, Chief Medical Officer and I held a media briefing to get our important messages out. We were joined by David Ernesto Munar, President and CEO of Howard Brown Health. The briefing was covered by Fox 32 News, Univision Chicago, and the Windy City Times.

Childhood Exposure to Violence (CEV) Prevention Week

- This week is Childhood Exposure to Violence (CEV) Prevention Week and CDPH is teaming up with local community and health care organizations to raise awareness of CEV and combat the physical, social and emotional effects that exposure to violence has on youth, especially children 0-5 years old. CEV Prevention week is an annual observance and part of CDPH's comprehensive violence prevention program that aims to prevent violence from happening in the first place by increasing awareness, identifying alternatives, supporting communities and more.

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Healthy Mothers & Babies

- CDPH is encouraging expectant mothers to schedule early and regular prenatal care visits to help ensure their children are born healthy and strong. As part of this effort, CDPH has launched an ad campaign promoting the importance of prenatal care to prevent congenital syphilis (CS) in babies, which has been on a steady rise both nationally and locally.
- CS occurs if a pregnant woman has an untreated or inadequately treated (not right antibiotics or right dosage) case of syphilis. CS can cause major health impacts like premature and low birth weight in infants, deformities and even stillbirths. To protect against CS, pregnant women should be tested for syphilis during their initial prenatal visit and again during the third trimester.

Prevention Works

- CDPH distributed more than 6,500 condoms, lubricant and sexual health information from April 8-10th at the Black Women's Expo at the McCormick Place Convention Center in Chicago. The outreach was part of CDPH's youth-led Chicago Wears Condoms initiative to promote sexual health practice in Chicago communities.

Executive Team Transitions

- On April 16th Maribel Chavez-Torres, left her position as Program Director of the Immunization Program, to join the Executive Team as the Deputy Commissioner of the Bureau of Population Health. She will provide administrative, operational and programmatic support to the emergency preparedness, disease control and environmental health activities within the bureau. Please join me in thanking Maribel for her years of service in the Immunization Program and in welcoming her to her new role as Deputy Commissioner.

Comments by the Board President: Dr. Lopez attended the Healthy Chicago 2.0 launch on March 29th and found the event to be exciting and impressive. The video presentation was an education on the forms of trauma families are exposed to everyday. Dr. Mindy Thompson Fullilove's presentation was dynamic, and Dr. Lopez learned that redlining took place in Chicago even in the 1930s. Dr. Lopez requested a copy of Dr. Fullilove's presentation at the event.

Dr. Lopez commented Healthy Chicago 2.0 was constructed as a community effort and is an acknowledgement to the Department of Public Health. The plan's implementation will require a broad effort. Lastly, she has shared Healthy Chicago 2.0 with all her colleagues.

Presentations: City Council Health in All Policies Resolution presented by Janis Sayer, Chief Planning Analyst

Old Business: None

New Business: Resolution to Adopt Healthy Chicago 2.0 as Chicago's Community Health Improvement Plan presented by Sheri Cohen, Senior Health Planning Analyst

Public Comment: Dr. Mindy Thompson Fullilove's presentation at the Healthy Chicago 2.0 Launch should be presented at city council.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Next Board Meeting: May 18, 2016, 9:00 a.m.