

City of San Diego
Clean Syringe Exchange Program Facilitation Committee
July 1, 2004

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

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the chair at approximately 12:10 p.m.

Members Present:

Cynthia Burke
Jim Dunford
Kathy Evans-Calderwood
Mike Franz
Vicki Granowitz, Alternate for Michael Powers
Staajabu Heshimu, Alternate for Debra Fischle-Faulk
Robert Lewis, Alternate for Fran Butler-Cohen
Linda Lloyd
Cesar Solis

Staff Present:

Lisa Foster
Staajabu Heshimu

Guests Present:

Susan Baer
Martin Chevalier
Donna Dow
Lora Folsom
Michael Fornes
Joel Harrison
Jeanine Hillis
Theresa Quiroz
Jim Varnadore
Larry Westfall

2. Self-Introductions

Dr. Dunford asked for self-introductions of those present.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 6, 2004

The minutes were approved as presented and will be posted to the City website.

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of June 3, 2004

The minutes were approved with one correction: the second sentence of the City Attorney's Office Status Report (4.c.) should read "She presented a "buffer zone" map for the Committee to view showing the effects of setting the buffer zone around schools, libraries, parks and recreation centers at 300, 500 and 1,000 feet." The corrected minutes will be posted to the City website.

Note: Mr. Lewis pointed out that there were attachments to both sets of minutes (May 6 and June 3) and that these were switched, i.e., attached to the wrong set.

3. Presentations

a. North Park Survey – Dr. Susan Baer

Dr. Baer presented selected results from the North Park Survey after reviewing the project history. She said the research team would deliver the Final Survey Report to Family Health Centers of San Diego by August 1, assuming they promptly received some requested information on program outreach from the Monger Company.

With respect to Level of Support, the survey showed: (1) 71.4% of respondents support (i.e., approve or approve strongly) needle exchange programs in general, (2) 59.5% support the North Park CSEP specifically, (3) 84.8% support locating the CSEP in a medical building, and (4) 81.1% support locating the CSEP in a permanent building rather than the mobile.

With respect to Citizen Participation, the survey showed: (1) only one respondent (of 400 answering this question) said they participated in the planning and implementation of the North Park CSEP, (2) 58.8% said they did not participate because they did not know about the program, (3) 27.5% believed residents were given and opportunity to participate, and (4) 16.3% agreed that officials asked the public for their views.

With respect to Perceived Impact, the survey showed (1) 47.7% believed the CSEP had a positive effect on the North Park community, 22.4% believed it had a negative effect and 29.9% believed the program had no effect on the community, and (2) 29.8% said the CSEP had a positive effect on the image

of North Park, 30.3% said it had a negative effect and 40.0% said the program had no effect on the community's image.

The research recommendations include (1) relocating the CSEP in a building to increase the level of community support for the program, (2) increasing public education about the program and its benefits to increase community participation, and (3) targeting outreach to moderates to switch negative views into positive ones.

b. SANDAG – Dr. Cynthia Burke

Dr. Burke gave an oral overview of the Executive Summary of the Final Evaluation Report and responded to several questions and suggestions. She accepted a suggestion to add a section to the report on substantial questions or comments received from Facilitation Committee members or the community, if she received them. Dr. Dunford suggested that anyone who wanted to have something included should email their questions/comments to Dr. Burke.

c. SDPD – Lt. Cesar Solis

Lt. Solis and Michael Fornes from the San Diego Police Department Crime Analysis Unit explained the sections in the Final Evaluation Report related to criminal activity with emphasis on significant changes in the communities where the syringe exchange programs are located, i.e., East Village and North Park.

d. Downtown Survey – Staajabu Heshimu

Ms. Heshimu said that five (5) of twenty (20) surveys mailed to downtown civic organizations and businesses near the CSEP were returned. All five of the completed surveys were distributed to those present.

5. Formulation of Recommendations to City Council

Jeanine Hillis of the City's Organizational Effectiveness Program was introduced. Ms. Hillis has agreed to facilitate the development of recommendations. She suggested that the recommendations could be developed in categories. Dr. Dunford proposed that the next two Facilitation Committee meetings be devoted to formulating the recommendations and be scheduled for two (2) hours each.

6. Status Reports

- a. Family Health Centers of San Diego –Bob Lewis
As Mr. Lewis had to leave early, Dr. Dunford distributed the most recent operations statistics, noting that utilization of both programs was up.
- b. San Diego Police Department – Lt. Cesar Solis
Lt. Cesar Solis reported that things were quiet around both program sites; SDPD has received only one unrelated complaint.
- c. City Manager’s Office – Staajabu Heshimu
Ms. Heshimu said that because of the City Council’s scheduled summer recess and the legislative recesses in October, November and December associated with the election and holidays, there are only a few opportunities to schedule a hearing on the pilot CSEP at the Council’s Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee. She suggested that the Facilitation Committee aim for the October 6 PS&NS meeting and said she would draft a new timeline for review at the next meeting.
- d. City Attorney’s Office – Lisa Foster
Ms. Foster said that work on the draft ordinance will resume after the recommendations are developed to ensure the ordinance properly addresses the final recommendations.

7. Roundtable/Public Comment

There was no additional Roundtable/Public Comment.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting is August 5, 2004. Linda Lloyd and Jim Varnadore offered to pay for pizza at the next meetings if City staff will arrange.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:40 p.m.