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COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

GALE R. BURSTEIN, MD MPH
COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

June 11, 2012

Dear Board of Health Member:

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 10, 2012 at 3:30 P.M. The meeting will be held at Curly's Bar & Grill, located at 647 Ridge Road, Lackawanna, New York.

The minutes from the March 27, 2012 meeting as well as an agenda for the July meeting are enclosed for your review.

Please make every effort to attend the meeting. If you are unable to attend please notify Marcia Amadori Crosby at 858-7226. Thank you.

Sincerely,

James Hoddick, D.D.S.
President,
Erie County Board of Health

Encl.
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ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

CURLY'S BAR & GRILL

JULY 10, 2012

AGENDA

1. Review of Minutes from March 27; 2012 meeting
2. Healthy Choices
3. Food Policy Council
4. Erie County Parks Smoking Policy
5. Sanitary Code Review/Update
6. Family Justice Center for Domestic Violence
7. Dentist's HIV testing update
8. Hydrofracking

ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

MINUTES

MARCH 27, 2012

PRESENT: James Hoddick, D.D.S.
Matthew Dunaif, D.M.V
Lynn Marinelli, Erie County Legislator
Carolyn Montgomery, PhD, NP-C
Dennis Galluzzo, R.P.H.
Krista Van Wagner, Curly's Bar & Grill

EXCUSED: Gail Polanski, RN, BSN
Nathaniel Webster, M.D.
John Davanzo, resigned from BOH 3/15/2012

ERIE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Gale Burstein, M.D., Commissioner of Health
Cheryll Moore, Community Wellness
Mark Kowalski, Environmental Health

Dr. Hoddick called the meeting to order. He went on to address Dr. Richard Judelsohn's passing, and called for a moment of silence in his memory. Dr. Judelsohn was President as well as a longtime member of the Erie County Board of Health and will certainly be missed.

Dr. Hoddick welcomed Dr. Gale Burstein to the BOH. Dr. Burstein introduced herself to the BOH members, she provided refreshments for the meeting, and went on to say that she was appreciative of the BOH's time and assistance in processing issues and making decisions in its relationship with the ECHD. Dr. Burstein went on to say that she is a Pediatrician and she specializes in adolescent medicine; she also worked at the CDC for six years, and has a background in public health. Everyone introduced themselves to Dr. Burstein.

I. VOTE TO ELECT BOH PRESIDENT

Dr. Hoddick introduced the first order of business, a replacement for Dr. Judelsohn as President. He asked for a motion from the floor, Dr. Dunaif moved to appoint Dr. Hoddick as president of the BOH, Carolyn Montgomery seconded the motion. There were no other nominations, Dr. Hoddick accepted the position of President. Ms. Marinelli nominated Carolyn Montgomery as Vice President of the BOH, Dr. Hoddick seconded the motion.

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 22, 2011

Dr. Hoddick asked if anyone had any suggestions, additions, or deletions to the minutes, there were none. The minutes were accepted as written.

III. HEALTHY CHOICES

Cheryll Moore went on to say that we met with some of the insurers, such as Univera and Independent Health. Univera does have an interest in Healthy Choices. She also spoke with the WNY Restaurant Association and the new administration regarding Healthy Choices. Our biggest issue is that we need someone to work on it for follow-up, as it is a very time intensive program. We have endorsed the Restaurant Association's motto of education not legislation. Menu labeling is taking place in January in restaurant chains of twenty or more anywhere in the country. In Erie County there are many independent restaurants that need to take part in the program, as there are slots available for the Healthy Choice program. Competitive wise as well as business wise this is how it needs to be marketed to the independent restaurants. Panera Bread has already accomplished this on their own, they have calorie labeling; however this will have to be changed as there is very specific criteria involved in the menu labeling process. In order to stay competitive the independent restaurants will also need to be involved.

Univera Health came up with the idea of incentives for members to eat at Healthy Choices establishments. All of this is part of health care reform and emanates from the federal government. Ms. Moore went on to say that she is getting two full time dietetic students, each 40 hrs. a week for four weeks at the end of May and in June. She will have them work exclusively on Healthy Choices. They will be contacting local restaurants for their input into the program. Ms. Van Wagner thought that it was a good idea to push Healthy Choices so that there is a direction for the independents to go to for menu labeling. Dr. Burstein suggested that we work with Peter Anderson, our PR person, we could put Healthy Choices out as a news story. There are currently 61 restaurants signed up with the Healthy Choices program. Four healthy menu items are offered at no charge through the program per restaurant. It was reiterated that the Healthy Choices program needs to be promoted. There is a list on the Health Dept.'s website of the restaurants participating in Healthy Choices and links to the restaurants. Dr. Dunaif suggested having the restaurant association buying TV advertising time to endorse Healthy Choices. Ms. Van Wagner said that she would announce at a Restaurant Association meeting that we will have dietetic students available for the project

