

Chicago Board of Health
Meeting Summary: February 21, 2018
DePaul Center, 333 South State Street

Roll Call

Board Members Present

Carolyn C. Lopez, M.D., President
Juan M. Calderon
Melanie Dreher, RN, PhD.
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.
Horace E. Smith, 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.

Approval of Minutes: January 2017 minutes were unanimously approved.

Commissioner's Update:

Commissioner Morita mentioned, she was listening to the radio on the way to work heard the recent news regarding the Florida students in the tragic school shooting.

Commissioner Morita provided the following updates:

Black History Month

CDPH's LGBTQ Health & Outreach Program, led by Antonio King, who is working in partnership with the Chicago Black Gay Men's Caucus. They would like to extend an invitation to the Board of Health to attend the "Chicago LGBTQ Black History Recognitions" on Friday, February 23rd at 6:00pm at the South Side Community Art Center located at 3831 S. Michigan Ave. The Chicago LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and allies) Black History Recognitions highlight and uplift individuals, allies and/or entities within the Black LGBTQ community who utilize their platform to advance the health, rights, image and spirit of members of the LGBTQ community.

Englewood Clinic

On Friday, February 16th, Commissioner Morita facilitated a meeting with Aldermen Lopez, Cochran, and David Moore and our partners Mile Square, Howard Brown, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago and Chicago Torture Justice Center from the Englewood Neighborhood Health Clinic. This was an opportunity to highlight services provided to the community, answer any questions related to the Englewood STI Clinic transition and to work together to ensure seamless services to the residents of Englewood.

Getting to Zero

In early February, Mayor Emanuel and CDPH announced \$36 million in new HIV funding opportunities to support Chicago's Getting to Zero initiative. All funding opportunities will focus on communities most impacted by HIV transmission, including members of the LGBTQ community, most especially younger African-American and Latino gay and bisexual men, as well as transgender women. This is great news as we work towards our goal of effectively eliminating all new diagnosis of HIV in Chicago by 2027.

Flu Activity

Flu activity remains high, accountable for 8% of total emergency visits for influenza-like illness. Though there is no shortage of vaccine, CDPH did identify a shortage of the generic version of liquid Tamiflu. CDPH worked with local pharmacies to ensure residents were given access to affordable medication for their children and continues to encourage residents to get their flu shots; this is the best way to protect ourselves and our residents.

Opioid Prevention

Last week, CDPH and Rush co-hosted a daylong conference educating clinicians about the latest, evidence based information regarding opioid prescribing, addiction treatment, and harm reduction. Nearly 200 primary care doctors, nurses and advocates attended this standing room only event. Speakers included both local and national experts from Northwestern and UIC. In addition, in early February, Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced the next steps in the City's fight against opioids. The Chicago Police Department (CPD) will be providing naloxone and training its officers in how to administer the lifesaving nasal spray when someone is in the midst of an overdose.

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Comments by the Board President: 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. Dr. Lopez also commented on the board's recent advocacy role in the tobacco control ordinance.

Policy Update: Jesse Lava provided the following policy updates:

State

- Governor Rauner's proposed budget has cuts to health and human services. It assumes a rollback of the state income tax increase and does not address state's \$8.8 billion backlog of unpaid bills, many of which are to health institutions. Even where there are increases, we are not getting back to 2015 levels. So the damage from the last three years due to the impasse is not being repaired.
 - Funding that has significant cuts even relative to this past year includes DHS programs overall involving things like infant mortality, addiction treatment and prevention, immigrant integration, supportive housing, mental health, TANF, child care, and early intervention. There is also a cut in the Medicaid provider rate.
 - Funding that's level this year but down relative to 2015 includes school health centers, immunizations, perinatal services, family planning, SIDS, and the ACA marketplace.

Federal

- CDC Director Brenda Fitzgerald resigned over financial conflicts of interest with her work. Specifically, she had traded in tobacco stocks. The acting director is Anne Schuchat, who has worked at the CDC since 1988 and is an assistant surgeon general.

City

- Mayor Emanuel announced that there will be a youth wellbeing index for Chicago, aiming to take stock of how we are doing as a city in preparing our youth for life, whether in health or economic opportunity or other areas. Creation of that index will be led by external partners with input from City agencies. Mayor Emanuel wants to be sure that we keep making gains for youth and do not take steps back; this index will help provide a metric for the progress and status.

Presentation: Presentation: "Trauma Informed Transformation Project," Marlita White, Director of Behavioral Health and Violence Prevention

Old Business: None

New Business: Dr. Lopez followed-up on scheduling a board of health retreat; she is currently working with the ethic office to confirm the meeting structure and will check back with board members regarding their availability.

Public Comment: None

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Next Board Meeting: March 21, 2018, 9:00 a.m.