

Ulster County Board of Health
January 10, 2011

Members PRESENT: Thomas Stellato, MD, President
Joan Authenrieth, RN, Vice President
Dominique Delma, MD
Ivan Godfrey, PhD, LCSW
Marc Tack DO, Secretary

UCDOH PRESENT: LaMar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH, Public Health Director
Nereida Veytia, Patient Services Director
Kevin DuMond, Environmental Health Services Director
Douglas Heller, MD, Medical Examiner
Vincent Martello, Community Health Relations Director

GUESTS: Lee Cane, League of Women Voters - Mid-Hudson Region

- I. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Dr. Tack to approve the December minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Authenrieth and unanimously approved.
- II. **New Business:**
- **Board Members:** As of 12/31/10 there are two Board Member vacancies to fill. Recommendations have been made to the County Executive for replacements.
- III. **Agency Reports:**
- a. Medical Examiner:
 - Dr. Heller reported on the December activity of the ME. There were 21 calls received, one was a site visit and three were autopsied.
 - Dr. Heller reported that communications have been smooth between the ME's Office, police departments, and funeral homes.
 - Attending the February 1st Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee to talk about ME/police protocol.
 - b. Director's Update:

Dr. Hasbrouck reported on the following:

 - **Director's Update Newsletter:** The January's Director's Update was distributed and reviewed (see attached).
 - **Department Highlights:** Dr. Hasbrouck discussed some of the Department's activities;
 - **Healthy Ulster:** Beginning preparations for the Second Healthy Ulster Summit. This year's summit will be a report out by the Partners in Public Health Planning councils and the health indicators they have identified to focus on within the community.
 - **My Life Check:** As a member of the American Heart Association (AHA) Board, Dr. Hasbrouck has

elected to participate in this AHA initiative. My Life Check was designed by the American Heart Association with the goal of increasing heart disease awareness. A website and personal questionnaire/assessment has been created, <http://mylifecheck.heart.org>, to assist individuals in identifying their personal areas in need of health improvement. By applying Life's Simple 7 approach (Get Active, Eat Right, Lose Weight, Stop Smoking, Control Cholesterol, Manage Blood Pressure and Reduce Blood Sugar), one can increase their heart health and live a longer healthier life. Dr. Hasbrouck will be encouraging his staff to take the personal assessment.

- o **UCDOH Field Offices:** Clinic contacts are as follows:
 - Saugerties: WIC(340-3965) and Immunization Clinic (340-3070) at Dutch Arm Chapel of the Reformed Church of Saugerties, 173 Main Street, Saugerties
 - New Paltz: WIC clinic (340-3965) at New Paltz Church of the Nazarene, 170 Street, Rt 32 North, New Paltz. Immunization Clinic (647-2343) at VFW Hall, Rt 32 North, New Paltz.
- o **Calorie Menu Labeling Grant:** UCDOH, in collaboration with Shoprite's Supermarket nutritionist, will work to produce an educational awareness video on the importance of using calorie menu labels to make healthy food choices.
- o **BMI Study:** This study will focus on BMIs for first, third, fifth and seventh graders. The Health Education Unit has reached out to the local school districts for participation. UCDOH has contracted with an epidemiologist to assist with the data collection and analysis for this study.
- o **Sanitary Code:** Articles I-VI of the UC Sanitary Code has been completed and is ready for Board review. The entire code will be ready for review by the week of February 1, 2011. Mr. DuMond will provide a concise overview of the code to the Board once it has been completed in its entirety.

c. Patient Services:

Ms. Veytia reported on the following:

- **Columbia Regional Learning Center:** UCDOH met on 12/22 with the Columbia Regional Learning Center (CRLC) which is part of the National Center for Disaster Preparedness. The Learning Center is designed to meet the training needs of the public health workforce, and students in public health and related fields. The Center has received funding to provide trainings to local health departments. UCDOH Preparedness program will use this resource for continuing education purposes and will participate in appropriate health courses and trainings offered by the Learning Center.

d. Environmental Health:

Mr. DuMond reported on the following:

- **NYSDOH Environmental Program Audit:** NYSDOH Metropolitan Area Regional Office(MARO, conducted a review of the Department's Environmental Health and Food Protection program and the Engineering and Residential Sanitation program. Considerable improvements were made since the last review with all programs being in compliance. Letters from NYSDOH MARO were written to the Department stating such; *"Ulster County Health Department Environmental Health Programs are in substantial compliance with NYSDOH program expectations and is meeting its obligations per its municipal health services plan."* *"Overall, the Ulster County Health Depart meets all expectations of the residential sanitation and engineering programs that are written in to its municipal health services plan and enforces its own sanitary code effectively; which in many cases is more pro-active than federal and state regulations."* Dr. Stellato commended UCDOH and the Environmental Team for their efforts in improving the quality of work and service being done.
- **Enforcement Process:** Mr. DuMond presented an overview of the newly established UCDOH formal hearing and enforcement process. This process was put into place to address those consumers whom after several inspections and non-compliance of an agreed stipulation to remediate, have failed to correct the noted violations. UCDOH will work with the Formal Hearing Attorney, to create a Formal Hearing notice and establish the fines for violations. A violation fee schedule will be used for determining appropriate fines. Once notified, the consumer will have the opportunity to meet with the Hearing Attorney to negotiate a settlement. Consumers may be offered a reduced fine settlement only if they agree to correct the violations within a set period of time. Failure to comply will result in original fines being put back into effect and possible closure of the facility if necessary. The Board of Health has the authority (Article 1, Section 20-1) to approve all fines, settlements and closures of facilities. It was agreed that the Board of Health would be notified early in the process about a facility starting the enforcement process.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2011.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Tack and seconded by Ms. Authenrieth.

Respectfully submitted by:

Katrina Kouhout
Secretary to the Public Health Director
On behalf of UC Board of Health