

HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: HEALTH COMMITTEE
DATE: MAY 5, 2021
TIME: 4:30 P.M.
PLACE: FOREST COUNTY BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER

Black called the meeting to order at 4:30pm and read the agenda.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Lynne Black, Tina Anderson, Rebecca Perry, Cheri Collins, Candy Dailey, Cindy Gretzinger

Others present: Holli Denton

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Collins to approve agenda, second by Anderson. All present voting (AYE).

Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 7TH, 2021 MEETING

Motion by Anderson to approve minutes from April 7th meeting, second by Dailey. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

FOREST COUNTY COALITION OVERVIEW:

Michelle Gobert, from UW Extension Positive Youth Development gave an excellent overview on Forest County Coalitions and how they affect committees within the county. She discussed concerns over duplication of coalition work within the county, and briefly described each coalition within Forest County, they are: CCFC (Community Coalition of Forest County), CAN! (Forest County Coalition of Activity and Nutrition), Forest County Partnership, Forest County Economic Development Coalition. She talked about current concerns with students verbalizing suicidal ideation at school, and how the “system” is broken. There is a need for an “across the board” response when a person is in crisis and help is requested. She explained the importance of having all partners at the table to address the problem, including: Sherriff Department, Dispatch, Social Services, Health Department, Schools, and County Board members. She described current efforts of having coalition members trained in QPR-which stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer. This is a training for people to be “gatekeepers” to help persons that are in crisis by referring them to get proper help. She explained frustration with the current process and how important it is to fix it. Dailey suggested a laminated step by step process for all departments to have on hand should a person call for help. This was agreed on by all present. Gobert shared the most up to date data on the “Youth Count” survey with all present in the form of a booklet. This information will also be posted on the UW Extension Web page.

WI WINS TOBACCO REPORT:

Denton shared the 2019 WI WINS report with the BOH. She explained that due to COVID-19 compliance checks were not completed in 2020. She explained ongoing prevention efforts are being worked on with the Northwoods Tobacco Free Coalition.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – COVID-19 UPDATES:

Denton shared current Forest County COVID Disease Activity level being high and current Burden of 65.3 being moderately high. Total cases in Forest County as of 4/30/21 is 959. Denton shared 37.7% (or 3,393) of Forest County residents have received at least one dose and 33.4% (or 3,004) have received both doses. 75.7% of residents 65 and older have received one dose and 72.3% have received both doses.

Denton shared they have received new EUA on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine and are making plans for distributing it at the upcoming clinics in the community. She shared that they will be giving 10 doses of J&J on the upcoming clinic on May 7th, and are hosting a “walk-up” clinic on Wednesday, May 12. Denton discussed the fact that demand for vaccination has slowed way down and that the health department is considering ending the community mass clinic and accepting appointments at the health department. Denton explained that vaccinating children 12 and older could become a reality in the upcoming days and that DHS is telling health departments to prepare for this. She explained if that does happen we will work with the schools and parents to make it as efficient and accessible as possible. Denton shared a survey that was prepared by the health department to gauge interest from the parents of the students that will be eligible. Board members approved the survey to be sent to the schools.

Denton discussed a letter that was sent to the papers that was signed by all the regional Health Officers, urging people to continue to practice social distancing, to continue wearing masks, and to avoid large gatherings due to increasing cases in bordering states and the increase in travel. Denton shared the most up to date Forest County Mitigation and Response Plan that is shared with people when community members call and inquire about hosting large gatherings.

Denton shared that FCHD has received the contract for the \$297,100 ELC grant. The ELC or Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity grant will provide critical resources to local and territorial health departments in support of a broad range of COVID-19/SARS-CV-2 testing and epidemiologic surveillance related activities. Gretzinger asked that Denton be sure to provide Nora a copy of the grant.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION-HEALTH DEPARTMENT OUTLAY BUDGET PLAN FOR OFFICE UPDATES:

Denton explained that there is \$2,000.00 in the outlay budget originally for new carpet in the health department, but requesting it be used to make a new office space and conference room. She explained that this needs to be approved by the Board of Health, and have it in writing that the committee is ok with the money being used this way. Denton shared that an estimate was acquired by maintenance and it was under \$2,000.00. The Board of Health committee approved this upon maintenance availability.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – HEALTH OFFICER/DIRECTOR JOB POSTING UPDATE:

Denton shared that there has been one applicant so far. Committee discussed that the position will be posted until May 10th and they will discuss the job posting at the June 2nd meeting.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – WIC PROGRAM AND POTENTIAL MERGER:

Denton discussed there was a meeting on April 26 between Oneida County Health Department and Forest County Health Department to discuss a possible merger for WIC due to Forest County not receiving any applicants for a RD/Nutritionist. Oneida County was going to meet with their WIC director and reach out to Forest County when they have more information. This will be an ongoing process into 2022. Denton will continue to work with WIC Regional Contact for guidance during this process.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND SETTING DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

- Annual Report, update on Health Officer/Director job posting, update on WIC program, COVID-19 updates.
- Next meeting set for June 2, 2021 at 4:30pm in the County Board Room

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Collins, second by Black. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

These minutes are not official and are subject to change. They will be officially approved at the next scheduled Health meeting.