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State Board of Health

September 10, 2020

11:00AM

Minutes

Call in # 312-535-8110

Code: 133 185 2069

Locations

WebEx Video Conference Service

Join by phone: 312-535-8110 or 415-655-0002

Meeting number (access code): 133 185 2069

Meeting password: CJuzBzmD246

Join by video:

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=m0beb2c6f1aec5992af935b3a889c3e7>

Minutes

1. Call to Order—11:02am
 - a. Present by audio/video: Damon Arnold, Patricia Canessa, Rashmi Chugh, Pilar Guerrero, Jack Herrmann, Nathan Hoffman, Joe O'Connor, Karen Phelan, Janice Phillips, Esther Sciammarella, Melissa Storck, Susan Swider, Sameer Vohra
 - b. Absent: Julie Pryde
 - c. IDPH staff present: Gail DeVito, Allison Nickrent, Amaal Tokars, Raj
 - d. Guests present: Vicki Sommerdyke, Chris Wade
2. Public Comment
 - a. Vicki Sommerdyke: Parent of 3 children in Wheaton. In August, Wheaton had been prepared to return to school on a hybrid model, would like the Department to amend school guidance to be in keeping with other sectors' guidance. For example, when the guidance changed from 15 minutes of continuous contact over a 24 hour period to 15 minutes of contact over a 24 hour period, it causes many more students to have to quarantine if there is a symptom. Mental health and education are currently on the back burner, children need to be back to school safely.
 - b. Assistant Director Amaal Tokars contacted Ms. Sommerdyke to discuss her concerns.
3. New Business
 - a. Said goodbye to David and Vince; new members: Pilar, Nathan, Joe
 - b. Intro of new Assistant Director—Amaal Tokars
 - c. SHIP Survey Update and discussion by board members—Amaal Tokars
 - i. Travel Advisory
 1. Guidance can be found: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/travel>
 - ii. County Level Metrics

1. Show a map of Illinois, county with metrics that indicate orange if certain metrics are high
2. Amaal will share link with Allison
 - a. <http://dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics>
- iii. Regional Resurgence
 1. 11 EMS regions—if those cumulatively produce data that puts the regions at risk, there are mitigation measures are put in place
 2. Region 4 and Region 7 are under mitigation measures
 - a. Bars closed for indoor service, large events are reduced to smaller sizes
 - b. Necessary to slow the spread
 3. Quarterly liaison meeting with public health association leadership
 - a. Spoke about county metrics and regional resurgence
 4. Amaal will share link with Allison
 - a. <https://dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics>
- iv. Adaptive pause document for LHDs
 1. Public health has a rule in consultation with the school districts, helps decide if they should pivot to remote learning
- v. SHIP
 1. Run by UIC, with input by Karen representing the board
- vi. Health Assessment process
 1. Looking outward with partners in the community
 2. Guided by accreditation national standards
 3. Sectors of aging, hospital, voluntary, medical associations
 4. As well as local health departments
- vii. Cultural and racial equity
 1. Want cultural and racial equity to be front of mind in all that the Department does
 2. IDPH is improving testing and outreach to be more involved in communities
- viii. Mental health
 1. Pandemic has brought isolation and pressures on people who have lost their job, separated from family, being asked to interact with people in different ways
 2. Working with religious groups
- d. Vaping Update—Gail Devito, Tobacco Control Program Manager
 - i. Vaping was very high profile, has subsided in focus
 - ii. We are operating under a new CDC cooperative agreement
 - iii. Working on youth prevention for tobacco, e-cigs, emerging tobacco products
 - iv. Looking at policy level interventions and changes
 - v. CDC strategy includes:
 1. Implementing Tobacco 21 law for tobacco and e-cigs
 - a. Enforcement and compliance is spotty, particularly in minority and low-income neighborhoods
 - b. IDPH does not have enforcement authority with retailers, but DHS does, we work closely with them

