

Chicago Board of Health
Meeting Summary June 17, 2015
DePaul Center, 333 South State Street

Roll Call

Board Members Present

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

Board Members Absent

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 9:04 a.m. by Dr. Lopez, Board President.

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

Commissioner's Update: Dr. Morita reported CDPH and the CDC identified a small outbreak of meningococcal disease among men who have sex with men (MSM) in Chicago. The disease can be deadly if left untreated. There have been six cases in the area, with five in Chicago and one in DuPage County. One person has died. CDPH has been closely monitoring each case and is working with community partners to spread the word and make vaccines available to target groups. Two vaccine drives this past weekend—one on the North Side in Andersonville and one on the South Side in Jackson Park. CDPH recommends that MSM get vaccinated if they are HIV positive, have anonymous sex partners, or use online hook-up apps. The vaccine is available at no cost at CDPH clinics; it is also at partner sites, where co-pays may apply.

Next, Dr. Morita reported on the highly resistance TB case who flew into O'Hare from India. CDC has interviewed the patient to trace potential contacts and determined the contacts were from McHenry. The risk to City of Chicago residents is very low. The patient has been transported to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for further treatment.

In addition, Dr. Morita reported the following: (1) CDPH has kicked off its annual West Nile Virus surveillance and prevention program. The program includes dropping larvacide in catch basins to help limit the number of mosquitoes that can carry the virus. It also includes testing mosquitoes that are caught in the traps set throughout the city. This information guides CDPH's efforts, allowing teams to respond quickly in the right geographic areas to further reduce risks through neighborhood outreach and spraying.

(2) CDPH is launching an information campaign to encourage pregnant women to practice safe food handling and protect themselves and their child from Listeriosis, which can result in miscarriage, premature delivery, serious illness or the death of a newborn. CDPH staff is visiting health clinics to answer questions and provide posters in English and Spanish to ensure a safe and healthy pregnancy.

Dr. Morita concluded her report with the following updates: Mayor Rahm Emanuel visited Haines Elementary School to meet with students receiving eye glasses through the City of Chicago's school-based vision program, which gave out its 50,000th pair of glasses at the event. Since its inception in 2013, the vision program has provided 82,464 students with eye exams. In 2013, Mayor Emanuel set a goal for the vision program to administer 100,000 eye exams in three years. CDPH is on track to exceed the Mayor's goal by December 2015.

Mayor Emanuel proclaimed Monday, June 8, as National Long Term Survivor's Day and CDPH honored nine distinguished Chicago residents with a Long Term Survivors Award, noting their ongoing work to break down barriers associated with being infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

The Baltimore Sun has reported that Baltimore could soon follow Chicago's lead in banning the sale of menthol cigarettes and flavored tobacco near schools. Chicago became the first jurisdiction in the country to count menthol as a flavored tobacco product.

CDPH and the Department of Buildings are reminding people to install window guards on windows, limit window openings to 4 inches or less, and secure door openings with screens to protect the safety of Chicago children during the summer.

Comments by the Board President: Dr. Lopez thanked Mr. Murphy and Ms. Cibulskis for providing the CDPH's Grant History: 1993 – 2014 presentation. Dr. Lopez also noted she attended the Leadership Breakfast of the Institute of Medicine of Chicago (IOMC) last week where Commissioner Morita presented on Healthy Chicago 2.0. Dr. Lopez commented that Commissioner Morita's presentation was very well received by the audience.

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Policy Update: Jesse Lava reported Mayor Emanuel will introduce an ordinance to ensure that dry cleaners and auto body shops are minimizing the exposure of workers and customers to toxic chemicals. The ordinance would bring Chicago's city code in line with existing federal and state law that regulates these businesses. City inspectors would now be able to issue citations to dry cleaners and auto body shops that violate federal standards on hazardous air pollutants that can contribute to cancer and cause problems in the brain and nervous system. The pollutants are perchloroethylene (sometimes called dry cleaning fluid) and methylene chloride, which is in paint stripper. The fines associated with the citations will range from \$1,000-5,000.

In addition, Mr. Lava reported several bills that CDPH supports have passed both houses of the state legislature and await the Governor's signature:

- SB1800 - empowers CDPH to require low-risk food establishments to submit self-inspection reports
- HB1 - a wide-ranging drug reform bill that would combat the harms of substance abuse
- SB1410 - promotes immunization of children by requiring parents to consult with a doctor before obtaining a religious exemption
- HB2812 - protects the confidentiality of patients who are on Medicaid and seek sensitive health services for issues such as mental health care and sexually transmitted infections

Two relevant ordinances were introduced last month:

- CDPH and Mayor Emanuel introduced an ordinance last month to expand composting on urban farms and community gardens. The goal of the program is to increase the types of allowable compostable materials (like vegetables and eggshells, and in some cases livestock waste) that are brought to these locations while implementing common sense measures to ensure public health standards are maintained. The ordinance also institutes a reduced fee for certain nonprofit composting and recycling organizations.
- An ordinance was introduced in City Council last month to create a license to allow food vendors to sell from wheeled pushcarts across the city. The food must be prepared in a licensed food establishment and wrapped before going on the cart.

Lastly, Mr. Lava announced that he has been named CDPH's new director of policy. In his new role, Mr. Lava will be in charged with overseeing CDPH's policy agenda and supervising the policy and legislative team. Mr. Lava will continue to present policy updates to the Board of Health.

Presentation: CDPH's Grant History: 1993 – 2014, Daryl J. Murphy, MFA, Supervisor of Grant Administration and Ann Cibulskis, Coordinating Planner provided an overview of CDPH's 21 year-old Grant History.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Public Comment: Badonna Reingold, a member of the public, had a question regarding the CDPH Grant's History presentation given and the amount of funds CDPH receives for Lead. In response, Ms. Cibulskis noted CDPH received three million dollars for a period of two-years.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Next Board Meeting: July 15, 2015, 9:00 a.m.