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MINUTES

HEALTH COMMISSION

COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 18, 2010, 2:00 p.m.

101 Grove, Room 302, San Francisco, CA 94102

1) **CALL TO ORDER**

Present:

Commissioner Margine Sako, Chair

Commissioner James M. Illig, Member

Commissioner Catherine Waters R.N., Ph.D., Member

Commissioner Sako called the meeting to order at 2:06pm.

2) **APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 20, 2010 COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Action Taken: The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2010 meeting.

3) **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

Susan Fernyak, MD, Director of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention, made the presentation which provided an overview of activities in this DPH Division. The full presentation may be viewed at:

<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/hc/FinlyPlanCommMtgs.asp>

The following are highlights from the discussion of this item:

Pediatric vaccinations are not mandated; parents may sign forms that enable their children to be exempt. This has resulted in some schools having a 40% exemption rate which impacts the ability of the "heard" to provide immunity which have led to recent outbreaks.

The DPH has used GPS systems to map immunization rates and will consider using it for mapping outbreaks as part of public education and prevention efforts.

The DPH anticipates another wave of H1NI but it is not possible to predict when it will happen.

The Department of Emergency Management (DEM) has developed one of the most comprehensive emergency plans in the country and has received a grant to adapt the plan for other entities to use. The DEM has established memoranda of understanding with private vendors (e.g. Walgreens) to assist in insuring adequate supplies of necessary supplies and medicine are available during a crisis.

Various pertinent DPH divisions work together around working with sexually transmitted disease and tuberculosis tracking, prevention, and treatment.

4) HEALTH EQUITY UPDATE

Barbara Garcia gave the presentation which highlighted DPH leaders' efforts to bring equity to areas with health disparities. Ms. Garcia is taking over the oversight of this project from Ginger Smyly, Deputy Director of Community Prevention Programs, who will be retiring.

During the last six months, the DPH has convened an internal group of its leaders to look at health equity and after reviewing data, this group has focused its attention to targeting both the African American Communities and to combat Alcoholism.

Although the DPH does not provide permits to sell alcohol, it works with the DA and Police department to educate alcohol store owners on the health and social economic issues related to alcohol. The DPH may also issue citations to stores if alcohol is not advertised properly.

Approximately forty percent of the clients in CBHS programs and shelters are African Americans. Each DPH unit providing services within these programs will be prioritizing African American health. Ms. Garcia stated that she has asked the African American Community Health Equity Council to review the plans of the DPH group as it develops specific action steps.

Committee Follow-up/Action

The Committee requested an update on this item by December 2010.

5) COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE CALENDAR

POSSIBLE ACTION:

6) EMERGING ISSUES

7) PUBLIC COMMENT

Jacob Moody, Executive Director of Bayview Hunters Point Foundation, commended Ms. Garcia and the DPH for undertaking the Health Equity activities.

8) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:57pm.