

**Ingham County Board of Health (BoH) meeting  
Foster Community Center – Room 213  
Tuesday, October 4, 2011**

**Minutes**

**In attendance for meeting:** Dr. Maurice Reizen, Nancy Hayward, Molly Polverento, Dr. Christina Dokter, Martha Adams, Denae Friedheim, Mark Kieselbach, Dr. George Rowan, Dr. Nino Rodriguez, Commissioner Brian McGrain, Dr. Dean Sienko, Dr. Renee Canady, Joan Nelson, Rona Harris, Debbie Edokpolo, Wendy Duke-Littlejohn and several MSU Nursing Students

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Reizen. Motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting was made by Mark Kieselbach, seconded by Martha Adams. Motion passed and minutes are accepted as printed.

**Additions to agenda** – None

**Public comment** – Joan Nelson, Director of Allen Neighborhood Center (ANC). She gave a brief overview of what the ANC is about and what they do in their community. She wanted to briefly give her comment on the Medical marijuana topic. She shared the experiences of her community since the passing of the legislation. There appeared to be overnight over a dozen dispensaries in and around ANC's community. There were reports of use outside of the dispensaries, children entering the facilities with adults/guardians and an increase in break-ins. It was found that recreational and not medical was what was being dispensed. Coalition for a closer look – consisted of business large and small in the community. Their goal was to research what was happening around the community, state and country. The dispensaries were not addressed in the legislation and they have now been mostly outlawed. The coalition began to attend public safety meetings. It was found out that about 2000 people have cards with about 1000 set up with own caregivers. There were people coming from out of town from cities that had banned dispensaries. Some dispensaries were found to have been selling heroine and LSD. Ann Arbor set up a tracking code for what was dispensed. The coalition advocated for basic criminal background checks, tracking and the number of dispensaries. The coalition is not anti medical marijuana, they just want some responsible guidance of the legislation. Joan will forward a set of the recommendations they submitted to the city council.

**Welcome and Introduction of membership – Dr. Reizen**

Members introduced themselves and their professional affiliations. Dr. Reizen gave a brief overview of who and what the Board of Health is and does. The BoH is not a regulatory board but an advisory board. The BoH was established by the Board of Commissioners.

**Dr. Sienko Recognition – Dr. Reizen**

Dr. Sienko announced his retirement with the Ingham County Health Department and will be leaving his position as Health Officer and Medical Director at the end of October. Dr. Sienko will not be retiring altogether but has accepted a position with Michigan State University. Dr. Reizen presented and read aloud a plaque prepared for Dr. Sienko along with presentation of a gift from the board.

Dr. Sienko said a few words in thanks for the recognition.

## **Public Health Update – Dr. Sienko**

**Governor Health Message** – He covered a variety of things including obesity and infant mortality. There is a 4x4 behavior which is to eat better, exercise more, have an annual physical and don't use tobacco products. The measurements for health are fasting blood sugar, total cholesterol, blood pressure and BMI (indicator of weight & height). There is also reference to physicians' record in the MCIR (MI Care Improvement Registry) which is causing a stir; individuals don't want this type of information in governmental records. There are issues with reporting bias but there is a hearing coming up in the legislature. MCIR was originally immunizations and children but there may be issues of it expanding into the internal/adult medicine arena. In addition, there was an obesity summit a couple of weeks ago and Public Sector Consultants are gathering the results for presentation at a later date. The infant mortality summit will be in Ypsilanti towards the end of October.

**Flu Clinics** – October kicks off vaccination of flu at the health department. The infant population is far behind in getting vaccinated (recommendations is for over 6mos). Historically it was for seniors or those with chronic conditions.

**FQHC** – The Board of Commissioners (BOC) agreed to accept the 5 year award/allocation with no restrictions from the feds. This will allow expansion of the clinics at Otto and Willow.

**Transition of ICHD leadership** – The BOC has not as yet named a successor for Dr. Sienko but will be required to do so by months end to remain inline with the county statute. Dr. Sienko encourages that who ever is chosen should continue to work with the current programs, HESJ and its alignment in public health. ICHD is nationally known for its vibrant program and should continue its forward push in these areas. He also urges that there be continued community engagement through its community partners such as Allen Neighborhood Center, NorthWest Initiative and other communities. Strong partnerships need to continue between BoH and ICHD which is greatly appreciated to have such a fine cadre of members supporting ICHD such as in the P2 issues, smoke-free restaurants and currently the medical marijuana arena.

**DHS Policy on Assistance Cap** – Dr. Renée Canady spoke to the Ingham County Women's Commission on the topic. There is some anticipation that there will be some impact on the community regarding the implementation of the 4 year assistance maximum. The first wave has hit Ingham County with about 72 families of single and divorced moms losing about \$300-\$400 in monthly income normally used for rent. Dr. Canady will continue to keep abreast of the situation and will speak with Ms. Holbrook of the commission to see if she might be available to attend a future meeting.

**P2** – A status report is to be made on October 17th to the BOC Human Services meeting. An update may be forthcoming.

## **Capital Area Health Alliance Event – Nancy Hayward**

Flyers were shared on the Choosing Health event to be held on October 18th. It is an event to focus on health at will be at the Union Missionary Baptist Church. Everything is free including healthy food choices. CATA will provide free service to the event. The focus will be to encourage physical activity, developing healthy eating habits and preventing substance abuse and promoting mental health.

Dr. Reizen requested an update on the event at the next months meeting. Dr. Rowan requested that BoH become a sponsor next year as well. Nancy would like to strengthen relationship between CAHA and BoH and so was appointed to be the liaison to formalize the relationship.

### **NALBOH Update – Dr. Rowan**

The big thing is they are looking at accreditation. The national conference held in Idaho in September went well. RWJ Foundation is going to be involved which could mean funding for various projects. NALBOHs will be celebrating their 20 year anniversary next year with a summit in Atlanta. It is reported that membership dues will be increasing and to be based on population. Dr. Rowan will be working to get the state level (MALPH) more involved.

### **Michigan's Marijuana Legislation – Community Members Input**

Commissioner Brian McGrain gave a very brief comment stating that he concurred with Joan Nelson's assessment of the situation at least on the east side.

### **Other discussion**

**Prohibition documentary by Ken Burns** – Dr. Rowan recommended if anyone is able to watch this segment to do so. It mirrors what went on in the 20's and is very similar to the marijuana issues now. It is on PBS and may possibly be rerun soon.

**Education and health on obesity** – Dr. Rodriguez attended summit and worked in small group to come up with some recommendations. He feels there will be some mandate will be forthcoming to the schools from the governors' office. It is his hope that whatever comes down that there will be dollars attached to implement programs.

**Public questions** – What will be boards' ability to function if the health care reform passes? Molly addressed the question with her thoughts on the topic. Public health is always last on the agenda. The affordable care act is on the front end of insurance, 2013/14 will be when it will come in. Forces are pushing to repeal the act. It will be hard for BoH to act because it will be a challenge to convince policy makers that public health matters. More needs to be done to educate on what public health is.

### **Announcements**

**Flu shots for BoH** – members would like to receive their shots during the November meeting with publicity to promote message on getting vaccinated.

**Literature** – Prostate cancer screening flyers and Adelante magazines were shared.

**Recognition** – ICHD's Rona Harris has been regularly submitting articles to Adelante which are much appreciated.

**Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Reizen and seconded by Dr. Rowan.**

**Meeting adjourned.**

**Next Board of Health meeting – 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1, 2011 at the Ingham County Health Department located at 5303 S. Cedar Street in Lansing.**