

Forsyth County Board of Health



- Dr. Linda L. Petrou, PhD, Chair
- Dr. James K. Doub, OD, Vice Chair
- Ms. Judy Briggs
- Mr. John Davenport, Jr., PE
- Dr. Calvert B. Jeffers, Jr., DVM
- Dr. Charles F. Massler, DDS, M.Ed.
- Dr. Willard L. McCloud, Jr., MD
- Ms. Jane Bradner Mosko, RN, CRNA
- Mr. J. Phil Seats, R.Ph., MBA
- Dr. P. Lee Salisbury, III, DDS
- Dr. Ricky Sides, DC
- Ms. Gloria D. Whisenhunt, County Commissioner

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES August 7, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Linda Petrou, Chair
Ms. Judy Briggs
Mr. John Davenport
Dr. Calvert Jeffers
Dr. Charles Massler
Ms. Jane Bradner Mosko
Ms. Jane Bradner Mosko
Mr. J. Phil Seats
Dr. Ricky Sides
Ms. Gloria Whisenhunt

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. John Davenport
Dr. James Doub
Dr. Willard McCloud

OTHERS PRESENT

Ms. Monique Hibma, Community Member

Call to Order:

On Wednesday, August 7, 2013, the Forsyth County Board of Health held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting in the Board Room at the Forsyth County Department of Public Health (FCDPH). Dr. Linda Petrou, called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. and welcomed Board members and guests.

Consideration of Minutes:

The minutes of the June 5, 2013 Board of Health Meeting were reviewed by the Board. Dr. Petrou asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Gloria Whisenhunt made a motion to approve and Mr. J. Phil Seats seconded. The minutes were approved by the Board.

Public Comment Section:

Board Members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

Health Director's Comments:

Mr. Marlon Hunter shared the following points with the Board:

- Our Risk Management Department, through the N.C. Department of Labor, presented us with three gold awards to let us know they appreciate the efforts we are making to improve safety in the workplace. The three areas that received an award were Administration, Clinic and Dental. Our workplace injury rates have dropped drastically from \$3,300 in 2011 to \$2,000 in 2013. Ms. Gloria Whisenhunt asked if we did anything in particular and Mr. Hunter responded we are just being a little more careful, although, we do have safety audits and noted that Ms. Quintana Stewart has been doing a great job with that.

- Mr. Hunter announced that the State Health Director, Ms. Laura Gerald, is resigning her post. Her last week is next week. Mr. Danny Staley is the Acting State Health Director.

- At our last Board meeting we had a presentation from our CDC Public Health Associate. We were just recently awarded two more CDC Public Health associates who have already started. Ms. Lynne Mitchell added that Ms. Larissa Henry will be working under Ms. Carrie Worsley and Ms. Tanisha Bogans will be working under the supervision of Ms. Jennifer Nall. Both associates will work for one year in their assigned areas and then switch. Mr. Hunter commented, we have individuals who come here, they are paid by the Federal Government, and they give us an extra set of hands. It has been a great learning process for them and they have a chance to go back to Atlanta and talk about Forsyth County.

- Before continuing, Mr. Hunter gave his condolences for the passing of Mr. John Davenport's father. He has been working with Mr. Davenport in forming a faith-based coalition. He and Ms. Mitchell will be meeting with an intern, who is at Wake Forest, in the next few weeks to try to determine what that coalition might look like and how we can use that coalition in our community. He has spoken with some ministers in the community and spoke at a men's conference at Union Baptist Church and they have all shown interest and want to be involved. Mr. Hunter added that Forsyth Futures gathers a lot of information and data about health ministries and how we can get the congregations to work with us to improve our health. He told the Board he would keep them posted on our progress.

- Working on the final piece of realignment in the department as he mentioned in a presentation two months ago about how the department is structured. He feels he can now move forward with putting the final piece in place. Our Community Health Services Director (Mr. Bob Whitwam) and our Personal Health Services Director (Ms. Mitchell) are aligned and working together. He noted that he and Mr. Whitwam have also been working closely together to get a few programs in order (Dental, Pharmacy and Lab). The interview process for the Internal Health Services Director will start tomorrow. That individual will be responsible for health department accreditation, safety, public information, budget, finance, information technology, epidemiology, registration and interpretive services. Mr. Hunter added we are trying to streamline our processes and programs.

- He had a meeting with the CEO of Novant, Mr. Jeff Lindsay. They talked about infant mortality rates and Mr. Lindsay is interested in partnering more with us at the health department and would like for the Medical Center to get more engaged with us and that coalition.

