

ASTHMA TASK FORCE MINUTES

AMMENDED

DATE: DECEMBER 17, 2001

Members Present: Ben Loewy, Chair, Barbara Conner Andersen, Marie Hoemke, Julie McKown, Jennifer Mann, Ann Melamed, Diedra Epps-Miller, Carolyn Noble, Deanna Rossi, Beth Saiki, Peg Strub, Maria Elena Alioto, Mary Higgins, Veronica Lightfoot, Lisa Kroon, Ann Togia.

Non-Voting
Members Present: Joan Hall, Dale Spink, Jean Circiello and Louise Hill, Louise Kimbell

Observers were: May-Ling Dea, Karen Goodson Pierce, Neil Gendel

Members Excused: Rose Toney
Members Absent: Michael Walter Green

The meeting convened at 2:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of November 26, 2001

At 2:15 a quorum was present. The minutes were approved, as amended. Copies of the amended By-Laws were distributed.

Introduction of Kathy Thomas Perry

Deidra Epps Miller introduced Kathy Thomas Perry, from The Kaiser Community Affairs Office, as one of the facilitators who has helped the committee through the intricate political process at City Hall in the development of the legislation. Kathy mentioned that Supervisor Maxwell would like to have a quarterly Asthma Task Force report on the status, attendees, and time line for the Board of Supervisors.

E-mails and mailing addresses to inform the people involved about the Asthma Task Force meetings and subcommittees.

Copies of a list of e-mails and mailing addresses were distributed. Some addresses were corrected and up dated. Some members expressed that they don't want their home addresses in that list.

It was mentioned by one the members that there is a need to reconstruct the list of 94 Asthma Advocate experts, and have it on a disk, so the calendar for the subcommittees meetings can be sent to them. One of the members is putting this list together.

There was a question about the Sunshine Ordinance requirements. Is it legal or not, not to inform everybody on the big list about the Asthma Task Force meetings and subcommittees? It will be asked to the City Attorneys through Dr. Rajiv Bhatia.

California Endowment Grant possibility

Beth Saiki informed the members about the potential funding opportunity for the Asthma Task Force that she found out on December 3rd, 2001. She explained that the California Endowment has sent out a Request for Proposal to Asthma Coalitions throughout the State, for funding up to 12 Asthma Coalitions throughout California with \$450,000 over a period of 3 years. Their focus is to reduce environmental risk factors that school age children are exposed to. It will fund communities to work on a planning process for up to 1 year for the sum of \$150,000 and will also fund a 2 years implementation of policies and strategies that emerge from that planning process with the remainder of the funds, (\$300,000). There may be opportunities in the future to reach adults and young children.

After getting ideas and feed back from other people on the task force and through some of the committees, Beth was able to put together the proposal that was due on December 11, 2001. She distributed among the members a copy of the proposal that she submitted. This proposal contains a description and a budget concerning the first year of planning. She also mentioned that any planning activities that focus specifically on adults and young children will be covered by the \$25,000 that The American Lung Association brought in.

One of the members moved to approve the content of this grant proposal.
7 approved, 5 disapproved and 1 abstained.

Since not everybody has read this proposal, Beth proposed to form a subcommittee with the people that would like to review and comment on the content of the proposal. She will get in touch with all the Task Force members to arrange a meeting

Strategic Plan:

- a) Strategic planner
- b) Timeline change.

It was not discussed at this meeting.

The Report of the Subcommittees is as follows:

A. CLINICAL

Management / Treatment

They meet on the 4th Monday, at 1:00pm, on the 1st floor in the north court of City Hall. They talked about education, seminars and guidelines for professionals such as MD's, practitioners, RN's, respiratory therapists, pharmacists, and also a potential of making this a requirement for license renewals. They would like to mandate 1 to 2 hours of Asthma Education for the annual renewal, that could be waived by filling out an "Answering / Question" to the information that they approve to be sent out.

Resources:

They decided that it should be a resource list that includes asthma educational classes in different languages for all patients admitted at the hospital. They also want to mandate that hospitals must give asthma educational packages in different languages, (Spanish, Chinese and English).

Access to care:

They were informed that any patient could be seen at SFGH. Patients are billed but no collector is sent after them. There is also a new program called Healthy Kids Program and will launch in January 2002. This program will cover up to 19-year-old kids. The family may make no more than \$53,000 a year per family of four, regardless of immigration status.

B- ENVIRONMENT**Home/Wk place/Outdoor**

2nd Mondays from 3:00 to 5:00 pm

4th Mondays from 12:30 to 2:00pm

Next meeting is on Monday 01/14/02 at 3-5pm at Fox Plaza Rm. #230.

Environments were discussed. They talked about residences, work places and for each of those sites there are education, maintenance and structure issues.

C- SCHOOLS

Next meeting December 17th at City Hall Rm. #278, at 4-5p.m.

They will gather and review information, organize level of public awareness of asthma as a serious public health issue, and develop policies and procedures that impact asthma and its management. They also talked about staff development assistance to ensure that policies are enforced. Their goals and objectives are to reach out to the public. They will be working with the Department of Public Health with a long list of people they need to contact, such as school districts, Board of Supervisors, and organizations that have collaborated with the Task Force in the past with the purpose of identifying model policies that others use.

D- COMMUNITY**They met at 101 Grove St. (a new location to be decided).**

They only had 4 members present. With information that they gathered, they talked about looking at communities at risk, and community's characteristics.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15pm. The next meeting of the Asthma Task Force will be held on Monday, January 28, 2002, from 2:00pm. to 4:00pm. at City Hall, Rm. , #278.

