

*Minutes*

Edina Community Health Committee  
September 18, 2007, 6:30 – 8:30 pm  
Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall

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Members Present: Bill Alldredge, Jan Johnson, Mark Johnson, Mary Jo Kingston, Idelle Longman, Tolu Oyelowo

Members Absent: Brad Montgomery, Student Marshall Everson

Guests: None

Staff Present: Sherry Engelman

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**WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Mark Johnson welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Agenda item III. was moved to the end of the agenda and discussion for a column in the Sun Current was tabled until the November meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from May 15, 2007 meeting were unanimously approved following a motion from Member Kingston and second from Member M. Johnson.

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

Liaison Engelman reported that Bloomington Public Health is planning a joint community health assessment for Bloomington, Edina and Richfield. Minnesota Department of Health requires that community health assessments be completed once every 5 years. Two meetings in spring 2008 are being planned for the assessment process, giving members of the three advisory health boards an opportunity to share and compare health information, and develop priority health concerns in each community.

Liaison Engelman also reported that Dianne Mandernach, Commissioner of Health, resigned her position as Commissioner. A candidate search will be conducted to refill the position.

**HEALTH STAFF REPORTS**

Liaison Engelman reported that she, Member J. Johnson, and Bloomington Public Health Nutritionist Joan Bulfer recently met with Sodexo Food Service at the Edina High School to review the types of foods being served to students. Director of Food Service Mary Lombardi gave a tour of the cafeteria and explained the nutrition program.

Liaison Engelman reported that Jeff Brown was recently hired by the City of Edina Health Department as an environmental health specialist, responsible for food beverage and lodging inspections. Mr. Brown replaced Elliott Marston who retired in May.

The Edina School District hired Betty Elliott as the Health Services Coordinator. Ms. Elliott replaced Berit Peterson who retired in June.

Sodexo, the food service for the Edina schools, recently hired Mary Lombardi as Director of Nutrition and Food Service. Ms. Lombardi replaced Mark Streamer.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None presented.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Member J. Johnson reported on the plans for the 2007 Senior Health and Resource Expo. The expo will be held on October 9, 8:30-12pm at Colonial Church. Member Longman mentioned

opportunities to hear discussions on mental health issues, September 18 at Our Lady of Grace Church and September 25 at Bloomington Public Health.

### **2007 COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**

Members discussed the joint meeting planned for October 11 with Bloomington, Edina and Richfield. The meeting will be held from 6:00-6:45pm, prior to the childhood obesity town forum. This joint meeting will give members of the three advisory boards an opportunity to get acquainted and share ideas and accomplishments of their committee work. Bloomington Public Health will lead the discussion.

Details for final planning on the childhood obesity town forum on October 11, 2007 were discussed. The Edina Council Chambers has been reserved for the event. Richfield and Edina advisory committees will sponsor the event, which will target decision makers/policy makers. Chair Johnson will introduce the speakers and Members Oyelowo and Alldredge will moderate the question/answer session. The committee decided to send an invitation to Governor Pawlenty to attend the program in support of his initiative to reduce childhood obesity. Liaison Engelman will send a formal request to Governor Pawlenty's office. Response from the Governor's office will be communicated to committee members via email in event that the Governor is able to attend. Edina police will also be informed. Member J. Johnson will provide question cards for the audience. The forum subcommittee consisting of Member J. Johnson, Member Oyelowo, Liaison Engelman, and J. Turrentine from Richfield advisory committee, met several times to review possible speakers and potential educational handout materials. They reported that Joan Bulfer, Bloomington Public Health Nutritionist, and Seth Bixby Daugherty, Chef, agreed to speak at the forum. Member Oyelowo and J. Turrentine will prepare copies of handout materials. Liaison Engelman will 1) determine speakers needs for their presentations, 2) ask Mayor Hovland along with Richfield mayor to welcome forum guests, 3) complete the final invitation on City of Edina letterhead, obtain chair signatures, and mail the invitations, 4) prepare nametags for Bloomington, Edina and Richfield advisory committee members, 5) arrange for an announcement regarding the forum in the Sun Current and on the message board in front of City Hall, 6) arrange for filming of the town forum, 7) arrange replay of the video on Cable Channel 16 and 8) schedule the Community Room for the joint meeting with Richfield and Bloomington. A mailing list was developed last year for the Commissioner of Health forum and will be used again.

The committee drafted the following possible questions for the speakers:

- Are existing programs effective and do they accomplish the goal of reducing childhood obesity?
- Are students participating in existing programs and what feedback regarding the programs has been received from parents?
- How do we make eating affordable, healthy and convenient?
- What else should we as decision makers do to address childhood obesity?
- What resources are available to lower and middle income families regarding healthy eating and nutrition?

Chair Johnson thanked members for their commitment and valuable work planning the forum. Members agreed to send a special thank you note to Jennifer Turrentine for her help and assistance in planning the forum.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Member Kingston and seconded by Member Longman to adjourn. Vote to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

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Sherry Engelman

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2007 Meeting Dates: March 13 May 15 September 18 November 20