

CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

August 14, 2003

Attendees: Committee Members
Marilou Brodie, Sue Chambers, Bobbie Davis, Charlotte Davis
James Fasules, Paul Finnicum, Martha Hiatt, Suzanne McCarthy, Kathy
McFetridge, Connie Meeks, Martha Phillips, Rosemary Rodibaugh, Amy
Rossi, Steve Singleton, Susanne Tullos

Staff
Mary Gaither, Debbie Wilson, Ann Thompson

Absentees: None

Next Meeting: September 3, 2003, Freeway Medical, Room 906

Education Department Director Ray Simon opened the meeting and gave the welcome and charge to the Committee as outlined in Act 1220.

Health Department Director Fay Boozman further discussed the committee's responsibilities outlined in Act 1220, and the importance of the Committee and the partnership of the Health and Education Departments. He also presented current data and information related to obesity, physical inactivity and tobacco use and their direct links to chronic disease.

Mary Gaither was introduced as the Committee Coordinator.

Facilitator Donna Yutzy discussed the agenda and Committee ground rules.

Health Department Attorney Robert Brech presented an explanation of Act 1220 and information of the Freedom of Information Act.

Questions and comments were presented regarding BMI, report card definition, elementary school definition, vending machine access, and drawing for terms.

Attorney Brech advised the Committee that they are to vote the first meeting of each year if they want to be reimbursed.

As the Committee Chairperson will be selected at the September meeting, Robert Brech advised the Facilitator to ask for a volunteer for a temporary Chairperson for the meeting. Martha Hiett volunteered.

Pros and cons were presented regarding designees for Committee Members and Attorney Brech advised that conference calls could be utilized for absent Committee Members.

A motion was made by James Fasules, seconded by Bobbie Davis, and carried unanimously to allow a designee to sit in for a member but would not have voting rights. Rhonda Sanders was accepted as the official designee for Amy Rossi.

A motion was made by Connie Meeks, seconded by James Fasules and carried unanimously for Committee Members to claim reimbursement at their discretion.

Donna Yutzy reiterated the powers and duties of the Committee as specified in Act 1220, § 6-7-118, B, (1) through (7).

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon and reconvened at 12:15 p.m. for a working lunch.

Meeting dates were discussed and it was decided to hold the meetings from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at Freeway Medical, Room 906, on the first Thursday of each month except Wednesday, September 3, 2003 and Wednesday, January 8, 2004.

Other decisions regarding future meetings were:

- Minutes will be mailed to Committee Members within one week after each meeting.
- Rooms for future meetings will be configured so visitors can see presentations and speakers.
- Conference call links will be available for members unable to attend meetings.
- Prep materials will be sent to Committee Members approximately one week before each meeting.

Arkansas Center for Health Improvement Director, Dr. Joe Thompson, gave a presentation on BMI and will update the Committee at the next meeting. A question was asked regarding measuring BMI on children who are not height measured or weighed easily. Paul Finnicum encouraged the Committee to look at more than BMI. A BMI report card was discussed at length. Steve Singleton expressed concern for sending a report card, containing, BMI, home with students and stated that he hopes the Committee will recommend a health report card.

The Facilitator suggested that the Committee might take questions from the audience in writing, and recommended that they adopt Guiding Principles for the Committee. Guiding Principles were discussed at length, and draft Principles were developed.

Martha Hiett requested that she and Martha Phillips present an NGA Overview at the next meeting.

Vending machine access in elementary schools, covered in Act 1220, and the responsibility regarding access was discussed. The group agreed the Department of Education is responsible for implementing that component.

Attorneys for both the Health and Education Departments will attend future meetings, if possible.

Suggestions discussed by the Committee included:

- The Committee allow some time from the audience with a time limit (Martha Hiatt)
- Comments from the public be incorporated into the meeting (Bobbie Davis)
- Staff to develop rules for public comment
- Staff to develop a List Serve for the Committee (Paul Finnicum)
- Developing a website

Donna Yutzy suggested that the Committee informally evaluate each Committee meeting at the end by listing pros and cons for that particular meeting. This information should be used to improve future meetings.

Donna Yutzy adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:00 pm. and restated that the next meeting will be Wednesday, September 3, 2003, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, Room 906, Freeway Medical Building.