

Pima County Board of Health
Community Health Advocacy Committee Meeting
Minutes
August 24, 2011
Room 1106, Abrams Building
3950 S. Country Club Road
Tucson, Arizona 85714

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Dr. Horwitz called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Mr. Schlueter called the roll as follows:

Dr. Brumm
Dr. Fulginiti - on speakerphone
Ms. Gonzales
Dr. Horwitz
Ms. Trowbridge

A quorum was established.

2. MINUTES ADOPTION – BOARD OF HEALTH

Adopt Board of Health Community Health Advocacy Committee June 22, 2011 Minutes.

The motion was made and seconded (Brumm/Gonzales) that the June 22, 2011 Community Health Advocacy Committee Minutes be adopted as written. The motion carried.

3. REPORT FROM MEETING WITH COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR HUCKELBERRY

Dr. Horwitz reported that he and Dr. Brumm met with Mr. Huckelberry, along with Deputy County Administrator for Medical and Health Services Jan Leshner and Health Department Director Sherry Daniels. In the meeting they discussed the County's process for legislative issues; that the County has a lobbyist; and that a list of legislative issues is compiled and then trimmed down to a more manageable list which is then pursued through the lobbyist. The lobbyist keeps track of the issues and would be good at identifying groups for the Board of Health to partner with to support legislative initiatives. Mr. Huckelberry pointed out that the legislature is often more open to hearing from outside groups rather than the County's lobbyist. Dr. Horwitz said Mr. Huckelberry will provide the Committee with information from past legislative processes, what was submitted, how it went, what worked and what did not work. Dr. Horwitz indicated his desire to invite the County's lobbyist to speak at the next regular Board of Health meeting.

4. DEFINE COMMUNITY HEALTH ADVOCACY COMMITTEE PURPOSE

There was general agreement in the value of a collaborative effort with the County. The Committee indicated the intent to use the methods and knowledge learned through the County to make the Board more effective in strategizing for Board of Health initiatives. However, members repeatedly stated that they do not want the County pressing its agenda on the Board. The Committee wants to be able to push for initiatives it deems important. There was also talk about the importance of being connected to other health related entities.

Records and Administrative Services Division Manager Brad McKinney, who attended the meeting as Ms. Daniels' representative, pointed out the importance of looking at health issues that impact the community, not just Health Department related issues. He gave an example of foreign born medical school graduates experiencing delays in being licensed in Arizona, so they are leaving to become doctors in other states exacerbating the primary care provider shortage in rural communities.

5. POSSIBLE HEALTH ADVOCACY INITIATIVES

Although there were no decisions made regarding any specific initiatives, there was discussion on how to establish these specific initiatives. Devoting time to health related legislative updates, statistics and collaborations were suggested as methods to ascertain what issues need attention. Mr. McKinney said Ms. Daniels attends a monthly meeting of the other local public health directors and receives legislative updates at the meeting. Dr. Horwitz then expressed interest in attending the State meeting. It was also suggested to have a legislative update as a regular agenda item so that legislative issues can be discussed as they arise. In relationship to statistics, Mr. McKinney said the Department has been working on the Community Health Assessment, but indicated it probably will not be ready until the October meeting.

Dr. Horwitz said for members to come to the next meeting with a list of ideas for initiatives and there was a request for Ms. Daniels to bring a list of areas where the Health Department is challenged in addressing public health.

6. COMMUNITY HEALTH ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Dr. Horwitz established that the next Committee meeting will be at 2:00 pm prior to the next regular Board of Health meeting on September 28, 2011.

7. CALL TO AUDIENCE

There were no speakers from the audience.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.