

**Meeting Summary of the Regular Meeting  
of the Chicago Board of Health  
CDPH Board Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
DePaul Center, 333 S. State Street  
Friday, December 21, 2012, 9:00 AM**

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**Roll Call**

Board Members Present:

Carl C. Bell, M.D.  
Adele Joy Cobbs, M.D.  
Melanie Dreher, RN, Ph.D.  
Victor M. Gonzalez  
Carolyn C. Lopez, M.D., President  
Joseph B. Starshak

Board Members Absent:

Caswell A. Evans, Jr., DDS, MPH  
Steve Rothschild, M.D.  
Horace E. Smith, M.D.

For the Department:

Bechara Choucair, M.D., Commissioner

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**  
**December 21, 2012**  
**DePaul Center, 333 S. State**  
**Meeting Summary**

**Call to Order:** Dr. Carolyn Lopez called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** The November 21, 2012 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

**Commissioner's Report/Healthy Chicago Update:** Commissioner Choucair provided an update on the following activities:

- The Mayor released the *Chicago New Americans Plan* this month, which outlines a set of initiatives to welcome immigrants and maximize their contributions. Many of the initiatives focus on economic development. CDPH will lead a health initiative focused on improving access to health care.
- CDPH released a new HIV behavioral surveillance report on November 30, *HIV Risk and Prevention Behaviors among Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM)*. The data were collected as part of the HIV Behavioral Surveillance system. Among the findings, more MSM are aware of their HIV status, and more HIV+ MSM are taking HIV medication as compared to 2008.
- Last week, a new report providing comprehensive data related to Chicago births (1999-2009) was released. Chicago's teen birth rate decreased 33% during the 11-year period, though rates are still higher than the national average.
- The CDPH 2013 budget was approved in November. The budget reflects three main goals: reinvesting in communities, securing additional funding to support Healthy Chicago, and strengthening our investment in child and adolescent health.
- The City Council passed an ordinance paving the way for healthier vending in the 94 City-owned and operated buildings. Calorie counts will be prominently displayed and the prices for healthier items cannot exceed the prices for less healthy options. Healthy options will comprise 75% of all offerings.
- The Cook County Health and Hospital Systems was granted a 1115 Medicaid waiver, which will allow them to immediately enroll about 115,000 currently uninsured County patients into Medicaid. Without the waiver, patients would have to wait until 2014 when the ACA and Medicaid Expansion provisions take effect to be eligible for health care coverage.
- On November 29, Chicago was recognized by the National League of Cities (NLC) for accomplishments achieved under the First Lady's *Let's Move* initiative.
- Three new staff members were introduced. Kendall Stagg is the new Director of Planning, Research, and Development, and will be leading the Department's policy efforts. He comes from the Illinois Public Health Institute. Mary Snodgrass is a new addition to the Policy team, and will focus primarily on HIV/AIDS policy. She was previously employed by the Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children (CLOCC). In addition, Brian Richardson, formerly of the Center on Halsted, is the new Director of Public Affairs.

**Comments by Board President:** CDPH is pursuing National Public Health Accreditation. A site visit will be conducted by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) within the next few months. All Board of Health members are invited to participate in the site visit, which will entail a one-hour meeting with site visitors in February or March. A 30-minute informational session on the PHAB site visit will be held on January 16 immediately following the Board meeting.

Dr. Carolyn Lopez asked about our violence prevention efforts, in reaction to the Connecticut school shooting. Dr. Choucair stated that most CDPH work is led by the Office of Violence Prevention, including efforts addressing childhood exposure to violence. The City recently began working with Ceasefire. Dr. Bell said that he believes the primary impetus of the Connecticut shootings was suicidal ideation, of which homicidal ideation was secondary.

**Policy/Legislative Update:** Deputy Commissioner Erica Salem presented the policy/legislative report.

City Council Update: At the December 12 City Council meeting, two ordinances were introduced: (1) An ordinance to provide the Commissioner the authority to enter into an agreement with public and private entities for the sharing and other use of public health-related data, and (2) an ordinance regulating building code violations regarding bed bugs, providing the Commissioner new authority to enforce the Code as it relates to public health and sanitary conditions. Details on the second ordinance will be provided at the January Board of Health meeting. In addition, an ordinance permitting the City of Chicago to enter into a services agreement with Compass Group USA, Inc. for the provision of vending services was approved. This contract will advance the City's healthy vending initiative across all City buildings, providing predominantly healthy snack and beverage vending options.

State: The General Assembly will meet January 2-8, 2013 to address pension reform, gambling expansion, medical marijuana use, and legislation necessary to expand Medicaid and implement the Affordable Care Act. The General Assembly failed to overturn the Governor's reduction of \$57 million in funding for adult prisons and juvenile detention facilities. The Governor is expected to use the funds to offset a reduction in funding for the Department of Children and Family Services.

A report entitled *Broken Promises to Our Children, the 1998 State Tobacco Settlement 14 Years Later* describes the lack of spending for tobacco prevention and cessation resources despite tobacco settlement funds and tobacco taxes. Illinois' spending for tobacco prevention amounts to 0.9% of the estimated \$1.2 billion in tobacco-generated revenue the state collects annually from tobacco settlement payments and tobacco taxes.

There was discussion about the cuts to the Family Strengthening model, which has public health implications. Deputy Commissioner Erica Salem suggested that the Board and CDPH write a letter to the State on this matter.

**Old Business:** Dr. Cort Lohff presented two proposed regulations to the Board for approval. Both regulations were posted for public comment.

Mobile Food Vehicles. CDPH also reached out by mail to impacted vendors, as well as shared kitchen operators. No feedback was received. The mobile food vehicle regulations were unanimously approved by the Board and adopted.

Use of Tanning Equipment by Minors. No feedback on the posted regulations was received. The regulations on tanning equipment use by minors were unanimously approved by the Board and adopted.

**Presentation:** Nik Prachand, Senior Epidemiologist presented *Healthy Chicago: Focus on HIV Prevention, HIV Risk and Prevention Behaviors among Men Who Have Sex with Men*.

**New Business:** There was no new business.

**Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

**Meeting Adjourned:** The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.