

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE CITY OF CUDAHY HELD AT THE MUNICIPAL
BUILDING, 5050 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE, CUDAHY, WI ON TUESDAY,
July 12, 2011

ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM by Chairman Ponec with the following members present: Gerald Ponec, Dr. Sherman, Robert Grams, Carol Wantuch, Ald. Mary Schissel, Lynn Damitz, Dr. Johnson and Neal White.

OPENING STATEMENT

The proper opening statement was read.

APPROVE MINUTES

Moved by Robert Grams, seconded by Lynn Damitz to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2011 meeting. All voting in favor.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT

1. Rebecca Owen Resignation

Rebecca Owen has resigned her appointment to the Board of Health for personal reasons. She has been replaced by Kim Whitmore whose appointment has just been approved by the Common Council.

2. Public Policy Forum Award

The City of Cudahy and Metropolitan Associates who manage Washington Square and Evergreen Square were presented with an Honorable Mention Award for Private-Public Cooperation on June 23, 2011. The Health Department and the Fire Department worked with Metropolitan Associates staff to develop and exercise an all-hazards emergency plan for residents of these two senior housing complexes.

3. Larvacide Drops

The first round of larvacide drops has been completed in the City. The second round of drops has just begun. Breeding Culex mosquitoes which can cause West Nile Virus continue to be found in Cudahy catch basins.

4. YMCA Community Health Fair

The Health Department has been invited to participate in the planning of a health fair to be held in October at the Cudahy High School. The emphasis will be on keeping children and families healthy. More information will be coming.

5. Flu Vaccine

Sanofi-Pasteur has confirmed the Health Department's order of adult flu vaccine which will be earmarked for homebound Cudahy residents, residents of Cudahy group homes and City employees. Wheaton Franciscan Home Health Care will be providing and administering flu vaccine for the general public on 10/4/2011 from 9-1:00 and to the residents of ALL Cudahy senior housing complexes and to Ramsey Woods. In addition, the Health Department's order of children's flu vaccine has been confirmed by the State Immunization Program.

The CDC has issued information to assure the public that even though the 2010 and 2011 strains of flu vaccine are identical, all persons 6 months of age and older should have a flu shot this year. Immunity to influenza wanes over time and a flu shot that was obtained last year will not protect people this year.

6. Tdap Vaccine Recommendations

The State Immunization Program is advocating pertussis (whooping cough) reduction in infants by urging the provision of Tdap vaccine to postpartum women and their family members. Breast-feeding is not a contraindication to receive Tdap.

7. Nutrition & Activity Grant

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin again applied for a grant to provide nutrition and activity curriculum for the students of Lincoln School. Unfortunately this grant application was again denied.

8. Unpaid Water Bills

The Health Department was made aware of an Assembly bill that prohibits municipal utilities from placing delinquent bills on the tax bill. This basically means that the Water Utility will be shutting off services to properties for non-payment. Once the water is shut off, the property becomes uninhabitable and will need to be condemned. This process has begun last week. As of today, there are only 2 properties without water.

9. Prevention Block Grant

The Health Department has been notified by the State that the Prevention Block Grant will stop on 10/1/2011. After that date, there will be no more funds for that grant even though the Health Department has a grant contract that extends to the end of the year. There is language within the contract that allows the State to stop payment of grant funding if there is no more money for that particular grant. The Health Department hopes to find another funding source to make up the money that will disappear.

10. Other Block Grant Funding Sources

Most of the Health Department's block grants that either come from the State directly or from the federal government are undergoing financial reductions. The Public Health Preparedness Consortium will be dissolved as of 8/9/11 and the Health Department's Preparedness grant has been reduced by almost 13%. The Maternal & Child Health grant is anticipated to be reduced by 10%, the Lead Poisoning Prevention grant is being reduced by an unknown amount. The pregnancy prevention grant has disappeared. So far, the Immunization grant program funding is unchanged from 2011.

11. Memorandum of Understanding with the School District of Cudahy

The Health Department has had a long-standing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the School District for the provision of general public health nursing services to the students and staff of the School District. After a meeting with the Superintendent of Schools, Jim Heiden, a new MOU will be drafted to address the old MOU components as well as the agreement for PHN Cheryl Orlando's services as the District School Nurse.

12. Animal Bites

As of today, the Health Department and the Environmental Health Specialist has investigated and followed up on 14 incidents of animal bites. The most recent bite involved a Mastiff dog who bit the face of a four year old child.

13. Community Transformation Grant

The Community Transformation Grant from the CDC for Milwaukee County was initially proposed by the Milwaukee Health Department who requested letters of support from the State Department of Health as well as the local health departments. The State refused to provide the letter of support for this grant which was one of the grant requirements. After negotiation, the YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee has agreed to become the fiscal agent for this grant as well as provide the initial leadership for the proposal. This grant amount is \$959,921/year for 5 years.

The grant's objectives center on a 5% reduction in the core areas of tobacco, obesity and cardiovascular disease by the end of the 5 year grant cycle. This objectives need to involve multiple community partners and hopefully will result in changes in health behaviors.

The YMCA is requesting a letter of support from each local health department by 7/14/2011 so that they can complete the grant proposal. Carol Wantuch has drafted a letter of support from the Cudahy Health Department and is asking for Board approval to submit this letter to the YMCA.

Moved by Doctor Johnson, seconded by Dr. Sherman to authorize Carol to send a letter of support to the YMCA for this grant.

All voting in favor.

Moved by Robert Grams, seconded by Lynn Damitz to accept the Health Officer's report.

All voting in favor.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

There was BOH discussion about the letter to local residents as well as the survey questionnaire regarding the development of the community gardens on the Barland Avenue site. The Board had no changes to suggest regarding the letter and survey and directed Carol Wantuch to forward them to the Mayor for mailing to residents who live close to the proposed garden area.

There was also a discussion about the vacant property at 3626 East Barnard Avenue. Carol Wantuch wondered if the Board would consider making a recommendation to the Cudahy CDA to obtain the property so that it could be turned into a green space/garden area for Washington Square residents who live across the street from the property. A spirited discussion ensued about the feasibility of this use of the property. Some of the concerns included City liability, resident safety and gardening potential. The consensus of the Board is that this may not be a good garden location and the Board does not feel that they are in a position to make this decision.

NEXT MEETING

Motion by Dr. Johnson, seconded by Lynn Damitz that the Board of Health not meet until September 27th, 2011 unless there is an emergency or situation that requires attention.

All voting in favor.

ADJOURN

Moved by Robert Grams, seconded by Ald. Schissel to adjourn (7:15 PM).

All voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Neal White, Secretary