



Meeting of the

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 13, 2006

2 – 3 PM

Friends House, 130 E. 25th Street

MINUTES

Members Present: J. C. Park (Governmental Co-chair), E. Camhi, O. Clanton, F. Carroll, I. Gamble-Cobb, J. Grimaldi, MD, J. Lehane, PhD (for T. Petro), H. Mateo, M. D. Miles (for J. Hilger), W. Okoroanyanwu, MD

Staff Present: *DOHMH:* D. Wong, S. Bailous, R. Molina, R. Shiao, C. Silva; *MHRA:* J. Verdino

Agenda Item #1: Introduction/Minutes

Mr. Park opened the meeting, introduced the moment of silence and reviewed the meeting packet.

The minutes of the March 23, 2006 meeting were approved with no changes.

Agenda Item #2: Public Comment

M. Gold: There are consumers appointed to committees who do not show up. We need to make sure that consumers are represented on committees. I expressed concern to Commissioner Frieden that there are people who attempt suicide after testing positive without adequate pre-test counseling.

M. Ducret: There is a need to maintain people in care and I see no problem with Commissioner Frieden's initiative, but it is important to keep adequate counseling.

J. Livigni: TB is again an emerging issue that requires action nationwide.

R. Garner: There is a need for adequate testing counseling, especially by community-based organizations. People need locally-based services.

Agenda Item #3: Committee and Tri-County Updates

Dr. Lehane: The Tri-county steering committee approved a plan to use the increase in MAI funds to enhance current MAI programs, particularly outreach.

Mr. Camhi: The Priority Setting & Resource Allocation Committee (PSRA) does not review the Tri-County spending plan, but it is presented to the full Council for approval.

Dr. Lehane: Mr. Petro presented it at the last Council meeting, where it was approved.

Ms. Carroll: At the March Consumers Committee (CC) meeting, Ms. Verdino presented on the RFP process, explaining how a Planning Council decision becomes an RFP and ultimately a program. She shared some of the maps she presented to the Council when we met in Brooklyn so we could see the distribution of services from the last round of awards, and shared that PLWHA participation in the review process is a key component. Members of the committee were encouraged, and several members volunteered to review proposals for the current RFP. Ms. Verdino also answered questions about community advisory boards (CABs). The CAB Survey deadline was last Friday. There are a few late responses but we plan to include everything that comes in before the close of business tomorrow. It looks like we have a good number of completed surveys again this year. The next CC meeting will be this Monday.

Ms. Gamble-Cobb: The Needs Assessment Committee (NAC) is planning for Data Day, scheduled for May 19th. NAC has determined that Data Day will focus on the following special populations: women of child bearing age (age 18-44 as defined by HRSA), youth, immigrants, correctional inmates and parolees. There will be panels of researchers, providers and consumers.

The committee has had recent presentations on the following special populations: New York Academy of Medicine's MAI special populations findings, MTF data on women of childbearing age, SUNY Downstate/HEAT Program data on youth, and PPG staff Kimberly Mack data on immigrants. Our next meeting to be held on May 4, 2006 will conclude the special populations' presentations and finalize Data Day details.

Mr. Park: Data Day is an opportunity for the Council and committee members to have a focused discussion on data needed for planning, and I encourage everyone to attend.

Dr. Grimaldi: At the last Integration of Care Committee (IOC), we had a presentation on the use of Title I funds to establish PRUCOL status, which is not immigration status, but allows a non-citizen to obtain medical and social services. A statement was drafted for inclusion in the letter to Commissioner Frieden concerning his efforts to obtain clarification from HRSA on allowable uses of CARE Act funds. We also discussed inviting the AIDS Institute to present on their mental health model, which allows for delivery of services in non-Article 31 settings. IOC is engaged in the on-going review of service categories that will be re-bid next year, beginning with housing categories. We are looking at strengthening the language linking the services to access to and maintenance in HIV-related health care. The committee will divide into three sub-committees (health, social services, and housing) to review the program guidance for those categories.

Mr. Park: As mentioned, we have had to define allowable legal services based on restrictive guidance from HRSA, which has created much anxiety among our legal providers. We included the IOC statement on PRUCOL in the letter from the Community Co-Chair to Dr. Frieden on clarifying the HRSA policy.

Mr. Camhi: The Council accepted the FY 2006 spending plan developed by the PSRA at its last meeting. We now focus on developing a preliminary FY 2007 spending plan for the application, with a ranking and re-allocating of the portfolio, consistent with the Strategic Plan, using recommendations from the other committees, input from data day, and other sources.

Mr. Park: If you look at the timeline in the meeting packet, you see how all the committees' work fits into a final product that goes into our application. The past two years we have had outstanding applications resulting in increases in our award in a negative funding environment. This is because our work has made it easy for the application writer to document the logical progression of our planning, which reflects highly on our processes.

Agenda Item #4: Planning Council Meetings

Mr. Park: In April, we are meeting on Staten Island, part of our on-going effort to bring the Council to all parts of the City. Earlier this month, Commissioner Frieden held a forum on Staten Island on his proposed changes to the State testing law. To address issues related to the March 30th Council meeting, you all received a letter from the Community Co-Chair expressing his concerns that the meeting was adjourned

before its scheduled time. This was solely due to a scheduling problem with the LGBT Center. Many of our meeting spaces are provided free, and in this case, they had booked the room at 5pm and had to clear the space and set up for the next meeting. We were not informed until the last moment, which was during an engaged conversation on the testing law, and so it was unfortunate that we had to end it. I have asked Dr. Kellerman to return to the Council to continue the discussion on this important issue. Regarding food at the meetings, we have had problems with deliveries, usually the caterer running into obstacles getting the food delivered on time. I have asked the staff to be diligent making sure that the caterer gets food to the meetings on time, so that meetings are not disrupted.

Ms. Gamble-Cobb: Thank you for addressing the issues raised in Mr. Hemraj's letter. I suggest at the next Council meeting, scheduling Dr. Kellerman at the beginning of the meeting to ensure adequate time for discussion on that issue.

Mr. Park: I will try to arrange that. At the last meeting, our first priority was passing a spending plan, which is why Dr. Kellerman was at the end of the agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes approved by the Executive Committee on June 15, 2006