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MINUTES

HEALTH COMMISSION

COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 19, 2010, 2:00 p.m.

101 Grove, Room 220, 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

2) APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2010 COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Committee unanimously approved the minutes of the September 21, 2010 Community and Public Health Committee meeting.

3) FOOD INSPECTION RESOLUTION

Commissioner James M. Illig introduced the resolution and stated that it contains a summary of the issues discussed at the last Community and Public Health Committee meeting.

Action: The Committee unanimously approved the resolution (Attachment A) to be introduced to the full Commission at the 10/19/10 full Health Commission meeting.

4) UPDATE ON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN SAN FRANCISCO

John Brown M.D., Medical Director of the SF EMS Agency gave the presentation. Karl Sporer M.D., Medical Director of the SFFD, and Patrick Gardner, Fire Department Deputy Chief of Operations) were also available to answer questions.

The following are highlights of the discussion of this item:

- EMS conducted a site visit of Bayshore Ambulance in April and put it on a corrective action plan. EMS is scheduled to conduct a site visit of SFGH on November 2nd.

- EMS is expected to report back to the Committee in February, 2011 to get feedback on RFP applicants.
- Although ambulance time goals are being met, the first response time goals are not always met.
- EMS dispatch currently has no control over which ambulance services are available; it is attempting to work on a plan that would create a more stable resource pattern.
- EMS is considering a transition to a different dispatch system which would reduce response times by 1.5 minutes.
- Currently there is no standardized method of communicating when a hospital has a primary service (e.g. CT scans) unavailable; this directly impacts the effectiveness of how patients are routed to various hospitals.
- The rate of survival for San Francisco's EMS cardiac arrest patients is 9%. Seventy percent of cardiac arrests in San Francisco occur in private homes.
- Dr. Sporer monitors staff performance through review of patient chart data. All quality assurance data is forwarded to Dr. Brown's office. If a staff member is not successful in successfully implementing a medical procedure, the case is reviewed and the staff member will either be retrained or have a corrective action plan.
- The number of hours EMS paramedics and medics can work per shift has remained unchanged. Currently staff are able to work 24 shifts and to continue to trade shifts so they work additional consecutive hours. EMS does review how shift length may impact quality as it pertains to individual staff members. To assist with this process, one out of every ten EMS calls gets a thorough performance review by a quality team.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-UP

Commissioner Sako requested a report on first responder data and to keep the Committee updated on issues related to staff fatigue.

EMS asked for assistance from the Committee to assist in pushing requisitions through the City system for EMS staff positions promoting defibrillator use.

5) DPH BED BUG PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

Johnson Ojo, Ph.D Principal Environmental Health Inspector gave the report.

The following are highlights of the discussion of this issue:

Dr. Johnson has worked with groups in the mental health and aging communities on the issues of hoarding and cluttering.

The Board of Supervisors will discuss a suggested change to the nuisance ordinance in the next two weeks. The changes will broaden the categories of pests in the language of the ordinance and stipulates administrative penalties before legal action is taken by the City.

The Committee acknowledged that the DPH Environmental Division's rules and procedures for dealing with bedbugs encourages non-toxic methods as a preferred route.

6) **COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE CALENDAR**

7) **EMERGING ISSUES**

8) **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Richard May asked if bed bugs migrate in all directions and if inspectors inspect adjoining rooms/apartments when bed bugs are found in one room. Dr. Ojo stated that building owners may hire pest companies to inspect adjacent rooms because bed bugs can migrate in all directions. The DPH does not control what treatments the pest companies use.

9) **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:53pm.

HEALTH COMMISSION
City and County of San Francisco
Resolution No. 13-10

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF STRENGTHENING DPH FOOD INSPECTION ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, DPH Environmental Health permits approximately 6,800 food establishments in San Francisco; and,

WHEREAS, Environmental Health currently has specific positions to conduct inspections of these establishments; and,

WHEREAS, the Environmental Health goal is to conduct two annual routine inspections for every food establishment that prepares food and one annual inspection for other food establishments; it will also conduct inspections as a response to complaints from members of the public; and

WHEREAS, due to staff vacancies, Environmental Health has not been able to reach its goal of conducting two annual routine inspections for every food establishment; and,

WHEREAS, in addition to inspections, the Environmental Health staff provide education and training to food establishment staff and work closely with food establishment operators to ensure that violations are abated properly; and;

WHEREAS, food establishment operators must post the full food inspection report at a location easily visible to patrons but are not currently required to post the inspection score in a public location;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Health Commission urges the Department to fill all vacant food inspector positions as soon as possible; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Health Commission requests bi-annual reports on the Department's success in meeting the mandated minimum number of two formal inspections per year for all establishments that prepare food; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Health Commission requests that DPH report on the actual costs of food inspections and whether the current fee structure is adequate to cover those costs; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Health Commission urges the Department to improve the food safety section of the website to facilitate searching for food establishments by name and neighborhood, and include the current inspection reports and scores for all food establishments.