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Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Wednesday August 19, 2015

7:30 – 9:00 AM

Methodist Hospital/Centennial Room

Meeting called to order at 7:30 AM by Chair-elect Cathy Carrico

**Introductions**

**Announcement:** Thank you to Libby Henning, Bridget Rolenc and Methodist Hospital for providing the meeting space and refreshments.

**Minutes:** The May 20, 2015 minutes were reviewed and approved.

**Treasury Report:**

Expenses: $100.00 Conference Registration for Manuel Bangsil and Roberta Martin (Students)

$500.00 Spirit of Advocacy Award (given to Boystown Clinic Nurses)

$204.08 Post Printer Cost and Registration Fee for a grant recipient (Jessica Palmer)

$55.00 Walnut plaque for outgoing Chair

Deposits: None

Balance: $21,200.29

**Committee Reports:**

**Community Affairs: (Chair: Georganna Felt/Bridget Rolenc)**

Events that the committee has/will be participating in:

1. Juneteenth was held on June 19, 2015; good participation for this event.
2. Joy of Life Ministry 40 people screened.
3. Bi National health fair will be held on October 13 for seniors, October 14 for women and on October 17 for the general population
4. Bi National in Council Bluffs (Counsel is both Nebraska and Iowa) on October 15, 2015. Mobile Nursing will be there to give flu vaccines.
5. Refugee’s flu vaccine will be given by Pat O’Hanlon and Bridget Rolenc as in the past years.

Georganna Felt and Bridget Rolenc may be sending out email seeking volunteers to help with the health fairs. Especially need Spanish speaking people to assist in the Bi National Health Fairs.

**Professional Affairs: (Cathy Carrico)**

The 2015 conference date is set for Friday June 5, 2015 at the downtown Hilton Hotel. There were 276 Conference Participants; 26 telehealth of the conference to Scottsbluff and Valentine.

**Legislative: (Chair: Linda Ohri)**

Senator Crist has agreed to bring the meningitis bill as a priority bill; he has agreed working with co-sponsors. Linda has a pack of information that will be sent to senators for educational. An email will be sent to you that will address sending a plea to your senator to support this bill. The bill is LB18 and it reads to mandate administration of meningitis vaccine 1st dose to be given to 11-12 years and 2nd dose after grade when turns age 16 years of age. National survey average rate of 70% for 1st dose as of 2014, no state data however Nebraska had lower rate in 2014 compared to 2014; dropped to 74%. Deborah L. Wexler, MD from the Vaccine Action Coalition (VAC) will be doing a drive to increase the 2nd dose of meningitis vaccine. 13 states with mandates have 89% so it seems this is the best way to reach goals. Any additional information will be sent via the membership list serve.

‘Voices of Meningitis’ have a PSA that is 31 second and impact is great. This may be a tool to show legislatures the devastation of meningitis.

**WEBSITE Report: (Chair:** Laura Klug)

1. Footer has been change,
2. Spirit of Advocacy Section
3. Home page altered to include August in
4. Google Analytic 750 hits last month
5. Add history of the task force
6. Website is added to the magnet
7. Would like resource page

The URL is [http://immunizenebraska.org/](http://immunizenebraska.org/%20)

* + 1. Username: ITFmember
    2. Password: immunize!

Public Relations sub-committee has been formed; Jeanne Burke has agreed to chair this meeting. This committee will get PSA’s out to membership and providers.

New blog from Dr. Kotula will be the interview with Dr. Bittner about the new relationship to Cuba and health problems that Cuba faces.

**NEISIS Update (Michelle Hood)**

Michelle has prepared a proposal to DHHS administration to make vaccines given in the state to be mandated to enter in the registry. If the DHHS administrator approves this then Michelle would be allowed to try to find a senator to support and propose a bill.

Registry updates on the website; updated monthly. <http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/nesiis_index.aspx>

**Next meeting** scheduled Wednesday November 18, 2015, 7:30 to 9:00 AM at Methodist Hospital.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patsy Nowatzke

Secretary/Treasurer

Metro Omaha Immunization Task Force