IV. COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION GRANT

Ms Moore commented that we are applying for each section as we see money becoming available. In collaboration with Buffalo State we submitted a drug free community's grant to address the violence component of it We actually were invited to apply for it The Governor has money available for community gardening, we are looking at this with healthy kids/healthy communities to apply for money to address another component. The Community Transformation grant was a comprehensive grant that addressed policy and environmental change to address obesity, smoking rates and physical activity in Erie County. She reiterated that we were approved but not funded for the grant.

V. HYDROFRACKING

Dr. Hoddick asked if anyone had any comments, additions, deletions Dennis Galluzo mentioned that at the last meeting hydrofracking was brought up and that Dr. Billittier said that he had recommended that it not be allowed. A letter was supposed to be sent on NYSACHO'S behalf recommending that it not be allowed. Some of the water was making its way back to Erie County, and the hydrofracked water was going to be processed in Erie County. There was concern for the amount of chemicals in the water. Mr. Galluzzo said that this had been stopped. Dr. Hoddick said that in both Niagara Falls and Buffalo water treatment will not accept it. North Tonawanda will as they are set up with the carbon coaters to adequately treat the water. The hydrofracked water cannot be treated with biologics, you have to have the capability in the water treatment system in order to do it. Carol Montgomery asked Lynn Marinelli if this topic has come up in the Legislature, to which she responded that it has, but that it is state driven. Dr. Hoddick questioned whether the BOH has any leverage on this issue. He mentioned that there are corporate and state levels involved. He also thought that when natural gas prices go up, and the price is right there will be a push to get it out of the ground. The situation should be monitored, and if hydrofracking is pushed it should be accomplished in the safest way possible.

Mr. Galluzzo mentioned that he thought that if fracking water is coming in through North Tonawanda he would be against it. He went on to say that no fracking water should be brought in through our ecco system and put back into the water system for consumption in Erie County.

VI. DENTISTS' HIV TESTING UPDATE

Dr. Hoddick said the Dental School finally received its IRB for HIV testing. This will occur in every university setting for the Schools of Dental Medicine in the State are going to be up and running The School of Dental Medicine will begin Training students on May 5. This is all university based throughout the State

Currently there is a provider and patient acceptance study out of the Public Health school. Research is being done to study the efficacy of the program. The IRB is providing the funding for this. Dr. Burstein asked what the protocol is for a preliminary positive result; Dr. Hoddick responded that the patient will be referred to the Immunodeficiency Clinic at ECMC. The program should be up and running by the Fall.

VII. NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH MEMBERSHIP

Marcia Amadori Crosby e-mailed the members of the BOH for their input regarding National Association of Local Boards of Health membership. Dr. Hoddick said that the information he received from NALBOH was for the most part overlooked. In the past, Ms. Crosby would distribute information to BOH members at meetings. Dr. Burstein asked if the BOH members wanted to keep the membership. Dr. Judelsohn had used NALBOH as a resource to network and to inquire into what other Boards of Health were involved in. Dr. Burstein said that we could go through NYSACHO to accomplish that. Dr. Hoddick also thought that communication with various other Health Commissioners could also be more effective in the networking process. It was determined that membership would not be renewed.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Hoddick asked if there was any new business that needed to be addressed. Legislator Marinelli mentioned that her constituents were lobbying New York State for a systems approach with prescription drugs. There has been much publicity regarding this issue, she felt that Albany would be getting involved. Locally there was a case of a boy committing suicide as he was addicted to prescription drugs which focused awareness regarding this problem. The State Attorney General suggested a central data base, so that when one pharmacy is filling a prescription for a controlled substance, and doctor shopping is done, so that another prescription is obtained, there would be a system to track that this is occurring. Dennis Galluzzo said that the Pharmacists are concerned with safety issues, if a prescription that is deemed to be invalid is not dispensed to a drug seeking individual. He also said that a real time information plan needs to be implemented. There was ensuing discussion on the topic.

There was no other new business, the Sanitary Code issues were tabled until the next meeting.

The next Board of Health meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, July 10, 2012 at 3:30 P.M. at Curly's Bar and Grill. The meeting was then adjourned.

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