

**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH**

**Thursday, May 14, 2015**

A meeting of the Philadelphia Board of Health was held on Thursday, May 14, 2015, in the Municipal Services Building, 1401 J.F.K. Boulevard, 14th Floor, Room 1450.

Board Members Present: Jose A. Benitez, MSW; James W. Buehler, MD; Marla J. Gold, MD; Shannon P. Marquez, MEng, PhD; Scott McNeal, DO; Robert G. Sharrar, MD, MSc; Yolanda A. Slaughter, DDS, MPH.

Attendees: Richard Annuziatio; Jane Baker; Nan Feyler; Thomas Huynh; Giridhar Mallya, MD; Jeff Moran; Patrick O'Neill; Jean Ottis; Coleman Terrell.

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Health Commissioner and Board President James W. Buehler, MD, called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM. He welcomed the Board and guests.

Commissioner Buehler asked the Board to review the minutes of the meeting of March 12, 2015. It was moved that the minutes be approved as submitted. Motion seconded. **Motion passed.**

Dr. Buehler said that the Board will review and take action on three items that had been provided to members in draft form prior to the meeting.

**REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PrEP)  
RESOLUTION (Attachment A)**

Dr. Buehler offered a summary of a draft resolution concerning Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) that had been prepared as a result of discussions that took place during the Board meeting of March 12. This non-binding resolution comprises recommendations of the Board regarding the use of PrEP.

Board members agreed that the trademark drug name used in the draft resolution should be replaced with a generic name. It was moved that the resolution be approved. Motion seconded. **Motion passed.**

**AMENDMENT TO ASBESTOS CONTROL REGULATIONS (Attachment B)**

Thomas Huynh, director of the Division of Air Management Services, told the Board that the proposed changes to Asbestos Control Regulations are necessary to bring the regulations into accord with changes to City Code enacted by City Council following the building collapse at

22<sup>nd</sup> and Market Streets. The regulation requires asbestos inspections and Asbestos Inspection Reports for all demolition and alteration permits issued by the Department of Licenses and Inspection (L&I), rather than just the subset of permits that required an official filing of plans with L&I.

The changes in code and regulations are expected to result in approximately 2,000 additional asbestos inspection reports each year.

Dr. Sharrar asked if a specific laboratory test is required as a part of the inspection. Mr. Huynh said that the test is specified in the regulation.

Patrick O'Neill, an environmental attorney for the City Law Department, further explained that after the collapse at 22<sup>nd</sup> and Market, City Council wanted to tighten all of the existing demolition and renovation regulations. Previously, if a demolition or renovation was not complex enough to require the submission of plans to the City, it would not require an asbestos inspection. Now, buildings built before 1980 and more than three stories tall would require inspection before any type of demolition or renovation.

Dr. Gold asked if Air Management Services had sufficient staff to meet the additional work demand. Mr. Huynh said that it currently expects to meet the demand.

It was moved that the asbestos control regulation changes be approved. Motion seconded.

**Motion passed.**

#### **AMENDMENT TO NOISE CONTROL REGULATIONS (Attachment C)**

Mr. Huynh said that currently those who have obtained a permit from the Office of the Managing Director to hold a demonstration on City property are not subject to the same restrictions regarding noises levels as those producing noise in other circumstances. The purpose of the regulatory changes is to bring the regulations for these events into conformity with the regulations that apply to other sources of noise.

The proposed noise standards set forth different noise limitations depending on the neighboring property use: one limit for neighboring residential facilities, one limit for neighboring commercial facilities, and one limit for "protected" facilities such as hospitals, schools, and churches.

Dr. Sharrar asked if noise from demonstrations has been a problem. Mr. O'Neill said that a group that has demonstrated at Liberty Place and the Convention Center has held events amplified at a high volume that interrupted work in the vicinity. It was because of these events that the Law Department reviewed code and regulations and became aware of a problem in the regulation.

Demonstrations of this kind, using microphones and speakers, had traditionally been subject to the same regulations as other events, but a revision to the regulation several years ago inadvertently created a potential loophole for demonstrations that are held with official City

issued permits. Mr. O'Neill said that the proposed regulatory change will close the loophole.

It was moved that the amendment to noise control regulation changes be approved. Motion seconded. **Motion passed. 6 Approved, 1 Opposed.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

None.

Dr. Buehler said that the next meeting will be devoted to a discussion of long-acting reversible contraceptives. He adjourned the meeting at 7:05 PM.