

Board of Supervisors Asthma Task Force
Minutes of Meeting held on August 23, 2004
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA

Members In Attendance: Richard Castro, Barbara Conner-Andersen, Kathy Thomas Perry, Veronica Lightfoot, Beth Saiki, Julie McKown, Neil Gendel, Gloria Thornton, Rose Toney, Mary Higgins, Gretchen Skaggs, Marie Hoemke, Carl Rose, and Lucille Valdivia.

Absent Members: Deirdre Epps-Miller, Karen Cohn, Lisa Kroon, MariaElena Alioto, Jim Calonico, Peg Strub, Ann Melamed, Trish Bascom, Louise Kimbell, Aimee Ganz, and Louise Hill.

Guests and Staff: Tirtza Rosenberg, Vince Fabris, Ann Kelsey Lamb and Rachel Buerkle.

(* = pending appointment)

1. Introductions, Agenda Revisions, Approval of Minutes

There were no revisions of the agenda. The July minutes were corrected to read: Page 2, Under CAFA update, paragraph 2, should read California Air Resources Board regulation, paragraph 1 page 3 should state "CARB has published..." The Sub-Committee which has been referred to as Schools/ChildCare should be Schools/Child Development. The May and July minutes were approved as corrected.

2. Introduction of Resolutions

Alternative ATF Meeting Time

Kathy Thomas Perry distributed a survey requesting input for an alternative meeting time for the monthly Asthma Task Force Meetings. She will review the results.

Tools For Schools Resolution

Beth Saiki introduced a resolution from the School/Child Development Committee to the San Francisco Board of Equalization urging the San Francisco School District to institutionalize the Tools For Schools Program. The School District has been implementing the program since 1998. It has been successful, but there has never been a district coordinator for the program.

Marie Hoemke stated that Tools For Schools has been the policy, but has only been implemented in 30 out of 140 schools.

3. American Lung Association Asthma Walk – Task Force Involvement Plan

Kathy Thomas Perry reported that Anjali Nath contacted Supervisor Maxwell regarding Co-Chairing a Team for the Asthma Walk. Kathy will co-chair with her. The idea is that the members of the Task Force will form the team.

Some of the Task Force members are planning to have their own teams.

Another suggestion is to have an information table sponsored by the Task Force.

Marie Hoemke talked about the various speakers, etc. from last year. Kathy said one of the Kaiser Theater's Puppets will be available. She may be able to get them to do a performance after the walk.

Niel Gendel suggested T-shirts. Beth Saiki thought the funds for the T-shirts could come out of CAFA funding if the shirts would be worn on other occasions. It was decided to use the logo from the World Asthma Day Newsletter. Beth stated that Karen was hoping to have a budget to work on another logo, but she doesn't. Beth and Karen have found the Public Media Center. They have expressed an interest in working on a Task Force logo.

Kathy Thomas Perry asked what the Team's Goal could be. It was decided to start with a goal of \$500.

Neil Gendel stated there will be a World Environment Day in 2005 sponsored by the Department of the Environment. He asked if anyone has more information. Rachel Buerke said she will check into it.

Veronica Lighthouse spoke about the death on September 23, 1997 due to asthma. This was a catalyst for the beginning of the Asthma Task Force. Beth Saiki stated Karen Cohn has information that the death was not due to asthma. She will be asked to talk about this at the next meeting.

4.Sub-Committee Reports

Schools/Child Development Committee

Julie McKown distributed copies of the last meeting.

She stated the committee has been holding meetings with various stakeholders. The committee has been receiving a lot of positive support. Niel has been keeping the committee up-to-date on the School Design Guidelines.

Lucille Valdivia stated she would like to be on the Child Development Committee.

Environmental Committee

Niel Gendel reported the committee has been working on recommendations to the Housing Authority such as, Beth added that hopefully Supervisor Maxwell will be arranging a hearing before December.

Clinical Committee

Barbara Conner-Andersen stated that in reviewing the payor surveys the committee has found that surveys say services are provided, but the services are not being done.

A Strategic Planning meeting has been scheduled for September 20, meeting with about 20 people from clinics, Healthy Families, Blue Cross ...

Kathy Thomas Perry announced there will be a Building a Healthier San Francisco breakfast on September 14. There will be a presentation on the data on the health of San Franciscans. Kathy would like to bring asthma to the forefront of everyone's minds. This information will guide the various non profit hospital's funding.

Membership Report

Lucille Valdivia and Niel Gendel were welcomed to the Task Force as official members.

Advocacy Coordinator's Report

In Anjali's absence, Beth Saiki distributed a revised version of the Progress Report. Tirtza will post the report at the Library and will gather public comments for Beth.

Planning Committee

Kathy Thomas Perry read a letter from Anjali regarding her thoughts on forming a Child Care Committee as a subcommittee to the Schools/Child Development Committee. Anjali stated that, based on the information she has gathered, she has not been able to determine whether or not this would be in the capacity of the Task Force. Anjali's suggestion is to convene a meeting to discuss the possibility. Marie Hoemke suggested making this an agenda item at the next Schools/Child Development Committee meeting. It was agreed to set aside 30 minutes at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned (4:00p.m.)

The next meeting will be September 27, 2004 at 2:00.