

**Ingham County Board of Health (BoH) meeting
Ingham County Health Department – Conference Room C
Tuesday, November 2, 2010**

Minutes

In attendance for meeting: Dr. George Rowan, Dr. Maurice Reizen, Molly Polverento, Mark Kieselbach, Dr. Nino Rodriguez, Dr. Nigel Paneth, Dr. Dean Sienko, Dr. Renée B. Canady, Dr. Jim Anthony, Debbie Edokpolo and Wendy Duke-Littlejohn

The meeting was called to order by Dr. George Rowan. Dr. Rowan requested a motion to support the minutes from October with submitted changes. Dr. Paneth submitted the motion which was seconded by Dr. Rodriguez seconded. Minutes were approved with submitted changes.

Additions to agenda: Order of agenda changed.

Public comment: None

How to pay tribute to Jacqui Day – Dr. George Rowan

Dr. Rowan suggested that the small room in the Dental clinic, should it be modified, be named the Jacqui Day room. Dr. Sienko not sure of the policy on this, but will check into it. There will be a memorial service held on November 12th. Members who are available are asked to attend.

A draft resolution honoring Jacqui was prepared by Debbie Edokpolo which members reviewed. It was agreed by all that the draft become final and prepared for presentation at the services.

BoH Member Elections – Dr. George Rowan

Dr. Rowan's term as chair is ending, and he will not be requesting an extension. It has been submitted that Nancy Hayward be considered for the position of Chair Pro Tem, and Molly Polverento as Vice Chair, and that Dr. Reizen remain. Other members interested in a position before ballots are prepared are to please notify Debbie Edokpolo.

Marijuana and Dr. Jim Anthony – Dr. Nigel Paneth

In previous meetings, Dr. Reizen gave a presentation on Marijuana and its medicinal uses, health effects and implications on smoke free laws. It was decided that the BoH be proactive in determining it's stance on the Marijuana issue and so Dr. Jim Anthony who has extensive knowledge on the subject was invited.

He speaks to the board today as a citizen and not in the capacity of his position with Michigan State University.

Second hand smoke of marijuana has not been studied as extensively as tobacco. However, medically there could still be the same risks associated with exposure, but there may not be any solid medical evidence supporting it. As a BoH it would be feasible to treat it (marijuana smoke) the same as tobacco smoke. If the law specifically states 'tobacco' that should be looked into for change to

include all types of smoke, as there are other items that are smoked that produce a so-called second hand risk.

Concerns that should and could be looked at are use by minors (by age 21 three-quarters of the population has had opportunity to try marijuana), the 'dram law' (regulates sales to those visibly intoxicated), liability of vendors who do sell to those who are high and what their culpability would be should there be some type of accident and also what would be contained (laced) in the plants themselves.

Dr. Anthony concluded with some background on how the policies are in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany.

The discussion turned to how all eyes will be on proposition 19 in California which will determine, by ye or nay, legalization of marijuana. Also, at the state level there was a list of conditions that would qualify for use of medicinal use. There are cases where it may come to litigation in the work place for employees who are fired or suspended due to not passing drug screenings even though they have a legitimate prescription. In addition, the group discussed partial prohibition – not harsh on personal use, but social penalties.

Final thoughts centered on minors. Trafficking and distribution to minors should carry stiff penalties. Prescription pain killers show higher use among teens now than that of marijuana. There is no real data showing that marijuana is a gateway to other drugs such as cocaine in a pharmacological stand point. It appears to be more of an accessibility thing, meaning that you have access to the other drug but not an actual craving for something stronger.

This is a topic that will be discussed and watched as more and more medical marijuana locations and licenses are sought.

Public Health Update – Dr. Dean Sienko

Influenza – Dr. Sienko had discussion with the CDC that there could be an increase in H3N2 and that this could definitely affect the aged population. The good thing is that the current vaccine does include the B strain, H1N1 and H3N2. The 'Flu Zone' shot is a higher potency of the vaccine which is targeted towards the elderly. It is currently not available through ICHD.

Mandatory Vaccination of Health Care Providers – Dr. Sienko looking into it for ICHD clinical staff. It is something that has been submitted to the County Attorney for review. It may also have to go through the union. U of M health centers have implemented this and so has a Battle Creek center. Nancy Hayward will follow up to see how the implementation has progressed.

Smoke Free Multi Unit Housing – Dr. Sienko is encouraging the board to be more active on this topic. The Lansing Housing Commission has gone smoke free; however, the BoH need to look more deeply into the private managers. Some managers feel that going smoke free may assist in getting rid of the marijuana use as well.

Announcements:

- Growing our Community Conference will be held spring 2011. Those interested should contact Terry Link of the Food Bank. Dr. Rowan will contact Denae to gauge her interest in it.
- Molly attended the MI Public Health Conference and she will share keynote information once it is received.

It was moved and supported to adjourn meeting.

Next Board of Health Meeting – 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 7, 2010 in Conference Room C at the Ingham County Health Department. Lunch will be provided at 11:30 a.m.