

**Board of Health
Tuesday, December 1, 2015
Penn Room**

Members Attending: B. Hospidor, J. Dethoff, J. Seidel, J. Wong, K. Schorn
Others Attending: S. Katzenmoyer, T. Coleman, A. Singh

Dr. Dethoff called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

A quorum was present.

Public Comment

There were no members of the public present.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Dr. Wong, seconded by Ms. Schorn, to approve the October 6, 2015 minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Health Officer Report

Mr. Singh presented the monthly report.

Dr. Wong questioned if all employees receive flu shots. Ms. Katzenmoyer explained that they are provided to employees free of charge. Mr. Singh stated that employees who were not available on the day the flu shots were given can go to CVS and receive their shot free of charge.

Dr. Dethoff questioned the effectiveness of the tattoo regulations. Mr. Singh stated that Mr. Arentz would be better suited to discuss the tattoo regulations. He stated that some unlicensed tattoo parlors were shut down.

Berks Teens Matter

Dr. Dethoff requested an update on the teen pregnancy project. Mr. Coleman stated that he and Ms. Katzenmoyer have been attending the Co-County Wellness Berks Teens Matter meetings addressing reducing teen pregnancy in Reading and Berks County. He noted the group's hope to reduce first time teen pregnancies. He stated that much discussion centered on educating health providers about birth control options. He stated that the data is staggering. Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that teen pregnancy costs PA approximately \$352 million annually.

Ms. Schorn questioned the target age of girls for intervention. Mr. Coleman stated that it would be approximately 12 years old. He stated that the group hopes that the issue can be addressed in schools and community groups.

Dr. Dethoff questioned the funding source. Mr. Coleman stated that a State grant was received for the set up and organizational work. Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that the group includes representatives from Planned Parenthood and the Co-County Wellness Center. She explained that these groups receive funding and are working to target specific projects.

Dr. Dethoff questioned any pushback received. Mr. Coleman stated that none has been shared with the group to date. He stated that this is an expansive network. Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that as group members are sharing their vision with community groups and churches, some church leaders have stated that their church doctrine does not allow the teaching of birth control but that they can address other issues such as abstinence and healthy relationships.

Dr. Dethoff questioned how the Board of Health could assist. Mr. Coleman stated that it is unknown at this time but that he and Ms. Katzenmoyer will continue attending meetings. He stated that meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 9 am at the Berks County Intermediate Unit building.

Dr. Wong questioned how the group would pay for and distribute birth control, specifically the procedure required for long acting reversible contraceptives. Mr. Coleman stated that this is currently being researched by the group.

There was discussion about the need to educate youth on other related issues such as self-esteem, healthy relationships and the roles and responsibilities of both boys and girls in pregnancies.

2016 Meeting Schedule

The Board determined that they would meet every other month beginning in February 2016 and would continue on the first Tuesday of the month at 4 pm.

Ms. Katzenmoyer will distribute the 2016 meeting schedule.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 2 at 4 pm in the Penn Room.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Shelly Katzenmoyer
Deputy City Clerk*