

Chicago Board of Health
Meeting Summary: July 15, 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.
Victor M. Gonzalez
Steven K. Rothschild, M.D.
Joseph B. Starshak

Board Members Absent

Adele Joy Cobbs, M.D.
Carl C. Bell, M.D.
Horace E. Smith, M.D.
Melanie Dreher, RN, PhD.

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 June 2015 minutes were unanimously approved.

Commissioner's Update: Dr. Morita reported the meningitis outbreak that continues in Chicago and an ongoing concern confined to gay or bi-sexual men. African American men continue to be disproportionately affected in this outbreak; there have been seven confirmed cases of meningococcal meningitis in the state and one fatality. CDPH and its partners held vaccination events as part of Pride and Black Pride festivities. Our outreach and public information efforts continue. To date, CDPH has distributed more than 12,000 vaccines to healthcare providers and provided 2,500 vaccines directly at pop-up clinics hosted by CDPH. CDPH also launched a new online vaccination locator app at <http://www.ChicagoMeningVax.org> to make getting vaccinated even easier.

Next, Dr. Morita reported Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced that Divvy is breaking down barriers to access the popular bike-share program by offering reduced-cost annual memberships to residents. Under the new initiative, Divvy for Everyone (D4E), Chicago residents with incomes below 300 percent of the federal poverty level who don't have a credit or debit card will qualify for a \$5 annual Divvy membership, compared to the regular \$75 price.

In addition, Dr. Morita reported the following:

- Our food safety team was on site all days of the Taste of Chicago in Grant Park and inspected each food vendor multiple times throughout the day. Special thanks to the food protection team for their dedication in making sure the food served at the Taste is safe.
- The Carver Park Teen Wellness Center's grand opening was held by hosting a family field day where announcements on the amazing new opportunities available to the community were highlighted. The Center will provide programming to teens and their families throughout the southeast side of Chicago. The Center's programming will provide opportunities for teens to participate in activities that enhance physical wellness, teach stress reduction, promote lifelong healthy habits and improve self-confidence. CDPH will be an active participant.
- A total of \$50,000 was awarded to 16 agencies last week to conduct HIV community outreach/awareness and town hall forums. Agencies awarded for community outreach events will conduct more than 19 separate events and are expected to reach nearly 10,000 individuals in Lakeview, Austin, East Garfield Park, Logan Square, Hyde Park, Jackson Park, Englewood, South Shore, Humboldt Park, and Lower West Side. Agencies awarded for Community Forums will host town hall meetings with populations heavily impacted by HIV to talk about their needs for HIV prevention and care services. These forums range in focus from young men of color who have sex with men, African American heterosexuals at increased risk for acquiring HIV, individuals injecting drugs or other substances, African American young men, African American transgender women, and Latino men who have sex with men.

Dr. Morita concluded her report with the following: CDPH confirmed a fatal case of Legionella in a Chicago individual who was a resident at Warren Bar in the Gold Coast. At this time, it is unclear where or how the individual contracted Legionella. CDPH is working closely with Warren Barr and other health facilities the patient visited to identify possible sources of exposure. At this time, there have been no additional confirmed cases among residents or employees at Warren Bar. Legionella is not spread from person to person, but rather from bacteria found in water or water systems.

Comments by the Board President: Dr. Lopez welcomed all the students and a member of the public. Dr. Lopez provided an overview of the board's history and explained the board's advisory role in matters of infectious disease and health issues affecting public health.

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Policy Update: Jesse Lava provided the following federal policy updates:

- CDPH is awaiting rules from the FDA on e-cigarettes. Various proposals are on the table, e.g. labeling requirements and child-resistant packaging, and whether FDA approval is needed for each liquid mixture. There have been numerous delays on FDA rules governing e-cigarettes since they were announced in April 2014.
- Members of the U.S. House have inserted a provision in this year's agriculture appropriations bill that would ban the FDA from approving products that are already on the market—they would all instead be grandfathered. Anti-tobacco groups strongly oppose this amendment. It is unclear how the Senate or White House will react.

In addition, Mr. Lava reported state level policy updates:

- Springfield is still at a deadlock and experiencing a shutdown. The Democratic majority passed a budget that the Governor did not approve. The House passed a temporary budget that has not passed overall and the Governor also disapproves.
- Several bills have been sent to the Governor for signature but the following have not been signed: HB1 drug reform; SB1800 restaurant inspections; SB1410 child vaccine exemptions; and HB2812 privacy for sensitive health services.

Lastly, Mr. Lava provided the following city policy updates:

- The Mayor's Working Families Task Force met for the first time in late June. The mission is to create police recommendations in three areas: 1) paid sick time, 2) paid family and medical leave, and 3) fair scheduling for workers. CDPH is participating by helping to educate the task force on the health implications of improvements in these policy areas.
- At the direction of the Mayor, a letter to all physicians in Chicago will be mailed, reminding them of best practices for prescribing opioids to avoid addiction. This letter comes in the context of the City's lawsuit against opioid manufacturers for deceptive marketing practices when dealing with physicians.
- CDPH is proposing to change the rules to the flavored tobacco ordinance.

Presentation: Healthy Chicago 2.0: Working in Partnership to Achieve Health, Jaime Dirksen, Managing Deputy Commissioner provided an overview and update on Healthy Chicago 2.0.

Old Business: Jesse Lava reported the rules on the CDPH commissioner's emergency powers promulgated last year due to Ebola are no longer in effect and they will not be renewed, as the Law Department has concluded the CDPH commissioner already has the authority to execute these powers in case of a public health emergency.

New Business: Jesse Lava provided the proposed rules changes to the 500-foot flavored tobacco ordinance, Regulations for Tobacco Retailers promulgated last year. The Chicago code specifies that the rulemaking authority lies with the commissioners of CDPH and the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP), so these rules won't go through the Board of Health process. CDPH has worked and negotiated with BACP and the Law Department to amend the following rules: (1) clarify the definition of a school, (2) establish an administrative hearings process so retailers have a formal path for objecting, and (3) CDPH no longer has to maintain a complete and constantly updated list of every banned product.

Public Comment: Maren Glasner, a member of the public, shared information about wireless radiation.

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

Next Board Meeting: August 19, 2015, 9:00 a.m.