

APPROVED_MINUTES
Scarborough Local Health Committee
Monday, May 11, 2009
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Scarborough Civic Centre – Committee Room 1

Present: Lucy Bonanno, Ed Castro, Vaij Chari (Chair), Marisa Charles, Dr. Abdul Fattah,
Linda Napier

Toronto Public Health Staff

Jann Houston, Bessie Shaw, Jean Liburd (Minutes)

Bibi Nasib-Mohammed (Observation/Minutes – Back up Administrative Support)

Regrets: Haweiya Egeh, Saleem Haniff, Colin Hughes, Brian Hyndman, Khaliq Jabbar,
Heidi Sin, Dhinesh Sivananthan

1.0 Review of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed and approved with one item added under Business Arising: Public Health Champion Awards.

2.0 Approval of Minutes of February 2 and April 14, 2009

Since quorum was not met, Vaij will forward the minutes to be approved electronically. However, a correction was made to Item 4.3. Instead of 'Ad' in the Scarborough Mirror, it should read 'Article'.

3.0 Business Arising

3.1 Public Engagement Strategies

A. Media

Vaij reported that approval was granted to have an article published in the Scarborough Mirror re strategies for public engagement. The aim is to have it published by September. It was suggested that the article be published in some of the ethnic newspapers. The final draft will be forwarded to TPH communications for review before submission to the Scarborough Mirror.

ACTION: Vaij will start a draft content and will forward to members to review and add any additional information.

B. Brochure

Marisa has to make additional changes to the brochure and will have Jean scan and forward to the group for their review and input. Vaij indicated that the brochure should be finalized at the June meeting.

ACTION: Members to discuss and provide feedback at the next SLHC meeting.

C. Community

Copies of the recommendations that was made by the working group was distributed. Discussions occurred on how to approach and invite stakeholders and communities to

engage in a dialogue, building relationships to promote the SLHC and ensuring that information is taken back to the Board of Health. It was also suggested that the committee link with SCAN at their yearly summit. LHC members are in agreement to continue with the Working Group. Ed, Marisa, Lucy and Dr. Fattah will form this group.

- ACTION:** 1) Jann agreed to look into inviting someone from OHPPA to the meeting on September 15th, 2009
2) Vaij to talk to SCAN about LHC partnering with them at the Yearly Summit.

D. Public Health Champion Awards

A promotional package re 2009 Public Health Champion Awards was handed out and is also available at <http://www.toronto.ca/health/awards>

3.2 Diabetes Strategy

Jann gave a presentation on Toronto Public Health Diabetes Prevention Strategy. Funding was approved by the Ministry of Health Promotion for a 12 month pilot diabetes prevention strategy with two components – workplaces and high risk community interventions. A handout of the presentation was provided.

Jann asked members to inform her of the names of organizations or Communities that Toronto Public Health might link with. Discussion followed.

ACTION: Jann will send her email address to the group.

3.3 Board of Health Link

Bessie confirmed that the BOH link was sent to everyone. A copy of the 2009 BOH schedule was handed out. Link to BOH: http://www.toronto.ca/health/boh_index.htm

4.0 Board of Health Update

Jann provided a brief update on BOH. Jann mentioned that the following reports will be presented to B.O.H. at the meeting on May 19, 2009: Resignation of BOH member, Pandemic Influenza update, Student Nutrition Program Service Subsidies, Evaluation of Toronto's Pesticide Bylaw, Budget Adjustments to the 2009 Operating Budget, Results of Follow-up of Previous Audit Recommendations, Local Health Committee Minutes, Strategic Planning 2010-2014 and Review of Compliance with Ontario Public Health Standards.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Oral Healthcare for Uninsured Adults

Further to the presentation that Dr. Hsu gave at the last meeting, Vaij had some discussions with Dr. Hazel Stewart who has recommended that all LHCs forward a letter to the Premier re dental care to the poor and vulnerable adult population. A copy of the draft letter was handed out. It was agreed that copies should also be forwarded to all of Scarborough's MPPs.

ACTION: Vaij will forward the draft letter to all members for review and feedback. It was agreed that the letter be sent out by email and postal mail.

5.2 Swine Flu Updates

Jann provided the following swine flu update:

Current Global Situation

World Health Organization Pandemic Alert Phase 5 – unchanged from April 29

Total confirmed H1N1 flu virus cases (as of Friday, May 8th)

Ontario: 76

Toronto: 22 (@ May 8, 3 p.m.)

Canada: 284

Countries with confirmed cases: 25

Total cases worldwide: 4700

The City has a well developed influenza pandemic plan through an influenza outbreak and plans in place for all levels of alert. The Office of Emergency Management is communicating with Emergency Management Ontario and their GTA counterparts and external partners and has been monitoring events around H1N1 in an enhanced mode since April 29. TPH is following up on cases and sending out general messages re precautions to be taken. Jann also mentioned that Dr. McKeown or Dr. Yaffe will present an update at the next BOH meeting.

6.0 **Next Meetings**

6.1 Schedule rest of year meeting dates

Monday, June 8th, '09 - Committee Room #1

Meeting rooms are to be booked for the following dates: Monday, September 14th, Tuesday, October 13th, and Monday November 9th, 2009

ACTION: Jean to book meeting rooms.