

**Meeting Summary of the Regular Meeting of
The Chicago Board of Health
CDPH Board Room, 2nd Floor
DePaul Center, 333 South State Street
Wednesday, June 18, 2014**

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

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

Board Members Absent:

Carl C. Bell, M.D.
Melanie Dreher, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N.

For the Department:

Bechara Choucair, M.D., Commissioner

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: The Board approved the minutes from the May 21, 2014 Board meeting.

Commissioner's Report and Healthy Chicago Update: Commissioner Bechara Choucair, M.D. provided an update on the following items:

Life Expectancy/Report: The Department released a Healthy Chicago report on life expectancy in Chicago from 1990-2010 last week. Life expectancy grew by more than seven years between 1990 and 2010, which is almost twice as fast as the national average increase. Residents in every neighborhood have experienced increases in life expectancy over the 20-year period. Both males and females from every major ethnic group realized significant increases in life expectancy. Importantly, longstanding disparities between racial/ethnic groups have also decreased significantly.

Opioid Law Suit: After a year-long investigation, on June 2, the City of Chicago sued five pharmaceutical companies that manufacture opioids. In addition to alleging that the companies deliberately engaged in false and misleading advertising that overstates the benefits of opioids, it also claims the industry also endorsed, created, and distributed misleading medical education materials, supporting "front groups" to publicize biased literature and studies, and essentially buying the opinions of respected doctors in order to manipulate medical opinion and promote the prescription of these drugs, deceiving patients and physicians about the true risks and benefits of these highly addictive drugs. The City is not seeking to ban the drugs, but wants to end deceptive marketing practices to consumers.

HPV Vaccine Campaign: The Department has launched a CDC-funded public education campaign to increase coverage levels of the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine among Chicago adolescents. We are using print, broadcast, digital, billboard and transit ads that encourage parents to talk to a healthcare provider about having their children vaccinated with all three doses of the HPV vaccine at ages 11 or 12. The coverage level for Chicago females ages 13-15 years old who have received all three vaccines is 38%; this is low but significantly better than the national coverage level for adolescent females, 28%. The campaign runs through October.

CDC Chronic Disease Grant Opportunities: The CDC announced the availability of six new funding opportunity announcements (FOAs) to advance the nation's chronic disease prevention and health promotion efforts. CDPH is applying for two: (1) Partnerships to Improve Community Health (PICH), a three-year grant to reduce the burden of chronic diseases by creating healthy environments, and (2) the State and Local Public Health Actions to Prevent Obesity, Diabetes and Heart Disease, a four-year grant to prevent obesity, diabetes and heart disease through community and health system interventions. We have met with community partners to develop ideas for approaching each opportunity, and will be working hard in the coming weeks on responding to the FOAs, which have a July 22 deadline.

CDPH Reorganization: We are experiencing significant personnel changes. I'm delighted to announce that Julie Morita, MD has accepted a new role at CDPH as Deputy Commissioner, Chief Medical Officer. As Medical Director of our Immunization Program since 1999, she has led the program to numerous successes. Her professionalism, commitment and expertise will be a great asset in her new role. At the same time, we are undergoing a big loss with the departure of Deputy Commissioner Erica Salem. As a result of these changes, we will be reorganizing. The Commissioner will announce our reorganization at the July Board meeting.

Erica Salem's Departure: Dr. Choucair shared the following remarks about Ms. Salem's contribution to CDPH. He shared that Ms. Salem had played a critical role in the Department's work for more than two decades, weathering two Mayors and five Commissioners. Through her many skills and dedication, she has made enormous contributions to public health in Chicago. The astute way in which she gets to the heart of public health issues is impressive to us all. Dr. Choucair expressed that since he has been Commissioner, CDPH has especially

benefited from her ability to lead, to plan and to develop and maintain relationships and partnerships, all essential to Healthy Chicago. She will be missed, and we wish her well in her new role at Health & Disability Advocates.

Comments from Board President: Dr. Lopez welcomed the various guests attending the Board of Health meeting and provided a short summary of the Chicago Board of Health and its advisory role.

Notice of Rulemaking Issued: Mobile Food Trucks: The proposed regulations and guidelines for mobile food trucks were sent to the Board of Health last week. Notice of proposed rulemaking has been published in the Sun Times. The Board was informed that the public will have thirty days to review and comment. A public hearing on the proposed regulations will occur at the July meeting.

Policy/Legislative Update: Kendall Stagg, Director of Policy, presented to the audience a summary of the process used for rulemaking by the Board of Health versus the process used by the Commissioner. He explained that the Mobile Food Truck regulations are an example where the Board of Health promulgates the regulations and that the forthcoming regulations and guidelines for tobacco retailers for the Sale of Flavored Tobacco will be an example of rulemaking by the Commissioner.

Mr. Stagg concluded his report by informing the Board of the Illinois General Assembly's adjournment and that the fall veto session will commence on November 19, 2014. Mr. Stagg also informed the Board that New York City's soda ban case was being heard this week and that its final decision may reduce the current authority of some Boards of Health.

Dr. Evans asked Mr. Stagg if he had any details on the restoration of dental services under Medicaid. Mr. Stagg agreed to look into and respond to this query for Dr. Evans.

Public Hearing: Rulemaking on Flavored Tobacco Sales: Mr. Stagg introduced the proposed regulations and guidelines for tobacco retailers for the Sale of Flavored Tobacco. Mr. Stagg reviewed various elements related to the proposed regulations and guidelines. He shared that, under the proposed rules and guidelines, a search engine would be available to help tobacco retailers determine if they have any inventory that is considered a flavored product. Mr. Stagg also explained the appeals process for retailers who believe they are outside of the five hundred foot requirement.

Ms. Tanya Triche, Vice President and General Counsel of the Illinois Retailer's Administration inquired if retailers will be notified that they are considered within five hundred feet of a school and if a school is built, or moves in, within five hundred feet of an existing retailer will these retailer need to comply with these regulations. Mr. Stagg stated that the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) would need to respond to such questions and he will meet with Ms. Triche after the meeting to provide BACP's contact information. He will also include this concern in the comments that are compiled as part of the open comment period.

A representative from the American Lung Association signed a witness slip in favor of the proposed rules and regulations related to flavored tobacco. A representative from the American Cancer Society attended but, did not testify orally. He has submitted comments in writing.

The Board also asked various questions on the enforcement aspect of the proposed regulations. After such presentation and review of the proposed flavored tobacco regulations, the Board did not have any recommended changes for the Commissioner.

New Business: None

Old Business: None

Public Comment: Ms. Badonna Reingold asked if CDPH was any closer to determining if they will enter a network. Dr. Choucair stated that CDPH is still deliberating on this matter.

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

Next Board Meeting: July 16, 2014, 9:00 a.m.