

December 13th, 2022 Minutes

Board Members

Corinna Culler- Chair of Board

Josh Merson

Ola Bayode

City of Chelsea Staff

Flor Amaya, Director of Public Health

Paula McHatton, Public Health Nurse

Strephon Treadway- Assistant City Solicitor

Six City Tobacco Initiative

Bonnie Carol- Director

Cheryl-

IDX 20

Sina- Researcher, IDX 20

Eden- CEO, IDX 20

-Board was unable to adopt minutes from October and November meeting. Not enough members were present to vote on adoption

-Meeting adoption pushed forward for January meeting

Bonnie and Cheryl

Tobacco sales ban violation for Johnnies Market. Store owner was not present. Johnnies Market had 2 violations (March 2022, August 2022). On November 5th, owner sold business to a new person. On same day, the new owner submitted a tobacco sales permit online. Bonnie and Flor reviewed the pending application and based on the regulation, the new owner cannot obtain a new permit given that the previous owner had outstanding fines and a suspension to serve. In addition, the previous owner requested a stay from a previous BOH meeting. BOH did not receive any appeal documentation within 60 days. On November 21st, the new owner had a conversation with our License Department where he was told that the permit was on hold and he would be unable to sell tobacco products because of the outstanding fine from previous owner. On November 28th, the new owner paid \$2000 for the outstanding violation. Bonnie did an inspection to ensure they were upholding the regulation. Bonnie discovered tobacco products were sold and ordered everything be boxed up and put away.

Assistant City Solicitor recommended to give permit to Johnnies Market, issue cease and desist, and \$1000 fine.

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Complaints about hemp flavored wraps. Looking to make simplifications and consistency across fines at the state and local level. Bonnie and Cheryl briefly described some of the changes they were looking to make with density, caps, buffer zones at municipals. BOH discussed the amount of tobacco licenses that are made available.

Sina and Eden

Eden and Sina went through COVID-19 experiment conducted by their team in partnership with the Housing Authority and City of Chelsea.

Hypothesis of experiment was: If you tested frequently through the pandemic with an antigen test, it would be a way to mitigate the wave of infection and alert early enough to isolate and quarantine.

Study took place from Feb. 2022- Feb. 2023. Eden and Sina would like to continue this experiment until June.

Every week, the team administers rapid test in 2 buildings under the Housing Authority and City Hall. The two groups behaved differently when it came to adherence.

New FDA Guidelines

Different Scenarios:

- If you test positive you are positive
- If you test negative and symptomatic then you test again after 48 hrs
- If you test negative and asymptomatic, you test again after 48 hrs, and test again after 48hrs

In April 2022, started interviewing people who partook in the study to identify motivation behind taking tests. Primary factors were for social reasons, recent outbreaks, rise in case numbers. What was interesting was that they were issuing antigen tests which are not getting reported with case numbers. Interviewed 23 participants and developing website that allows subjects to register tests and upload all the data. The subjects will get reminders about testing habits. Will be launching the website in middle January. Also in the process of identifying more affordable vendors for antigen test kits.

Conclusions

- 1.) Were able to monitor the population.
- 2.) Early intervention was critical. They didn't see any hospitalizations
- 3.) Digital solutions should be adopted for reporting and tracking purposes

Paula

1 enteric disease.

2 active cases of Tuberculosis in November. One of the cases was a new arrival from Peru. He was doing well but had sensitivity issues and was resistant to treatment. He began to return to work and was difficult to get a hold of. Paula was able to communicate with him and got him administered to Lemuel Shattuck. The second case is a man from Dominican Republic via Florida. He was also administered into Lemuel Shattuck.

Flu in the month of November: 81 cases

Have seen some people positive with flu and COVID

Flu vaccine is available for children 6 months and older

35 more cases of COVID in addition to the 64 reported the Friday prior

Positivity rate:5.96% Incident rate:16.1/100000 Community Level Transmutation: Medium

Deaths:225 since COVID started

Follow Up's

None

Ola Bayode,
Board Member

Ola Bayode

12/13/2022