

CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2005

Attendees: Committee Members
Marilou Brodie, Sue Chambers, Bobbie Davis, Charlotte Davis, Blair Dean,
Martha Hiett, Suzanne McCarthy, Martha Phillips, Rosemary Rodibaugh,
Rhonda Sanders, Susanne Tullos

Staff
Mary Gaither, Nancy Green, Ann Thompson

Absentees: James Fasules, Kathy McFetridge, Connie Meeks,

Next Meeting: Friday, February 18, 2005, 9:00 a.m.
Room 800, Freeway Medical Building
5800 W. 10th Street, Little Rock

Chair Martha Hiett called the meeting to order. Minutes of the November 4, and December 2, 2004 meetings were approved. Martha announced that Steve Singleton had resigned from the Committee. She informed the Committee that the Governor held a press conference on January 18, 2005, where he announced his support for a majority of the Child Health Advisory Committee Recommendations. She noted the letter to the Chair of the State Board of Education from the Governor containing his observations and recommendations. In that letter, the Governor asked Dr. Boozman and Dr. James to submit to him, by April 4, 2005, a formal report outlining the progress of the implementation efforts, and the status of the vending machine pilot study. Martha Phillips will lead a group to develop protocol for the pilot study, by March 1, 2005.

Bobbie Davis introduced Laura McDowell, employed by the Department of Education to assist with coordinated school health and initiatives coming in as a result of Act 1220 and the Child Health Advisory Committee Recommendations. She said the interview process had begun for a Program Coordinator. Bobbie advised that Professional Development Recommendations from the Child Health Advisory Committee had been submitted to the Board of Education in January, with a request that they go out for public comment. She handed out copies of the Recommendations and advised that there would be a public hearing on January 26, 2005, and that written comments could be received until March 4, 2005. She said Department of Education staff is now drafting the proposed rules to cover the remaining recommendations for physical activity and nutrition standards that will go before the Board of Education at the February 2005 meeting. Tammy Harrell advised that she had been working on guidelines to go along with Senator Womack's proposed legislation relating to using athletics for physical education credits. Martha Hiett said the Department of Health would inform the Committee of any proposed legislation relating to Child Health Advisory Committee interests.

Nila King gave a BMI Report. She said ACHI is working with a data program company in Canada to streamline the BMI reporting process. Wanda O'Quinn and Mary Taylor reported that BMI screening has already been completed for Louisa Perritt School in Arkadelphia, without any opt-outs or complaints. Joe Don Parris reported that BMI screening had begun in Clarksville. Martha Hiett advised that Texas has proposed a law based on Arkansas' Act 1220.

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Martha Phillips reported to the Committee on the Evaluation of Act 1220 and handed out copies of the Evaluation Report. She said the presentation had been made to the Legislative Public Health Committee.

Martha Hiatt reminded the Committee that Act 1220 states “elimination of access to vending machines” not “removal of vending of machines.”

The revised CHAC logo was handed out and discussed. The committee agreed, by motion, to accept the proposed letterhead stationery with changing Co-Chair to Vice-Chair and changing AR Academy of Family Physicians to AR Academy of Family Practice (as stated in Act 1220). The committee also agreed, by motion, that the letterhead stationery would only be used for official Child Health Advisory Committee correspondence approved by the Committee, and that the logo would only be used on Child Health Advisory Committee documents.

The draft bylaws were discussed and suggested changes will be made and emailed to the committee for review prior to the February meeting. The bylaws will be voted on at the February meeting.

The Committee agreed that the Chair would notify the appropriate Agency Director of vacancies caused by term expiration or by resignation.

Andi Ridgway had each of the four attending Community Health Promotion Specialists introduce themselves. She advised that the revised version of the Toolkit was at the printer. She informed the Committee that the Nutrition and Physical Activity Conference would be held August 4, and 5, 2005, and asked for suggestions for speakers and sponsors. She reported that the Healthy Arkansas local plans are now in and that she is working on a summary and corrections. Martha Hiatt suggested, and the Committee agreed, that someone should report on the school piece of the local plans. It was suggested that the Community Health Promotion Specialists also be placed on the Child Health Advisory Committee link on the website.

Blair Dean presented information on model physical education programs developed by Phil Lawler and used in Napierville, Illinois. After the presentation, the Committee discussed going to Rogers to look at the program being used there.

The Committee divided into the Nutrition and Physical Activity Subcommittees. After the subcommittees met, they reported back to the full Committee

Blair Dean reported for the Physical Activity Subcommittee. She said the Physical Activity Subcommittee would like to come together with the full Committee and develop a research design to implement in several pilot selected schools for a model physical education program. She said the Subcommittee would develop the plan then work with the Department of Education to recruit schools and that they would also contact the Arkansas Association for Healthy P.E. and the Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness, since they have already identified model teachers and programs in the State. She said the Subcommittee could then work with those schools. She advised that the program implemented in the pilots would be based on the Recommendations. Martha Hiatt said the Blueprint for Healthy Arkansas

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contains information regarding strategies and action steps at the State and community level and that one of the action steps relates to physical activity pilots in schools.

Rosemary Rodibaugh reported for the Nutrition Subcommittee. She said they worked on clarification of some of the current recommendations for the language of the Rules and Regulations. She said the Subcommittee would address the three items that were listed in the Recommendations for Future Consideration and develop recommendations for the 2005-2006 school year. She said they would gather data to support the proposed recommendations.

The Committee discussed developing a list of reports that would be helpful in the formulation of future recommendations. They also agreed for Rhonda Sanders to lead a group to develop a centralized gathering point for reporting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m.