



MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS July 8, 2010

The monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Boston Public Health Commission was held on Thursday, July 8, 2010 in the Hayes Conference Room at the offices of the Boston Public Health Commission, 1010 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, MA 02118.

Board Members Present:

Paula Johnson, MD, MPH, Chair
Jack Cradock
Joseph Betancourt, MD, MPH
Harold Cox
Kathleen Walsh

Board Members Absent:

Celia Wcislo
Ruth Ellen Fitch, JD

Also Present Were:

Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., MPH, MEd, John Townsend, Erica LaFountain, Mark Campbell
Carol Fabyan-Takki, Margaux Joffe, John Christian, John Shea, Roger Swartz, Paul Shoemaker, Gerry Thomas,
Anita Barry, Gerry Byrne, Pam Jones, Ann Scales, Rosaline Valcimon, Chuck Gagnon, Jim Hooley, Margaret
Reid, Wendy Heirendt, Leon Bethune

Visitors:

Ryan Boyd; Regis College, Liz Alesia; Regis College, Kristen Athnos; Regis College, Scott Mason; Mass. League of
Community Health, Youseline Jeanlouise; Regis College

Counsel Present:

Nakisha Skinner, General Counsel

Proceedings

Chairwoman's Comments

Dr. Paula Johnson, MD, MPH

- The meeting was called to order at 4:09 PM by Chairwoman, Dr. Paula Johnson MD, MPH. Approval of the minutes was postponed until a quorum could be met.

Executive Director's Report

Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd

- Secretary Sebelius will be coming to meet with members of the Commission to be briefed on two CPPW grants.
- Secretary Sebelius will visit The Food Project farm in Dudley.
 - The Mayor will join her for a press event.
- There was an update on the high heat and humidity issues, including power outages, and increased EMS activity.
- Mayor Menino announced a new effort towards violence prevention, called PACT.
 - PACT targets youth involved in gangs and violence.
- The Board was invited to annual BPHC barbeque for employees and their families.

B1 Example & Soda Free Summer Campaign Videos - Media Presentation

Ann Scales, Director of Communications

Margaux Joffe, Multimedia Producer

- The Soda Free Summer campaign will run from June 21 until September 6 (Labor Day).
 - The main goal of the campaign is to reduce soda consumption.
 - The campaign has published a *Facebook* page where the public can pledge to eliminate or reduce soda this summer.
 - Commercials for the campaign are being shown in both English and Spanish.
- B1 Example is a violence prevention campaign targeted toward Boston youth.
 - This campaign has also published a page on *Facebook*. Members of the public can upload videos showing how he/she is a positive example towards peers.
 - The campaign has a commercial featuring Russell Ferguson, a Roxbury native and winner of last season's *So You Think You Can Dance*.
 - The commercial will air for four weeks on television and two months in theaters. It will also air primarily on cable and the Fox network.

Boston Nail Salon Hazards: Update & Recommendations

Leon Bethune, Division Director, Office of Environmental Health

Paul Shoemaker, Associate Director, Environmental Hazards

Nakisha L. Skinner, General Counsel

- Certain Nail Salons in Boston present health hazards to the contractors, as well as to the clients.
- New regulations were recommended that would, at a minimum, include the following:
 - Salon owners would need to obtain an annual business permit.
 - Salons would need to undergo an annual compliance inspection.
 - Product storage, inventory, and labeling would be assessed and improved as necessary.
 - Personal protective equipment for contractors, as well as for clients would be provided when appropriate.
 - Outreach and education efforts would be made in order to increase public knowledge of the potential hazards found in nail salons.
 - Patrons would be required to be at least sixteen years of age in order to be served without the presence of a parent or legal guardian.
 - Signage would be required to indicate a business that has passed the proposed annual inspection.
 - Health and safety training would be enforced for contractors and salon owners.
- The Board will consider proposed regulations and vote to release for public comment in October 2010.

- The Board will vote on the proposed final regulations in December 2010.

Chickens: The Many Layers of Serving Ourselves Farm

John Christian, Social Services Administrator, Homeless Services

Erica Lafountain, Farm Coordinator, Serving Ourselves

- The Serving Ourselves Farm is Certified Organic.
- The farm works with at-risk youth and homeless individuals, teaching skills needed for gardening, bee-keeping, and caring for chickens.
- The farm has recently begun raising Rhode Island Red chickens, a breed which is native to the New England area.

Communities Putting Prevention to Work - Update

Roger Swartz, Director, Community Initiatives Bureau

- There was presented an update on progress and effort in administering two CPPW grants.
 - The media contract was awarded, and media messages are currently being developed. It is currently being researched which projects would be able to fold into a national campaign. One campaign under consideration is www.thisstopshere.org. The site is an advocacy model, and has an official launch date in January with a soft launch in August.
 - Evaluations are underway regarding behavioral risk factor surveys, and attempts to add any necessary questions to these surveys.
 - The BRFSS contract is going through State Department of Public Health, and as a result is attempting to coordinate with the State.
 - Various funding opportunities have been announced, including for biometric measurements.
 - Opportunities for mentoring are also available.
- There have been a number of recent hires.
 - Pelenga Doiley has joined the media team and is a link between the media office and programs, as well as to CDC.
 - PJ McCann is a policy analyst.
 - Elizabeth Russo has joined the research and evaluation office.
- There was presented a Leadership Team update.
 - The Leadership Team recently had the opportunity to spend time together while in Washington D.C. with the CDC and build the relationships within the team.
- The community action plans were recently due to CDC, and are currently being reviewed. The deadline for comprehensive evaluation plans is the July 19, 2010.
- A CDC site visit is planned for August.
- BHPC is currently in its second CPPW reporting cycle.
 - The project officer for grants from CDC, Wendy Heirendt was introduced.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:48 PM.

Minutes Submitted By:

Jamie L. Martin, Secretary