

City of San Diego  
Clean Syringe Exchange Program Facilitation Committee  
Minutes of the Meeting

April 3, 2003

12:00 p.m.  
Civic Center Plaza  
1200 Third Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
San Diego, CA

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the chair, Jim Dunford, at 12:05 p.m.

Members Present:

Jim Dunford  
Mike Franz  
Debra Fischle-Faulk  
Cynthia Burke  
Robert Lewis, Alternate for Fran Butler-Cohen  
Linda Lloyd  
Cesar Solis  
Jim Varnadore  
Leslie Wade

Staff Present:

Lisa Foster  
Staajabu Heshimu  
Crandell Jones

Guests Present:

Sterling Bogley  
Kathy Evans – Calderwood  
Mateo Camarillo  
Martin Chevalier  
Donna Dow  
Tim Graham  
Vicki Granowitz  
Adrian Kwiatkowski  
John McGaughy  
Michelle Miller  
Nicole Palmer

Claire Robinson  
Edward Robinson  
Laura Starn  
George J. Wajda  
Mary Whisenant

The Chair noted that Daniel Bess has resigned from the Committee; his alternate, Vicki Granowitz, who was present at the meeting, also resigned.

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of March 6, 2002**

The minutes of the March 6, 2003 meeting were approved as corrected (a typo) and will be posted to the City web page.

**3. Status Reports**

**a. Family Health Centers of San Diego – Fran Butler-Cohen/Bob Lewis**

Bob Lewis distributed the latest statistics from the downtown and North Park sites, after which he responded to questions and explained the report format for the benefit of meeting guests. During this period, the downtown program averaged 38 – 40 visits per day and the North Park program has grown to serving 11 clients per day. Mr. Chevalier asked how many clients visit the program once, receive a start-up kit and never come back. Dr. Dunford explained that this information should be part of a final report because it cannot be determined who “never” came back until the end of the pilot program.

**b. San Diego Police Department – Lt. Cesar Solis**

Lt. Solis reported that the SDPD continues to compile data in the geographical areas of the CSEP and that they have not received complaints related to the program. He asked that any specific incidents associated with the CSEP be reported directly to him. Mr. Camarillo asked if the program mobile unit was leaving at the end of the service hours and Mr. Lewis answered “yes”.

**c. San Diego Association of Governments – Dr. Cynthia Burke**

Sandy Keaton reported for SANDAG. She distributed a set of handouts that included a map and two tables: Table 1 – Client Demographic Information at Intake, and Table 2 - Other Information Learned at Intake. Ms. Keaton responded to questions about the handouts.

d. **City Manager's Office – Staajabu Heshimu**

Ms. Heshimu said that as a result of Daniel Bess' resignation, the City Manager will appoint a replacement to the Facilitation Committee to represent the North Park community. Ms. Heshimu also reported that she is waiting for a return call from the new consultant for the Land Use and Housing Committee of the City Council to find out what, if anything, the LU & H Committee is expecting from the Facilitation Committee as a result of the Council hearing last January.

**4. Community Impact Subcommittee Report**

Dr. Dunford discussed the intent of the subcommittee on community impact and summarized efforts to date. Mr. Lewis reported that, as agreed, he had spoken to Professor Susan Baer of SDSU's School of Public Administration. He said she may be interested in helping to make this a project for a Graduate Student but that she would be unavailable to discuss or pursue it for about 30 days. Kathy Evans-Calderwood said that she worked for SDSU and had spoken with Professors Rea, Baer and others with the response that all past surveys and reports related to the City Heights community are available to the Facilitation Committee; she would like to see Committee members avail themselves of these. Dr. Dunford reported that at the last subcommittee meeting, it was proposed that the Committee convene a discussion group/forum in the area of the downtown program to debrief and ask the community's opinion of the impact of the CSEP there.

**5. Roundtable/Public Comment**

Donna Dow commented that there is a lot of business being conducted outside the motor home and asked why the City Heights program site was eliminated. Mr. Kwaitkowski responded that the site has not been permanently eliminated. Dr. Dunford added the CSEP Task Force report recommended only two (2) sites, that the third one was desirable but not necessary to the study.

Mr. Wajda asked if zip code information could be added to the weekly stats. Dr. Dunford discussed the new federal HIPAA Act regulations that are designed to protect patient confidentiality and said that zip code is one of the things that is not to be disclosed. With only eleven (11) clients, for example, it would be easy to reveal more information than the law allows.

A question was asked as to why the CSEP is not operating all over the county. The response was that two City Council members agreed to have the program in their districts on a pilot basis based on incidents per population of IV drug use.

It was again asked how and when the commencement of the one (1) year timeline for the pilot program would be determined. The answer is that the decision is data-driven and the Task Force recommendation was that the 1-year period begin when all sites are up.

**MOTION: Since the North Park site began operating on February 14, 2003, the pilot CSEP will end on February 14, 2004. Varnadore/Franz – carried unanimously.**

Mr. Camarillo asked what was the number of detox slots in the county before the CSEP began and what is that number now; he is concerned that there is a need for more detox beds. He also wanted to know why the high percentage of clients not receiving any services. Mr. Franz responded that McAlister is a county-funded treatment facility, that there has not only been no increase in the number of providers in the county but each current provider took a 5% cut and was asked to maintain the same level of services. Most providers have made CSEP program participants a priority. In response to the latter question, Mr. Lewis said participants receive a variety of services, including education on harm reduction to themselves and the community but all are not ready to be referred to all of the other available services even though they are made aware of them. Ms. Fischle-Faulk asked Mr. Lewis if he would bring a sampling of the educational materials made available to clients to the next Facilitation Committee meeting.

**6. Next Meeting – May 1, 2003**

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.