

Chicago Board of Health
Meeting Summary May 20, 2015
DePaul Center, 333 South State Street

Roll Call

Board Members Present

Carolyn C. Lopez, M.D., President
Adele Joy Cobbs, M.D.
Victor M. Gonzalez
Steven K. Rothschild, M.D.
Horace E. Smith, M.D.
Joseph B. Starshak

Board Members Absent

Melanie Dreher, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N
Caswell A. Evans, Jr., D.D.S., M.P.H.
Carl C. Bell, M.D.

For the Department

Julie Morita, M.D., Commissioner

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Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. by Dr. Lopez, Board President.

Approval of Minutes: The April 2015 minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Commissioner's Update: Dr. Morita reported the assessment phase of Healthy Chicago 2.0 has been completed and the following 10 priorities were selected:

(1) Mental Health System, (2) Chronic Disease, (3) Violence Prevention, (4) Protect the Public's Health (infectious disease and environmental hazards), (5) Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health, (6) Education, (7) Access to Healthcare and Social Supports, (8) Community Development, (9) Data and (10) Partnerships

Each priority was assigned an action team comprised of stakeholders, community residents, and CDPH staff to develop specific goals, objectives, and strategies. The action teams began meeting this month and will continue meeting through the summer.

Next, Dr. Morita reported CDPH and Health & Disability Advocates (HDA) brought together representatives from 22 Chicago charitable hospitals and hospital systems to launch the Healthy Chicago Hospital Collaborative. Participants will begin working together to better foster collaboration, share data and resources, and coordinate community health interventions. The new Collaborative follows the Affordable Care Act, which requires charitable not-for-profit hospitals to conduct community health assessments and implement community health improvement plans. The Collaborative also released a joint report, "[Chicago Hospitals and the Affordable Care Act: More Opportunities for Prevention](#)," outlining ways the group can work together to improve top health priorities including mental health services, access to care, and obesity reduction.

Dr. Morita announced Harvard University's Innovations in American Government competition selected CDPH as a Top 25 program for its FoodBorne Chicago initiative. FoodBorne Chicago is a web app that identifies residents' tweets about food poisoning and helps residents file complaints, as a result, serious violations were found at 112 food establishments.

In addition, Dr. Morita reported the following: CDPH launched its Prepare Chicago public education campaign to give tips to residents on preparing for large-scale emergencies and natural disasters. The campaign features TV, print, and bus shelter ads, along with in-game advertising at White Sox games. Ads are in 16 languages. The CDC and U.S. Department of Health & Human Services has awarded CDPH four grants totaling \$5.3 million to enhance Ebola and other threat response capabilities. CDPH will use some of the funding to enhance plans and alert systems, increase training and exercises for hospitals, EMS and other first response teams, to build and strengthen infection control capabilities for Chicago healthcare facilities, and to conduct active monitoring of travelers from West Africa remaining in Chicago who may be at risk of illness. CDPH is currently waiting to hear from the CDC if they will be awarded an additional \$5 million grant.

CDPH's Environmental Permitting and Inspection staff provided technical support to evaluate security threats such as weapons of mass destruction during the NFL draft, which was held in "Draft Town" in Grant Park.

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Dr. Morita wrote an op-ed the *Chicago Sun Times* featuring the city's opportunity to promote health equity in the coming years and the challenges we face from Governor Rauner's proposed budget cuts. Lastly, Dr. Morita joined the *Afternoon Shift* on WBEZ to discuss vaccine safety and recent measles outbreaks in the United States. This spot was part of National Infant Immunization Week, which also included a CDPH campaign featuring radio PSAs.

Comments by the Board President: Dr. Lopez attended a Family Medicine for American's Health event, where she had a speaking role and had the opportunity to share CDPH's success in tobacco cessation with family primary care physicians. Dr. Lopez read a letter from Mark Newton, President and Chief Executive of Swedish Covenant Hospital, thanking the Board of Health's for its advocacy role in the budget cut resolution sent to the Illinois General Assembly. Representative Greg Harris also read the Board's resolution into the record and our partners in the health advocacy world have expressed great appreciation for the Board's efforts.

Policy Update: Jesse Lava reported the City Council passed an ordinance to bring preventive dental care to thousands of low-income children at no cost to the City budget. It allows CDPH to expand our current school-based dental program, which serves 115,000 students in Chicago Public Schools (CPS), to cover any school in Chicago. The program entails sending mobile clinics to schools to provide services such as exams, cleanings, fluoride treatments and sealants. The City Council also passed the Special Events Ordinance, which will cut down on CDPH's red tape in processing event licenses. It also provides that CDPH will now inspect Riverwalk food vendors.

Mr. Lava reported the Self-Certification Bill (SB1800) would empower CDPH to require low-risk food establishments to submit self-inspection reports passed 50-4 in the State Senate and has moved to the House for consideration. Other bills reported upon included: SB1410 (religious exemptions for immunizations) passed the Senate; HB2812 (explanation of benefits) passed the House; and HB3212 (easier job access for people with criminal records) is still in Committee.

In addition, Mr. Lava reported, CDPH wrote a letter to the FDA in support of recommendations released by the Dietary Guidelines for Americans Committee on February 2015. A few of the Committee's recommendations are creating an "added sugars" line on nutritional labeling, listing sugar in teaspoons rather than grams, reducing recommended sodium, fat, and processed food and promoting water.

Presentation: Protecting Medicaid in Illinois – Elizabeth Salisbury-Afshar, M.D., Medical Director, Heartland Health Outreach provided an overview the Opioid Epidemic as a Public Health Concern. Dr. Salisbury-Afshar's presentation included details of national and local overdose trends, overdose preventions efforts and the current challenges in the field.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Public Comment: Badonna Reingold, a member of the public, mentioned a Mental Health Meeting will be held today at 2:00 pm at the Cook County Commissioner's Office.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Next Board Meeting: June 17, 2015, 9:00 a.m.