|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

**Steering Committee Minutes**

**Friday March 7, 2014**

**7:30-9:00 AM**

**MOMS Conference Room**

**Tower Professional Park, 7906 Davenport Street**

Sharon Wade chaired the meeting

**Introductions**

**Members Present:** Sharon Wade, Vicki J. Sunderman, Laura Klug, Sharon Plummer, Linda Ohri, Georganna Felts, Pat O’Hanlon, Bridget Rolenc, Michael Owens, John Pawlowski, Melanie Moore, Michelle Hokinson, Pauli Nejezchleb, Patsy Nowatzke, Jeanne Burke, Jude Dean, Jessica Moyle, Megan Klein

**Members Absent:** Jane McGinty, Leslie Thiele, Cathy Carrico, Katie O’Keefe, Meera Varman, Shirley Delair,

**Announcements:**

IAC Webinar is schedules for March 14, 2014 at 1 PM

National Public Health week is the 1st week in April

**Minutes** from the February 7, 2014 meeting approved.

**Treasury Report:**

No changes since February

Balance: $15,295.65

**Committee Reports:**

*Community Affairs: Georgia Felt and Bridget Rolenc*

1. Black Family Health and Wellness Fair will be held Saturday March 29th 2014
   1. Have had a great response on volunteers with enough to assist at the event. Creighton Operation Immunization students will participate as well.
2. Live Well Council Bluffs Family Wellness Fair will be April 26th, 2014 at Thomas Jefferson High School
   1. Bridget and Georgiana will be reaching out to volunteers for this event
3. Bridget Rolenc and Pat O’Hanlon continue to get Tdap vaccine to daycares.
4. Discussed purchasing name badges for the workers at health fairs with task force logo, this would cost about $90 for 50 badges which would be more than enough. Also would like to get a table cloth to make the table more professional. Committee agreed with this purchase.

*Professional Affairs:* (Chairs-Cathy Carrico and Katie O’Keefe).

Chairs were not available. Brochure should be finalized and hopefully out this week.

*Legislative Advocacy:* (Chair-Linda Ohri)

**Bills on this year’s agenda**

* + - 1. LB619 – Carryover bill which would require each school district in Nebraska to offer sexual health education. Talking about HPV is included in this education.
      2. LB395 – Carryover bill that allows for expansion of school health clinics which could make vaccines more accessible. Priority bill from head of HHS.
      3. LB460 – Carryover bill that would require every student entering the seventh grade to have a meningococcal vaccine and at age sixteen to have a booster immunization containing meningococcal conjugate vaccine.
      4. LB859 - This bill consolidated multiple bills.
         1. Addresses influenza vaccine and requires that providers in acute care facilities offer and record who received the influenza vaccine and who did not. It does not require the employee to get the vaccine.
         2. Clarifies existing statutes by stating that the offer of immunizations is not required when there are contraindications or nationwide shortages of vaccines.
         3. Pneumococcal is tied into the bill as well requiring it to be offered during the season.
         4. Extends to acute and long term care, as well as intermediate.
         5. Also requires offer of Tdap to residents.
         6. Linda Ohri sent a letter of support to open hearing.
      5. LB887- Adopt the Wellness in Nebraska Act. The intent of the Wellness in Nebraska Act is to provide health care coverage to uninsured and under insured newly eligible individuals, age 19 through 65 between 0 and 133% of the Federal Poverty Limit, who are not otherwise qualified for Medicaid, through a Medicaid expansion demonstration waiver. Introduced by Kathy Campbell (with HHS) and is patterned off of Iowa’s program. Contains a wellness component where they pay up to 2% of income as premium which can be waived by participation in wellness programs
      6. To find more information about these or any bills, you can go to the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature page at <http://nebraskalegislature.gov/>
         1. You can search for specific bills by typing the number into the upper right hand corner of the page

The meningitis legislature (LB 859) is still on the docket but no update. Anti- vaccine people are against. Sharon through the public schools will address bill.

*Website:* (Chair-Sharon Plummer)

1. Web site is live. The URL is [http://immunizenebraska.org/](http://immunizenebraska.org/%20)

**Other Business**

**Spirit of Advocacy Award**

The Committee has decided to start a *Spirit of Advocacy* A*ward* this year and are requesting submissions. The award is to honor those who have demonstrated exceptional public service and dedication to improving public health through immunization advocacy in their community. The awardee will be recognized at the Annual Immunize Nebraska Conference.

Further details regarding the award and the application can be found at <http://immunizenebraska.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/2014-Conference-Award-Nomination-FormPDF.pdf>. A word document version is also available on the website. Please submit nominations to Laura Klug at [lauraklug@creighton.edu](mailto:lauraklug@creighton.edu) by April 28th 2014.

Meeting adjourned

Next meeting scheduled for April 4, 2014, from 7:30 to 9:00 AM at the Metro Omaha Medical Society (MOMS) office at 79th and Davenport.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patsy Nowatzke

Metro Omaha Immunization Task Force