

Tobacco and Health Trust Fund Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Legislative Office Building

Room 1C

Hartford, Connecticut

Members Present: Anne Foley (Chair), Diane Becker, Patricia Checko, Suchitra Krishnan-Sarin, Ellen Dornelas, Kelly Leppard, Ken Ferrucci, Michael Rell, Raul Pino, and Fatama Williams for Robert Zavoski.

Members Absent: Elaine O’Keefe, Cheryl Resha, Robert Leighton, Elizabeth Keyes, Lisa Hammersley, and Larry Deutsch.

<p>Welcome and Introductions</p>	<p>The Chair, Anne Foley noted a quorum and convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. Members introduced themselves. The chair noted that Cheryl Resha was reappointed by the Governor for three years. She also noted that the reappointment of Robert Zavoski, Governor’s Appointment, and Ellen Dornelas, Senate Majority Leader’s Appointment were pending. Staff is working to secure an appointment by the House Minority Leader to replace Geralyn Laut.</p> <p>Governor Dannel P. Malloy joined the meeting to express appreciation to the members for their work on the Board and thanked them for serving.</p> <p>The Governor provided an overview of smoking trends in Connecticut. The Governor noted that he will review other options for additional funding for the Board. The Governor also noted that none of the proposals to address Connecticut’s deficit set forth by the</p>
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	<p>Executive Branch, Democrat and Republican Leadership removes the \$1.6 million currently available to the board.</p> <p>The Governor spoke of his personal experience regarding a family member impacted by the damaging effects of tobacco use.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the Governor, on behalf of the board, for his leadership in anti-tobacco efforts, including increasing the maximum amount that the board may recommend for disbursement, enhancing enforcement efforts designed to prevent tobacco use among minors, and banning the sale of e-cigarettes to minors.</p> <p>After emphasizing the importance of protecting youth from the adverse effects of smoking, the Governor departed.</p>
<p>Approval of September 23, 2015 Meeting Minutes</p>	<p>The Chair noted one correction to the September 23, 2015 meeting minutes e-mailed to members. The Chair stated that a revised copy is in the board packet. The correction revised Lucinda Hogarty, as Executive Director of the American Cancer Society to Executive Director of the CT Cancer Partnership.</p> <p>Ken Ferrucci moved approval of the September 23, 2015 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Diane Becker. The minutes were approved on a voice vote with the change noted above and clarification that the reduction in the numbers of calls to the QuitLine may be related to the fact that the Tips from Former Smokers Media Campaign aired by CDC ended and DSS stopped enrolling participants into</p>

	<p>the Rewards to Quit Program on June 30, 2015.</p>
<p>Review of Status of the Biorepository Program</p>	<p>The Chair gave a summary of the Biorepository Program. She noted that in 2009 the legislature approved the Board’s recommendation to fund a Biorepository Program. DPH contracted with UConn Health Center to develop a Biorepository Program for \$250,000. She noted that in the early stages of the project the National Cancer Institute shifted away from supporting the development of a biorepository. As a result, the original focus of the project changed to the development of an EVirtual biorepository project. Due to this shift some of the work was not completed by the contractor. The Chair added that in the midst of the contract the Board recommended and the legislature approved and additional \$250,000 for the enhancement of the demonstration program and the development of a biorepository for genetic samples of smokers. The Chair asked Dr. Pramod Srivastava to give an update on the current program.</p> <p>Dr. Pramod Srivastava gave an overview. Major points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established a smoking cessation clinic to provide comprehensive cessation interventions and to serve as the primary place of recruitment for the biorepository program. • Created a database to investigate the smoking history of patients, assess medical, psychological and substance use records to use for individualize treatment. • Created genetic samples for analysis.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Began work to establish a virtual tumor biorepository. <p>Ellen Dornelas asked that the Tobacco and Health Trust Fund Board be acknowledged in all literature, research projects, and manuscripts produced with funds from the Board.</p>
<p>Development of FY 2016 Funding Recommendations</p>	<p>The Chair stated that the board had about \$1.6 million available for disbursement. She reviewed the Board’s Guiding Principles for Funding Decisions, the Summary of the Board’s Current Programs, End Dates for Current Programs, and a Summary of Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco and Control Program for 2014 recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). She also referred members to the Summary of the Public Hearing Testimony and the Final Evaluation Report of the Board’s Community Cessation Programs in the board packets.</p> <p>The members reviewed the Summary of Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Program for 2014, which shows how funding available to the board may be disbursed based on CDC recommended intervention strategies. The Chair indicated that if the board used the recommended spending levels to disburse the board’s \$1.6 million, at a minimum, \$640,492 would be allocated for State and Community Interventions, \$176,136 for Mass-Reach Health Communication Interventions, \$544,419 for Cessation Interventions, \$160,123 for Surveillance and Evaluation, and \$80,062 for Infrastructure, Administration and Management.</p>

Board members discussed whether or not to allocate funds to the Infrastructure Administration and Management category. Members asked DPH to provide a status report on the current infrastructure, administration and management contractor including specific contractual administrative tasks.

After further discussion the members agreed to set aside a portion of the cessation funds for the Department of Correction (DOC) to expand cessation services to clients in their halfway houses. The Chair will request a proposal from DOC.

Members agreed that the 2016 RFP should include provisions for e-cigarettes and other tobacco related products.

The Chair reiterated the ending dates of the Board's current program. She stated that current programs will run through 2017 with the QuitLine ending in 2018. The Chair recommended that the Board begin planning for the 2018 disbursement recommendations in 2017.

Michael Rell asked if Teen Kids News (TKN) will submit a final report. Staff will work with TKN to ensure that a final report is prepared and presented to the board at its meeting in the spring.

The Board requested the following information for the next meeting: DOC proposal to expand cessation services to clients in their halfway houses.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping of Board Funded Programs and other tobacco related services. • Research the feasibility to place stickers with the QuitLine information on packs of cigarettes. • Revise the proposed funding framework to reflect the amount requiring legislative approval (\$1,188,335) as well as the actual amount available to the board (\$1.6 million). <p>Patricia Checko moved approval for the Chair to proceed with the development of the board’s 2016 disbursement recommendations based on the proposed funding framework and to gather additional information requested by the board. The motion was seconded by Ellen Dornelas. The motion was approved on a voice vote.</p>
Next Steps	<p>The Chair noted that the next meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 18, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 1C at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford. A draft of the 2015 Tobacco Board Report will be available for the December meeting.</p> <p>The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.</p>