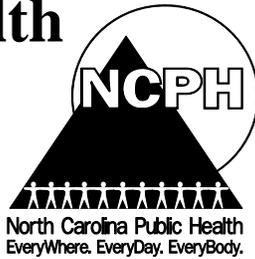


Forsyth County Board of Health



- Dr. Linda L. Petrou, PhD, Chair
- Dr. James K. Doub, OD, Vice Chair
- Beaufort O. Bailey
- Nancy R. Hardie, RPH
- Dr. Allen S. Hudspeth
- Dr. Calvert B. Jeffers, Jr., DVM
- Randall G. Kale, PE
- Dr. Willard L. McCloud, Jr., MD
- Jane Bradner Mosko, RN, CRNA
- Dr. P. Lee Salisbury, III, DDS
- Dr. Ricky Sides, DC

BOARD OF HEALTH RETREAT/MEETING MINUTES July 31, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Linda Petrou, Chair
Dr. James K. Doub, Vice Chair
Dr. Calvert Jeffers
Mr. Randall G. Kale
Dr. Willard McCloud
Ms. Jane Bradner Mosko
Dr. Lee Salisbury
Dr. Ricky Sides

STAFF PRESENT

Dr. C. Timothy Monroe	Ms. Mary Ann Blackwell
Ms. Cynthia Jeffries	Ms. Lorrie Christie
Ms. Ayotunde Ademoyero	Ms. Glenda Dancy
Ms. Jackie Boggs	Ms. Jasmine Getrouw-Moore
Ms. Lynne Mitchell	Ms. Jill Hinckley-Noble
Ms. Quintana Stewart	Ms. Robin Macklin
Mr. Robert Whitwam	Ms. Marisol Quiroz

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Beaufort Bailey
Ms. Nancy R. Hardie
Mr. Allen S. Hudspeth

Public Comment on Agenda Items:

No one from the public asked to be recognized.

Call to Order:

On Saturday, July 31, 2010, the Forsyth County Board of Health held its annual meeting/retreat in the Board Room at the Forsyth County Department of Public Health. Dr. James Doub, called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. The agenda for the day was reviewed. The topics presentation and discussion were focused on dealing with racial disparities in public health and institutionalized racism.

Consideration of Minutes:

The minutes of the June 2, 2010, Board of Health Meeting were reviewed by the Board. A motion was made to approve the minutes as written, seconded, and approved.

Policy on Policies – Consideration of Revisions:

Policies and procedures for the FCDPH are reviewed annually by staff and/or designated committees and revised as necessary. The Policy on Policies is the document which defines and directs the process carried out by Senior Management, and which is approved by the Board . A motion was made to approve the revised Policy on Policies as written, seconded, and approved.

Racial Disparities in Health Status as a Public Health Responsibility:

The video “In Health and in Wealth”, in the series entitled “Unnatural Causes - Is Inequality Making Us Sick” was discussed. The point was made that one of the strongest indicators of the level of health and welfare that we enjoy in life is a function of not just where we live right now but where we were born and raised and the neighborhoods we grew up in. The way we build our communities is through a public process. Communities do not happen randomly and they do not take the format and configuration they have as a function of random processes. It is done by a process of deliberate decision-making, and that non-random process is affected enormously by race, ethnicity and wealth.

Dr. Monroe reviewed a series of slides to give an idea of what racial disparities look like in Forsyth County from the 2000 census. The charts clearly showed the lines of racial segregation and their correlation with the distribution of wealth.

Exercise – Cycle of Socialization:

Led by the Anti-Racism team, the group was divided into two circles and was asked specific questions regarding their background experiences. Everyone had an opportunity to get to know something about another person as the exercise moved around the circle and shared information. The exercise was designed to take people out of their comfort zones and start them to think about different life experiences related to racial and ethnic identity.

Defining Racism:

Reverend Williard Bass of the Institute for Dismantling Racism spoke to the group about institutional racism, internalized racial oppression and internalized racial superiority. The group viewed a short video and then discussed the different definitions of racism and related that to everyday life.

Fundamental Causes and Public Policy Solutions:

Much of the afternoon addressed fundamental causes of poor health including early-life stress and life-long stress which may effect: (1) the immune system and impact susceptibility to infection and carcinogenesis; and (2) risk behaviors (ex. eating behaviors, alcohol, tobacco and drug use and sexual behaviors) which may predispose a person to infection, injury, and other poor health outcomes. Such stresses are inversely correlated to access to wealth. The group discussed the pros and cons of a broad range of proposed solutions including redistribution of wealth (ex. livable minimum wage and progressive tax structure) and social engineering (ex. legally mandated school desegregation).

Adjourn:

A motion was made to adjourn and seconded. By majority vote, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Dr. C. Timothy Monroe
Secretary to the Board

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