

ALAMEDA COUNTY LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM

**JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES**

May 24, 2007

Attendance:

Voting Directors: Ken, Bukowski, Henry Chang, Jr., Beverly Johnson, Betty Olds

Non-Voting Directors: Alice Lai-Bitker, Gwen Hardy

Alternates: Nancy Templeton

Staff: Mark Allen, Paul da Silva

Others:

Absent:

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m.

1) **Open Forum**

No public comment.

2) **Director's Report**

Mr. Allen informed the JPA Board of Directors that an article in the *ocregister* (Orange County News Source website) reported that lead-tainted Mexican candies were still being sold in California. He said that he is working closely with the Public Health Trust, an adjunct of the Public Health Institute, to release a Request for Proposals to community-based organizations (CBOs) for outreach and education activities to the general public concerning this matter. He added that in addition to the educational component, CBOs will monitor candy manufacturers' compliance to last year's Proposition 65 ruling.

Mr. Allen advised the JPA Board of Directors that Ms. Maricela Narvaez-Foster, Director of Operations, was attending the 11th Annual Western States and Tribes Lead Conference in Seattle, Washington. He said that the conference would last two days, May 24-25, 2007.

Mr. Allen announced the Program will be holding a Healthy Homes training, "The Essentials of Healthy Homes: Practitioners Course," on May 24-25. He indicated this is a result of a collaborative between the Program and UC Berkeley, sponsored by the National Center for Healthy Homes.

3) **Approval of Minutes (April 26, 2007)**

Action: The Board approved the minutes for April 26, 2007.

Moved: Ms. Olds **Seconded:** Mr. Chang **Ayes** 4

4) **Program Operations Committee**

a) **Minutes (May 10, 2007)**

b) **Health and Housing Services Report**

Mr. Allen reviewed the Health and Housing Services Report. There were no questions regarding this report.

c) **Third Quarter Report FY 2006-2007**

Mr. Allen reviewed the third quarter report for Fiscal Year 2006-2007. Ms. Olds expressed her satisfaction in the Program's utilization of the Berkeley Tool Lending library as a site to make available the High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) vacuum cleaners. Mr. Allen said the HEPA vacuum cleaner will shortly be made available to property owners of pre-1978 residential properties in Berkeley. He said that an identical service is already in place at the Temescal library in Oakland. There were no further questions regarding this report.

5) **Administration and Finance Committee**

a) **Minutes (May 10, 2007)**

6) **Announcements by Board Members**

Ms. Olds referred the other JPA Board members to the Oakland Tribune's story regarding West Oakland students finding lead dust on their school's windows. Ms. Lai-Bitker stated that she heard the same story announced on the radio. Mr. Allen said that the Program was contacted by a reporter from the Tribune the day prior to the release of the news story. Ms. Johnson inquired on the roll that the Program could assume to assist the students of West Oakland. Mr. Allen answered that the Program is prepared to provide an increased public education effort and lead awareness strategies to this community. He explained that this would entail similar activities that the Program undertook with the EPA AMCO site. Ms. Lai-Bitker suggested that a letter be drafted, underlining current Program activities in West Oakland and signed by the JPA Board of Directors' Chair, to be submitted to *myword.com*. Mr. Allen said that he would draft such a letter and circulate it to the Board for its consideration and signature at the next JPA meeting. Mr. Chang added that he would inform the City of Oakland's Councilmember Nancy Nadel and Mayor Ron Dellums of the Board's initiative.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

PROGRAM OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

June 14, 2007

Attendance:

Voting Directors: Ken Bukowski, Henry Chang, Jr., Beverly Johnson, Betty Olds

Non-Voting Directors: Gwen Hardy

Alternates: Rubén Briones

Staff: Mark Allen, Marble Smith

Others: None

Absent: Alice Lai-Bitker, Nancy Templeton

1) **Open Forum**

Mr. Allen announced that Mr. da Silva is not in attendance because he is recovering from a car accident.

2) **Director's Report**

Mr. Allen gave an update on the McClymonds initiative. Mr. Allen said that he met with students and teachers from McClymonds' Excel High School in West Oakland. The students, who are part of the Law Academy, have focused their attention on two manufacturing plants near the school and the environmental harm they believe they are doing to their school and the surrounding neighborhood.

The students collected numerous bags of metal chips, with high levels of lead and chromium, from the streets and sidewalks outside the plants. However, the test results for the samples taken inside the classroom, while showing evidence of lead and other metals, did not exceed the EPA indoor standards. The classroom was freshly painted and there was no evidence of chipping or peeling paint.

