

Healthcare Advisory Board

Minutes of the December 13, 2007 Meeting

Members Present:

Dr. Edward Holifield
Steve McArthur
Commissioner Bryan Desloge
Dr. Edwardo Williams
Dr. Jim Stockwell
Marty Plevak
Homer Rice
Dr. Henry Lewis III
Sharon Roush
Art Cooper
Dr. Alma Littles
Mark O'Bryant

Members Absent:

Steve Evans (Excused)
Parwez Alam (Excused)

Guests:

Commissioner Bill Proctor-Leon County
Inzlea Smith-Mc Glockton-NHS
J.R. Richards-Bond
Bill Phelan-TEAM
Ann Davis-Capital Area Healthy Start
Dr. Temple Robinson-Bond
Dr. Emile Commedore-Office of Minority Health
Other members of the public and media

Staff Present:

Vince Long
Candice Wilson
Patrick Casserleigh

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Chairman Dr. Stockwell. Dr. Stockwell opened with the Chairman's remarks and moved directly to the first agenda item of Infant Mortality.

Note: During the first twenty minutes of the HAB meeting, Commissioner Bill Proctor joined the audience. Having two Leon County Commissioners in attendance during the meeting, the meeting was officially declared a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

Issue I: Infant Mortality

Discussion: Three local healthcare/public health providers/advocates were asked to attend the meeting and to provide the members a brief information sheet outlining their programs and services that address the infant mortality rate in Leon County. The providers were also asked to list the top three programs each would like to see implemented in order to have the greatest impact on the infant mortality rate in Leon County.

- Ann Davis with Capital Area Healthy Start presented her organization’s brief first (please see attachment # 1 for details).
- Homer Rice with the Leon County Health Department provided the information on the programs and initiatives provided by the Leon County Health Department (please see attachment #2 for details).
- Dr. Temple Robinson with the Bond Community Health Center presented the brief on the programs and services provided by Bond to reduce the infant mortality rate and the programs and initiatives Bond would like to see implemented in order to have the greatest impact on the infant mortality rate, (please see attachment #3 for details).

Dr. Commedore, Director of the Office of Minority Health invited the HAB members to attend the “A Healthy Baby Begins With You” summit at FAMU on February 2, 2008. The summit is being held to address the issue of Black Infant Mortality here in Leon and surrounding counties.

The HAB members took up the recommendation that came out of the Infant Mortality Subcommittee meeting held November 19, 2007 after listening to the presentations made by the local providers and the Office of Minority Health.

Recommendation from November 19, 2007 Infant Mortality Subcommittee Meeting

“To declare the infant mortality issue a healthcare crisis in Leon County and to request the Board of County Commissioner’s support for an infant mortality forum.

To hold a forum on infant mortality to better understand the crisis of infant mortality and to bring the stakeholders together in order to form a plan of action to address the critical issue of infant mortality in Leon County.”

The below listing of named organizations is a non-exhausted list of stakeholders approved by the HAB to be invited to participate in the forum;

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| • Bond Community Health Center | • Capital Regional Medical Center |
| • Capital Area Healthy Start Coalition | • Capital Health Plan |
| | • Department of Health |

- FAMU
- FSU
- High Risk Providers
- Leon County Commission
- Leon County Department of Health
- Leon County School Board
- Neighborhood Health Services
- North Florida Women's Care
- The City of Tallahassee
- TEAM
- TCC
- Tallahassee Memorial Hospital
- The United Way
- The March of Dimes

Prior to the motion made by Art Cooper, Dr. Holifield presented his dissent on the term of "healthcare crisis" vs. "healthcare emergency" in order to bring the term into the HAB's consideration prior to a motion being made.

Action Taken: Art Cooper made a three part motion seconded by Sharon Roush to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), the following:

- To declare the issue of infant mortality a public health crisis.
- To hold a **workshop** for local stakeholders to form an action plan to address the issue of infant mortality after the February 2nd Office of Minority Health's Black Infant Mortality Summit.
- To request that the BOCC provide assistance from the County PIO in an outreach campaign addressing the information about infant mortality and the local workshop.

The above stated motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Desloge, Homer Rice and Mark O'Bryant volunteered to form a planning committee to organize the workshop and to assist in the preparation of the agenda item to present to the BOCC. The HAB members consented to give the planning committee the authority to set the date, time, location, and agenda for the workshop, if approved by the BOCC.

During the HAB meeting, members also pledged the below contributions for the workshop;

- Mark O'Bryant-TMH; meeting space and food
- Sharon Roush-CRMC; offered assistance through contributions to be determined at a later time
- Homer Rice-Leon County Health Department; offered assistance though contributions to be determined at a later time

Mark O'Bryant recommended that the members use their connections and influences for a media campaign as some form of actions to take in the mean time. Other HAB members agreed that they would reach out into the community for the purpose of outreach in the local media.

Issue II: Consideration of Minutes from September 13, 2007

Discussion: Dr. Alma Littles motioned to accept all four meeting minutes seconded by Sharon Roush, the motion passed unanimously.

Issue III: Consideration of Minutes from October 11, 2007

Discussion: Please see Discussion Issue II.

Issue IV: Consideration of Minutes from November 8, 2007

Discussion: Please see Discussion Issue II.

Issue V: Consideration of Minutes from November 19, 2007

Discussion: Please see Discussion Issue II.

Other Issues: Expanding the membership of the Healthcare Advisory Board

Action Taken: During the closing of the HAB meeting, Dr. Henry Lewis made a motion seconded by Art Cooper to recommend to the BOCC to add a representative from the Leon County School Board and FAMU to the HAB, bringing the total membership to 17.

The above stated motion passed unanimously.

Citizens to be Heard

TEAM presented an idea of implementing changes through a media campaign using a single symbol much like the pink or yellow ribbons, along with a slogan. The unified media campaign could be funded by the entities that would put information out into the community, like the School Board, County Jail, Clinics, and Hospitals.

Another citizen presented the following comments in regards to infant mortality. It was stated that the approach to address the issue needs to have three parts;

- Education
- Application of education
- Resources have to be available

She wanted to know why there was not a member of the school board at the HAB meeting being that education of the high school aged teenagers is a critical part of addressing infant mortality in Leon County.

Items to be on the next agenda

Follow up on the infant mortality issue
Clinic monitoring and reporting

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.