- c. Since inception, worked with DHS for signage and messaging for tobacco retailers regarding awareness and compliance
 - 2. Educate on benefits of evidence-based strategies
 - 3. Educating on benefits of policy for lobbying—ensure all activities are health promotion, education, not lobbying
 - 4. Adding e-cig to smoke-free laws
 - a. We have 12-15 municipal ordinances prohibiting e-cigs in smoke free Illinois
 - b. Currently no statewide law
 - 5. Reducing access to menthol and flavored tobacco is considered one of major ways to reduce e-cig use
- vi. Fund LHDs with state money
 - 1. 56 LHDs receive IL Tobacco-free communities grant, they decide how they will use it for tobacco control strategies based on what they are allowed to work on
 - 2. FY21: such a great demand for tobacco prevention and cessation, the LHD will be able to use their IL tobacco-free communities grant to work with school districts for education in schools
- vii. New resource for e-cig cessation
 - 1. Illinois Tobacco Quitline run by IL Lung Association under our funding
 - 2. Additional training specific to e-cig users
 - 3. In 2019, expanded age range to include 13-17 year olds
 - a. Will work to promote youth resources better
 - 4. Expanding text messaging support
- viii. Tobacco disparities mini-grants can be sent to those with a disproportionate communities of use
 - 1. Will help with communities with not a lot of state-wide data
- ix. Questions
 - 1. Is there any effort in looking into demographic data?
 - a. Yes, there is continuing messaging for minority and other populations
 - b. During COVID, social media focuses on COVID impact and tobacco
 - 2. Comment:
 - a. Menthol has to be included in any policy for tobacco and e-cig policies
 - 3. Can we tax it?
 - a. Current cigarette tax in IL is \$2.95/pack
 - b. There is a tax that is not particularly high at the moment
 - c. Municipalities can enact additional and stricter licensing and retailer fees
 - 4. Is there a push to have locals advertise the bad of vaping?
 - a. Yes, through their grant
 - b. Disseminating through local health departments, also talking about comorbidities of COVID-19
 - 5. Support at state level for LHDs to help curb vaping is appreciated
 - 6. Add these issues to policy committee
- e. Medical Cannabis Update—Allison Nickrent

- i. 1/2020 – Licensed dispensaries began selling Adult Use (Recreational) cannabis.
 - ii. During 2019, IDPH Medical Cannabis Division approved an average of 3,795 patient applications per month. During the first eight months of 2020, an average of 4,264 applications per month were approved. (an increase of 469/month)
 - iii. The increase in Medical Cannabis applications was partially attributed to the addition of new conditions in August of 2019, most notably “chronic pain”, to the list of qualifying conditions for the program.
 - iv. Medical Cannabis 2020 retail sales as of 8/31/2020 -- \$235,765,662.76
 - v. Medical Cannabis 2019 retail sales for the same months -- \$149,896,179.44
 - vi. As of 8/31/2020, there are 107,511 active patients and 14,467 active caregivers in the Medical Cannabis Patient Program.
 - f. Election of New Rules Committee Chair—Karen Phelan
 - i. Karen will fill in as the Rules Chair until a decision is made at a later point
- 4. Unfinished Business
 - a. Review of SBOH minutes—Karen Phelan
 - i. Correction for June meeting—policy asked for two hour meeting 1-3pm
 - ii. All approved
 - b. Review of Policy Subcommittee minutes and activity—Dr. Damon Arnold, Policy Subcommittee Chair
 - i. All approved
 - ii. Melissa wants to be added to policy
- 5. Review of Administrative Rules—Allison Nickrent
 - a. n/a
- 6. Updates from members
 - a. Jack Herrmann
 - i. Why are there so few rules to look at over the last nine months?
 - 1. JCAR has been focusing on emergency rules during the COVID response
 - b. Damon Arnold
 - i. Mass vaccination team within IDPH is working towards how to distribute vaccines widely
 - ii. There will be a great need for collaboration in early Spring
 - iii. Allison can keep board up to speed with how SBOH can be of assistance, can there be an update on coordination between the City of Chicago and State of Illinois?
 - c. Patricia Canessa
 - i. Concerned about safety net hospitals closing
 - ii. Example: Mercy in Chicago provides service for Chinese community
 - iii. Damon notes that many stakeholders are involved in this conversation
 - d. Rashmi Chugh
 - i. DuPage County Health Department is working on testing and PPE. Working on equity and school messaging.
 - e. Pilar Guerrero—n/a
 - f. Nathan Hoffman—n/a
 - g. Joe O’Connor
 - i. Is there a number of people who have been tested, not only tests completed?

- h. Karen Phelan
 - i. Please spread the word about the Census.
 - i. Janice Phillips—n/a
 - j. Esther Sciammarella—n/a
 - k. Melissa Storck—n/a
 - l. Susan Swider—n/a
 - m. Sameer Vohra
 - i. SIU, UIC School of Public Health and Paul Simon Policy Institute is going to have focus groups with rural and small city providers. Info will be sent out.
 - ii. Hope is to get conversations started with officials and academics to understand how COVID-19 has affected issues.
7. Upcoming meetings:
- a. **State Board of Health - 11:00 - 1:00 PM**
 - i. Thursday, December 3, 2020
 - b. **State Board of Health - Policy – 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**
 - i. Thursday, November 12, 2020
 - c. **State Board of Health – Rules – 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM**
 - i. Thursday, November 12, 2020
8. Adjournment—1:15pm