- Mr. Hunter spoke about our accreditation process that will be starting later this year and mentioned a few projects coming (Safe Routes to School, Step Up Forsyth and Save Our Babies campaign) that are of interest and would like to request that the Board pass a resolution. He added perhaps they can put an advertisement in the paper for the resolution as we have done in the past. Mr. Hunter will work with Dr. Petrou to send some information out so they can discuss what they would like to do at the next Board meeting. Dr. Calvert Jeffers asked what is the Safe Routes to School and Ms. Mitchell responded it is a statewide program designed to try to get more children to walk to school. Mr. Hunter added this is another initiative in line with the Childhood Obesity Report to get children and adults more active in order to reduce childhood obesity. When Ms. Whisenhunt asked how we will promote this, Mr. Hunter responded one way is through our PH Associates as well as Mr. Tyler Jenkins, who is working on a project through the Community Transformation Grant (CTG), he's working with our region and we also have health educators who work in some of the rural areas. Mr. Seats asked what is the target for this and how much impact can it make. Ms. Mitchell commented it may not have as much impact in Middle Schools but they really try with Elementary Schools to get children physically active. Ms. Whisenhunt added, this county has put millions into building schools – you might want to involve the Board of Education and the Parent/Teacher Association.

- Finally, Mr. Hunter spoke about the increase of pertussis we have in Forsyth County. He asked Ms. Linda Means to update the Board. Ms. Means reported that in 2012 there were only 32 cases of pertussis and in 2013 from January to July there has been 80 -100 cases. Pertussis is very contagious and is spread from person to person by coughing or sneezing while in close contact with others. Ms. Judy Briggs asked what are the symptoms and Ms. Means responded there are cold like symptoms, usually do not have a fever, mild coughing (within 1-2 weeks, the coughing gets worse), may have vomiting and apnea may occur in infants. Babies receive protection through the DTaP vaccine but are not fully protected until they are 15-18 months of age and have had at least four doses. Older children and adults, may have decreased protection through the years and often become infected with pertussis and spread it to vulnerable infants. Ms. Means stressed we want to protect the babies. The vaccine is free to anyone right now whether you have insurance or not, in Clinic 3 here at the department.

New Business:

Theme: Nursing Clinical Services

STD – Ms. Charlotte Haywood gave some highlights about the STD Clinic 2 and the services they provide. Clinical staffing consists of 1 Provider, 1 HIV Counselor, and 6 RNs who are working on any given day. The nurses have certification and can perform everything from history to the exam to treatment. There is 1 provider assigned to work the clinic each day and our lab performs on-site testing. Ms. Haywood spoke about Open Access that started in January, explaining how clients can now call in, starting at 7:30 a.m. to schedule appointments rather than just walking in and having to wait and then being turned away because the schedule was full. She mentioned the use of Electronic Medical Records and how it has made it a lot easier for them to access patient records and update information. Ms. Haywood added, they receive different types of visits in the STD Clinic, including confidential examinations, diagnostic testing and treatment of STD (syphilis, gonorrhea, Chlamydia and others). They also provide HIV testing and counseling. Ms. Haywood stressed that education is key and explained in detail the process once coming into the clinic and also talked about funding. She added, you do not have to be a resident of Forsyth County to visit the clinic. Board members were very engaged in Ms. Haywood's presentation.

Family Planning – Ms. Margaret Speas gave an overview of the Family Planning Clinic (Clinic 1). She started out by saying family planning is the only federally funded grant program dedicated specifically for family planning. The purpose of this clinic is to offer comprehensive family planning and preventive health services. Birth control information, supplies, and services are provided to those wanting and needing them. Low-income families are given priority. Our purpose is to help plan pregnancies, prevent unintended pregnancies, reduce infant mortality, improve health, reduce health care costs, and help build a better future for women, men and children. The clinic consists of 1 Physician Assistant/Nurse Practitioner, 3 Nurses, 1 Health Educator, 2 Interpreters, 1 Registration person and other non-clinical support staff. The clinic offers every approved method of birth control. Services are offered to all women and men of child-bearing age. Being a resident of Forsyth County or North Carolina is not a requirement to visit the Family Planning Clinic.

Community Transformation Grant (CTG) – Dr. Petrou mentioned she attended a CTG presentation in Surry and thought it was a very good presentation and a great grant. About 20 other staff from the health department also attended. Mr. Tyler Jenkins gave the Board a very informative overview about CTG and his experience here at the department. He started out by giving some background about himself and CTG. When CTG started, N.C. received the 4th largest grant, \$7.4 million to be split throughout the state. There are many different models of health education and health promotion. Mr. Jenkins added you can not just focus on the individual on a personal level – you have to address it from a community and ecology level. The program focuses on three main areas: active living, tobacco-free living and healthy eating. Mr. Jenkins went on to give in depth information regarding CTG on a policy level (copy of handout on file in the Administration Binder).

Old Business:

None

Committee Reports:

None

Adjourn:

A request for a motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Petrou. A motion was made by Dr. Ricky Sides and seconded by Mr. Seats. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Marlon B. Hunter
Secretary to the Board
MBH/lgc