

The Health Council of Marin

Minutes of Regular Meeting: Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Marin General Hospital

250 Bon Air Road, Larkspur Room

Greenbrae, CA 94904

Members Present: Jennifer Rienks (President), Kent Angerbauer, Allan Blau, Mary Fraser, Sandy Ross, Ann Spake, Barbara Wientjes

Members Absent: Connie Barker, Sandra Lew, Derice Seid Tao, Tara Waterman

Guests: Loretta Rogers (Secretary)

Handouts: *Agenda*

1. **Call to Order:** At 7:15 pm, President Jennifer Rienks called the meeting to order.
2. **Introductions:** Mary Fraser and Kent Angerbauer introduced themselves. Mary knew all the other members of the Council.
3. **Public Comment Time:** None.
4. **Approval of the minutes of the July 26, 2016 meeting:** Ann Spake pointed out that Judi Shils' name was misspelled on page two of the minutes. With that correction, she moved that the minutes be approved. Sandy Ross seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
5. **Presentation by President Rienks regarding "Breakfast after the Bell" programs:** The "Breakfast after the Bell" programs extend the current School Breakfast Program, by providing breakfast to all students in their classrooms at the beginning of the school day. Traditional breakfast programs provide breakfast to students before classes begin. Unfortunately, participation in this traditional program tends to be relatively low; Marin City's experience with breakfast before the bell is the same. Therefore, it was decided to provide breakfast to all students during the first ten minutes of the first class. President Rienks showed four videos which described the program and its results. These videos also addressed several objections to the new program. These included concerns about obesity, loss of class time, etc. President Rienks advised that there is a measure on the November ballot, Measure A, which would impose a 0.25% additional sales tax for the next nine years to provide funding for quality child care for low income families; after school tutoring programs and increased health services to children. This "Breakfast After the Bell" program may be eligible for these funds if this measure passes. There was general discussion. Sandy Ross suggested that this issue might be a good one to assign to one of the new members for investigation. It would be good to check to see if the Marin County Food Policy Council was aware of this program and was active in pursuing it.
6. **Update on Health Council Bylaws** – Sandy Ross stated that she would like to postpone this item until the November meeting when Dr. Matt Willis will be present to answer questions.
7. **President's Report:** President Rienks reported the following:
 1. For the October meeting she will try to book the Public Health Preparedness representative.
 2. For the November meeting, she will book Dr. Matthew Willis, Public Health Officer for Marin County. As the fourth Tuesday of November is the same week as Thanksgiving, she proposed holding the November meeting on November 29th. This was accepted.
8. **Health Council Member Reports and Announcements:**
 1. Barbara Wientjes reported that epi-pens are now available in Canada at discounted prices and no prescription is needed. New Yorkers are going to Canada to buy them. Customs

is okay with that practice. Why are they not available for the same price here in the United States?

2. Barbara Wientjes also reported that the CDC is proposing a new regulation #2016-18103 which contains 183 pages of new rules to deal with epidemics. One of these rules would allow the CDC to forcibly vaccinate people in the event of an epidemic. Sandy Ross pointed out that we are now in comment time on this new regulation. The comment period ends October 14th; she encouraged Council members to comment.
 3. Barbara Wientjes also reported that the country of manufacture is no longer on the bottle labels of a lot of drugs. This is another area of concern.
 4. Ann Spake reported that there is chromium in tap water in Marin County. Alan Blau will go to MMWD to investigate.
 5. Sandy Ross reported that the liquid form of morphine, used often by Hospice to treat terminally ill patients, may be discontinued. Or, it may appear in a less potent liquid form. She listed the negative effects of such a step.
 6. Mary Fraser reported that the drug company, Merck, is planning to put the herbicide, glyphosate in all its vaccines. She stated that she had contacted legislators in Sacramento about this danger, but was labeled an anti-vaccination person, which she is not. She recommended that the HCM bring this to the attention of the Board of Supervisors and advise the Marin County Public Health Department. She urged that the Board lobby the State legislature to have vaccines tested by a State or independent lab. She will also bring this issue up to Dr. Willis at the November meeting.
9. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.