

DeKalb County Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2014
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Bohan Auditorium

Board Members Present

Arlene Parker Goldson, Chair
Jacqueline Davis, Vice Chair
Daniel Salinas, M.D., Parliamentarian (via telephone)
The Honorable Jeff Rader
Vasanne Tinsley, Ed.D.

Staff and Guests Present

S. Elizabeth Ford, M.D., M.B.A., District Health Dir.
Tom Keating
Marti Hand
Jason Langbehn
Mary Watson
Nausheen Pungani
Terri James
Dianne McWethy
Brenda K. Smith
Beth Ruddiman
Deborah Jackson
Greg French
Althea Otuata
Tesi Gillispie
Bernard Hicks
Les Richmond, M.D., M.B.A.
Katrina Green
Mia Young
Nakija Benjamin

Staff and Guests Present

Sandra Piñeyro, Recording Secretary
Don Brundage
Dwayne Turner, D.D.S.
Sentayehu Bedane
Ryan Cira
Juanette Willis
Vickie Elisa
Christin Taylor
Jotonna Tulloch
Jessica Grippo
Danika Fanner
Letha Baines
Mandy Seaman
Andrea Stokfisz
Monifa Holman
Carmen Bolinto
Glory Kilanko
Rulester Davis

The regular meeting of the DeKalb County Board of Health was called to order by Board Chair Goldson at 3:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the November 21, 2013 regular Board meeting were unanimously approved by a motion from Board member Davis and seconded by Board member Dr. Tinsley.

Election of 2014 Officers

The Board re-elected Arlene Parker Goldson as Board Chair and Jacqueline Davis as Board Vice Chair. Board member Rader was nominated and approved in absentia as the Board Parliamentarian for the 2014 calendar year.

Appointment of 2014 Budget Committee

The 2014 Board Budget Committee members are Vice Chair Davis, Board member Dr. Tinsley, Board Chair Goldson (ex officio) and Dr. S. Elizabeth Ford, District Health Director (ex officio).

Director’s Board Report

The Office of Emergency Preparedness is working to create a point of dispensing partnership with the DeKalb County Sheriff’s Office to protect the Sheriff’s Office staff and jail inmates in case of a terrorist attack.

The Marketing and Business Development Division has officially submitted the Board of Health’s statement of intent to apply for public health accreditation. Georgia Southern University held a site visit with staff to review the Public Health Accreditation Board’s process. A workshop was held to present the draft strategic plan to the Board of Health staff. There has been discussion on a STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) initiative at Tucker Middle School as part of the educational curriculum. We now have an online volunteer database management system.

The Administration Division completed the FY2013 annual audit. Human Resources processed a total of 154 personnel action requests. The Policy and Procedures Committee worked on the HIPAA Policy, 200-6; Political Activity Policy, 10-3; and Probationary Period Policy, 30-19. The Board of Health has held trainings on CPR certification, limited English proficient and sensory impaired clients, and child abuse reporting. Information Technology redesigned the computer room to reduce the cooling load on the A/C units.

The facilities office processed 92 work orders, of which 35 were sent to the county. There were 219 purchase orders and 40 contracts, agreements, and amendments processed.

During November and December, Vital Records issued 1,907 birth certificates and 5,898 death certificates.

The Environmental Health Division staff conducted 6,804 inspection/enforcement activities and 3,107 complaint investigations in 2013. During November and December, there were four restaurant closures as a result of receiving two consecutive “U” grades on inspection reports.

The Ryan White Early Care Clinic provided 2,150 service visits to clients. The clinic received additional money for primary care and oral health. Staff has submitted a proposal to expand its dental clinic capacity.

There were 26 referrals to the Linkage to Care program during a two-month period.

The Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic conducted no major contact investigations during November and December. The program received a TB case notification from the DeKalb County Superior

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Director's Board Report, cont'd.

Court. A thorough investigation was completed and it was determined that there was no risk of exposure to the staff or to the public.

Refugee Health Services screened 313 newly-arrived clients. The staff screened 100 percent of the clients referred to the clinic within 30 days of arrival into the country.

The STD and High Impact HIV Prevention Program staff met with Emory University's Department of Student Health to create a partnership for testing and condom distribution. They also have been working with the Women's Resource Center to End Domestic Violence. Community-based events were held at the Kensington Station Apartments, Scores Sports Bar and Video Lounge, Vinson Health Center, South DeKalb Mall, and Agnes Scott College. All of these events provided education, awareness, and condoms. Staff attended cultural sensitivity training and the first annual transgender symposium.

DeKalb's Adolescent Health and Youth Development program had the highest number of Personal Responsibility Education Program sites and community partners in the state. October was "Let's Talk Month," which was observed by setting up display tables at the health centers.

The Babies Can't Wait program is servicing 486 clients, Children's Medical Services is servicing 302 clients and the Mothers Offering Resources and Education has a caseload of 150 clients. Dr. Ford thanked everyone who participated in one of the many toy drives over the Christmas holiday.

In 2013, Immunization Clinic staff visited 317 childcare facilities and assessed 20,237 immunization records, with a compliance rate of 97 percent. In 2013, staff also visited 134 kindergarten programs and assessed 9,809 immunization records, with a compliance rate of 97 percent. The staff also visited 54 sixth grade programs and reviewed 8,291 immunization records, with a compliance rate of 96 percent.

The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program participant caseload is 26,807. The WIC Farmers Market voucher redemption rate was 96 percent. This is the third highest rate in Georgia and an increase from last year's rate of 91 percent.

During November and December, East DeKalb Health Center administered 968 flu vaccinations. The center has serviced 4,557 unduplicated patients since July 2013.

Vinson Health Center administered 368 school-based flu vaccinations.

Health Assessment and Promotion is working with three interns to develop a grant tracking and monitoring system and an injury prevention profile and funding resource list.

There was a flu-like outbreak at the DeKalb County jail with 25 inmates falling ill. Staff provided information on appropriate isolation techniques and collected specimens. Five

inmates tested positive for Influenza Type A. Staff also investigated a Shigella outbreak at a daycare center.

The Office of Chronic Disease Prevention is attempting to continue producing the Public Health Information for Teens (PHIT) magazine. Staff is also working with the DeKalb County School District on the tobacco-free school policies. Three schools will be observed and assessed in terms of tobacco-related behaviors on campus.

The final Community Health Improvement Plan was released at the meeting.

The announcements included Dianne McWethy's selection by the Georgia Department of Public Health to participate in a visioning session for the state's Office of Vital Records, Human Resources issuing 17 faithful service awards, and North DeKalb Health Center welcoming Elizabeth Robles and Maria Nunez-Martinez.

Faithful service pins and certificates were presented to Deborah Jackson for 30 years of service and to Terri James for 25 years of service to the State of Georgia.

Financial Status Report

The Financial Status Report was given by Brenda K. Smith, Chief Financial Officer (see attached memo).

Public Comments

Public comments were made by Carmen Bolinto, Emory School of Public Health, who spoke about the Humphrey Fellows and the need for them to volunteer at the Board of Health and by Glory Kilanko, founder of Women Watch Afrika and a member of the Live Healthy DeKalb Coalition, who spoke about the upcoming ten-year anniversary celebration of Live Healthy DeKalb and invited everyone to attend.

Board Comments

There were no Board comments.

Adjournment

Chair Goldson asked for a motion to adjourn. Board member Rader moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:03 p.m. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Davis. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:

Sandra Piñeyro
Recording Secretary

Arlene Parker Goldson, Chair
Jacqueline Davis, Vice Chair
Daniel Salinas, M.D., Parliamentarian