Thursday, February 11th, 2016

1) Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Ann Christiansen.

2) Roll Call
   Present: Claudia Altmann, Mary Jo Baisch, Barbara Bechtel, Ann Christiansen, Bill Warner, Jennifer Evertsen, Chris Simez, Brad Simerly, Kathleen Platt.
   Absent: Gary Lewis and Debesh Mazumdar

3) Persons Desiring to be Heard
   There were no persons desiring to be heard.

4) Approval of February 11th, 2016 Minutes
   Mary Jo Baisch moved to approve the minutes as submitted, Bill Warner seconded. Motion carried.

5) Environmental Health Consortium
   a) Fee Increase for 2016-2017 – Brad Simerly, Sanitarian for the Health Department, presented the Department’s proposed fee schedule for the North Shore Environmental Health Consortium. The schedule includes a 4% increase for all restaurants, school kitchens, retail food establishments, hotels and pools in the six communities of Bayside, Brown Deer, Fox Point, River Hills, Shorewood, and Whitefish Bay. Mr. Simerly answered general questions about the program and the license fees.

   Mary Jo Baisch moved to approve the 2016-2017 license fees for the Environmental Health Consortium. Bill Warner seconded. License fee increase was approved.

   b) NACCHO Grant – Brad Simerly also provided an update on grant the Health Department received from the National Association of City and County Health Officers. The Department received a $10,000 grant in December 2015 to create a plan to meet FDA Program Standard 1. Mr. Simerly will be working with legal counsel to develop a standard ordinance for all of the Consortium municipalities to adopt. He will bring the ordinance to the Board of Health for review and approval when it is complete.

6) Health Department Administrative Items
   a) Strategic Plan update – Ms. Christiansen updated the Board on the Department’s Strategic Plan. The staff had met for an all-day retreat in December 2015 to discuss the priorities and goals for the plan. Ms. Christiansen will solicit feedback from the Board when a draft is complete.

   b) Community Engagement – Community Health Survey – Ms. Christiansen gathered feedback from the Board about their suggestions for engaging community members in the Health Department. Suggestions from Board members included working with Marquette’s College of Communications to help with the Department’s social media presence, creating opportunities like Global Café’s where staff meet with residents and share Community Health Survey results, identifying existing community groups and get on their agendas to present on the programs and outcomes of the department. Finally, the Board recommended creating an electronic Friends of the North Shore Health Department group to receive the Highlights and other communications. All suggestions were noted and staff will consider which of these are feasible to further engage North Shore residents.
7) Reports and Discussions
   a) Disease Control and Prevention
      i) Flu Update – Ms. Platt updated the Board on our current 2015-2016 flu season. To date, we have provided almost 560 flu immunizations. The Health Department led 13 flu clinics this year, in addition to providing the vaccine at our regularly scheduled immunization clinics. The Department conducted three flu clinics as part of our public health preparedness exercises and hosted three open clinics where any resident could get a vaccine without an appointment. Ms. Platt reported that to date the number of flu hospitalizations was 11.

   b) Environmental Health
      i) Lead poisoning update – Ms. Platt presented information on our Lead Monitoring and Investigation Program for 2015. She noted that in reviewing our data on blood lead level test results, the number of tests we received in 2015 was much lower than what we had received in 2014. Staff are continuing to investigate the trend, as well as discussing opportunities to raise awareness of the importance of testing among parents and healthcare providers.

      ii) Radon testing program – Ms. Platt updated the Board on our Radon Outreach and Testing Program. The Health Department sold 160 test kits and received results from 94 of those, which is a 59% return rate. Of those, 73 were individual homes and 21 retests. Among the individual homes 37 had an elevated level of radon (≥4pCi/L). The Health Department did not receive additional grant funding for the program in 2016, but we will continue to offer the test kits at a minimal cost to residents.

8) Scheduling of Next Meeting and Location
   The next North Shore Board of Health meeting will take place on Thursday, April 21st at 7:00pm at the Shorewood office (2010 E. Shorewood Blvd.).

9) At 8:53 pm, Bill Warner moved to adjourn, Chris Simez seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Christiansen, Secretary