Mr. Allen said the Program was working with the students and their teacher to develop strategies to advance their concerns. He has also been in contact with Oakland City Councilwoman Nancy Nadel, who also expressed an interest in helping the students.

Mr. Allen said the Lead Program has invited approximately seven or eight McClymonds Excel students, who will be enrolled in the Mayor's summer youth program, to participate in its Healthy Homes trainings this summer. In addition, the Program has also agreed to host two students to work part-time with the Healthy Homes and the Lead Hazard Control grant programs this summer.

Mr. Bukowski asked if the students would receive a certificate for completing the training. Mark Allen indicated that they would. Mr. Chang said that another major issue in West Oakland is asthma, which is exacerbated by the diesel truck traffic serving the Port of Oakland. Mr. Allen said that last year the Law Academy students focused on asthma in West Oakland for their school project. Mayor Johnson noted that truck traffic through residential neighborhoods is aggravated by the ban on trucks on I-580.

Mr. Allen said Lead Program staff was invited to make a presentation to the Alameda County Environmental Task Force's meeting on June 13. This organization represents all environmental regulatory agencies in the county. There appears to be a heightened awareness around lead, and the Program is identifying those agencies it can work with concerning violations of lead regulations.

Mr. Allen said when the Program receives an unsafe work practices call, Program staff attempts to contact the property owner or the contractor in question. Staff also sends a Lead Safe Work Practices information packet to the complainant. Included in the packet is a list of agencies in Alameda County, organized by the city and the type of services they provide.

Mr. Bukowski asked how the Program managed to obtain this information. Mr. Allen said Program staff called the agencies and surveyed them on the types of services they provided. Ms. Johnson asked if the cities have an ordinance prohibiting sand blasting lead based paint. Ms. Olds said the problem in Berkeley is water blasting. Mr. Allen responded that cities had some ordinances that could be used in these situations. For example, he said, most cities have ordinances prohibiting contaminants in storm drains.

In addition, Mr. Allen said state law, Title 17, is being amended to strengthen the prohibition against creating lead hazards without containment. Ms. Johnson questioned whether it was necessary to wait for the state to act and suggested JPA Board members could initiate local ordinances. Mr. Allen said in the past the Program has conducted trainings for city staff on the implications of new state and federal laws. He suggested doing something similar once the amendments to Title 17 are adopted. He also said he would investigate a model ordinance that could be used by local jurisdictions.

Mr. Allen reported on a recent meeting between Program staff and the state's Occupational Lead Program, to assist them with the development of a new safety video that would focus on lead and ladder safety for contractors and painters. The Program will be provided free copies of the video when completed, and there is the possibility that segments could be used on the Program's website.

3) **Health and Housing Services Report**

Mr. Allen and the JPA Board Members reviewed the Health and Housing Services Report. There were no questions regarding these reports.

Meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

June 14, 2007

Attendance:

Voting Directors: Ken Bukowski, Henry Chang, Jr., Beverly Johnson, Betty Olds

Non-Voting Directors: Gwen Hardy

Alternates: Rubén Briones

Staff: Mark Allen, Marble Smith

Others: None

Absent: Alice Lai-Bitker, Nancy Templeton

1) **Open Forum**

Ms. Hardy said she read of a recent recall of a popular toy and asked if the Program had received any information about it. Mr. Allen said yes and that sadly almost everyday the Program is receiving information about products with dangerous levels of lead that are already on the market. Ms. Hardy said we need rules and regulations that will punish the U.S. companies who are importing these contaminated products. Mr. Chang said it is important that we get to the source, before these manufacturers put these products on the market, much as we do for food imports.

2) **Director's Report**

Mr. Allen said the Lead Program is hosting its second meeting on June 19 to discuss a regional Public Awareness Campaign. State funded local childhood lead poisoning prevention programs have been invited to discuss a lead awareness media campaign that would cover the nine Bay Area Counties.

Mr. Allen announced that there is a state legislation, SB 651 that could possibly undercut former Assemblywoman Wilma Chan's legislation on lead in faucets and plumbing fixtures. The JPA Board of Directors strongly supported Assemblywoman Chan's Assembly Bill 1953 that was signed into law by the Governor last year. Mr. Allen showed members of the Board a letter signed by a dozen or more environmental organizations in opposition to SB 651. The Board members requested Mr. Allen to register the Board's opposition as well.

Meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.