

MINUTES

Edina Community Health Committee
March 17, 2009, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Mayor's Conference Room, Edina City Hall

Members Present: Bill Alldredge, Mark Johnson, Idelle Longman, Jan Johnson, Student Dolan Lee

Members Absent: Mary Jo Kingston, Tolu Oyelowo

Guests: None

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mark Johnson welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the October 21, 2008 meeting were unanimously approved following a correction to attendance record by a motion from Member Longman and second from Member J. Johnson.

ELECTIONS

Because two voting members were absent and one membership position vacant, committee members decided to delay the election until the May 19 meeting. The Committee is hopeful to have full attendance by that time. Member M. Johnson agreed to continue his role as Chair until elections are held May 19.

2009 COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

2009 Senior Expo Survey

Following discussion, the committee decided against conducting a survey at the upcoming Senior Expo. Instead, committee members are encouraged to attend the event to visit informally with seniors and hear about their ideas and concerns for unmet needs in the community. Member B. Alldredge offered to take the lead; all members are encouraged to attend to help. Information collected will be shared at the May 19 committee meeting. Liaison Engelman will email the Senior Expo poster to members along with a reminder to attend.

Articles For Sun Current/About Town – Mental Health

Member M. Johnson provided information on mental health care facilities. Community behavioral health centers/hospitals which are currently regionally located, replaced the previous regional treatment centers. Behavioral health centers are state operated and funded and now due to lack of funding, these centers are closing. Given increases in mental health issues, what facilities will be available for individuals in need of mental health care? There appears to be a major gap in the health services system. Because of Member M. Johnson's comments, the committee reinforced their intent to provide mental health education and awareness to the public. Liaison Engelman will contact Member Kingston to determine if articles are available for publishing in the Sun Current and About Town. If none are available, Member M. Johnson offered to draft the articles. The articles would then be reviewed by the City of Edina Communications Department before submission to the Sun Current and About Town.

Community Assessment Health Priorities 1-3

1. Aging and disabled population managing chronic illness while living independently in the community
2. Adults and youth experiencing suicide, depression, anxiety and other mental illness
3. Inadequate exercise and poor nutrition

During a brief discussion, the Committee agreed that priorities 1-3 would be addressed by informally collecting information at the upcoming Senior Expo. Priorities 4-10 will be discussed during future meetings to determine what programs/organizations already address the issues.

SCHSAC COMMUNITY HEALTH CONFERENCE REPORT

Member Longman completed her review of the SCHSAC Conference which she attended in October, 2008. Part of the review was presented at the October 21, 2009 committee meeting. The conference theme was “Fostering Hope and Facilitating Change: Public Health in the 21st Century. She emphasized information presented by Health Partners regarding “closing the Gap” and also “Humility, Happiness, and Humor” presented by the University of Minnesota with regard to lifestyle changes.

HEALTH STAFF REPORTS

Board & Commission attendance requirements were reviewed.

The Statewide Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) Grant was discussed. The program was developed in response to a 2007 legislature request to develop a statewide health promotion plan which would address rising cost of health care. It would help Minnesotans live longer, better, healthier lives by reducing the burden of chronic disease. Policy, systems and environmental changes in schools, worksites, health care and community will be addressed. Bloomington Public Health will submit an application for this grant on behalf of Bloomington, Edina and Richfield. The two focus areas are tobacco use and obesity.

Community Health Services and also the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Contracts were recently renewed with Bloomington Public Health. Emergency preparedness efforts will develop written agreements with healthcare agencies for alternative methods of mass dispensing of medications. This additional dispensing method will reduce the number of people going to public mass dispensing sites and help get medications distributed more quickly.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None presented.

OTHER BUSINESS

Senior Expo

Member J. Johnson gave an update from the Senior Expo Committee. The event is scheduled April 28, 8:30-Noon at Colonial Church. The event theme is “Lifestyles for a Healthy Brain” and the keynote speaker is Elizabeth Craig. Sponsors for the event are Fairview Crosstown Clinic, Senior Helpers, Gentle Transitions and Home Instead. There will be educational sessions and over 60 exhibits. The event is free and open to the public.

Member J. Johnson also presented information on the Edina Public School adult education initiative and the “Second Half of Life” and a possible course sponsored by Normandale Church regarding “Eat Better Move More”. The Edina Library also sponsors health seminars.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Sherry Engelman

Next Meeting: May 19, 2009

2008 Meeting Dates: March 24 May 20 September 16 October 21