

BOARD OF HEALTH COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
June 28, 2022, 6:00 pm
Conducted Remotely

Commissioners Present: Noel Chavez (Chair), Judy Carter, Suzanne Feeney, Abigail Silva
Commissioners Excused: Jennifer Fritz, Susan Buchanan (Trustee Liaison)
Staff Liaisons Present: Sara Semelka, Cindy Hansen

Call to order. Chair Chavez called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

Agenda approval. Commissioner Feeney made a motion, Commissioner Silva seconded. All commissioners present voted in favor.

Minutes approval. Commissioner Feeney made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Silva seconded. All commissioners present voted in favor. Commissioner Silva made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Carter seconded. All commissioners present voted in favor.

Public comment. No public comments were submitted for this meeting.

Old Business:

IPLAN planning. Ms. Semelka reported that we are using the MAPP process for the IPLAN and the first part is to complete four community assessments. The community themes and strengths assessment involves the survey and interviews. The community health status uses data. For the local public health system assessment, we met at the Library to assess how our local systems are delivering the 10 Essential Health Public Health Services. Our consultant, Leading Healthy Futures, is aggregating the results of these assessments which will be shared at an upcoming meeting.

We also did a forces of change assessment to look at what are things outside of the public health system, like changing demographics, elections, natural disasters, that can impact how and whether we deliver the public health services. We weighed in on opportunities and threats for 13 themes.

All of the assessments are either complete or will be wrapped up in the coming weeks. The next opportunity for engagement is a meeting on Tuesday, July 19 from 1-4 pm at the Library. Stakeholders will hear initial findings from the four assessments and do activities to help determine our community's priorities that will be the core of the IPLAN. In August we'll have shorter Zoom meetings to narrow down and get goals and strategies under each of those larger issues.

Commissioner Feeney wondered how we can entice more people to attend the next meeting. Ms. Semelka responded that we can entice people by giving voice to a specific public health issue. People can talk about who they are and who they represent to help elevate needs of specific populations. If people cannot attend, they can email health@oak-park.us.

Chair Chavez asked if the data that was shared at the last IPLAN meeting can be shared with the commission. Ms. Semelka responded that we will have initial recommendations for Village leadership at the end of August. We will write the formal IPLAN in September and submit it to IDPH at

the beginning of October. Ms. Semelka will ask the consultants if any of the draft presentations can be shared with the commission at this time confidentially.

Staffing update. Ms. Semelka reported that our emergency preparedness and response coordinator is moving onto another position and we will begin recruiting next week. This position runs our clinics and coordinates emergency resources with fire, police, and first responders and they train and maintain our volunteer corps. A master's degree is not a requirement. We will share the job posting with the commission. Chair Chavez suggested sending it to career services at UIC's School of Public Health. Commissioner Silva shared contact info for Cynthia Stewart at Loyola University's Parkinson School of Health Sciences and Public Health.

Open positions on the Board of Health Commission. Chair Chavez will write to Clerk Waters for a status update on our two vacancies and she will report back to the commission.

Report on *A Day in our Village*. Ms. Semelka reported that *A Day in our Village* was on Sunday, June 5 in Scoville Park. The Health Department had a booth with the goal of sharing all that we do besides COVID-19. We had a prize wheel and we gave away branded water bottles, stickers, bug spray, gardening gloves. We raffled off a farmers' market basket. The mobile response van tested attendees and offered vaccines, blood pressure checks, and general health screenings.

New Business:

COVID-19 vaccinations and testing. Ms. Semelka reported that we have a COVID-19 vaccination clinic at Cheney mansion every Tuesday from 4-7 pm through September. These clinics are focused on vaccinating children ages six months to four years and require pre-registration. We are working with CERT and MRC to get volunteers. If commissioners have experience with this age group or know anyone who can do vaccinations or provide general assistance, please let us know.

Chair Chavez asked about case counts in Oak Park. Ms. Semelka responded that for the week ending June 23, we were in yellow with 125 cases, which is down 57 cases from the previous week.

The mobile response van offers PCR and rapid testing at locations throughout the summer, including the Farmers' Market on Saturdays from 8-11 am, the main firehouse on Wednesdays from 10-12 noon, and at Thursday Night Out from about 5-7 pm. No appointments are needed.

Rescheduling the July meeting. Ms. Semelka will be out of town Tuesday, July 26 when the next meeting is scheduled. Commissioners said they are available Thursday, July 21 at 6:00 pm.

Adjourn. Commissioner Feeney made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Silva seconded. Chair Chavez adjourned the meeting at 6:42 pm.