

**Governor's Council on Physical Fitness
Health and Nutrition Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday, November 14, 2007
10:15 – 12:15 PM
and
3:05 – 5:00 PM**

Committee Members Present

Judy Schaechter, Co-chair
Carlos Castresana
Javier Garcia-Bengochea
Amy Young

Council Members Absent

Dr. Ana Viamonte-Ros
Sheila Sheridan

Others Present

Casey Hannan
Catherine Howard
Antoinette Meeks
Carolyn Timmann
Carol Vickers
Chandler Williamson

Dr. Schaechter called the meeting to order at 10:53 AM. She turned the meeting over to Ms. Howard for roll call and housekeeping.

After the announcements Dr. Schaechter introduced the invited speaker, Mike Evante from Polar Productions. Mr. Evante provided the committee with an overview of the Good to Go Gang program.

The committee members asked Mr. Evante questions about cost and sustainability.

Dr. Schaechter introduced technical support personnel available: Casey Hannan, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dr. Antoinette Meeks, Department of Education, and Carol Vickers, Department of Health.

The subcommittee began to move through the final draft of their subcommittee's recommendations that would be presented to the entire council for approval the next day.

Ms. Young provided an update on the recommendation for increasing access to breakfast in schools. After her discussions with representatives from the GotBreakfast? Foundation, she was not certain that recommending a change in the statute was necessary. After debate, the subcommittee decided to leave the recommended draft language as it was.

The group moved on to the subject of body mass index (BMI) collection. Dr. Schaechter asked Mr. Hannan for an update on BMI collection policies around the country. Mr. Hannan highlighted Arkansas. He stated that lessons learned were:

- 1) There needs to be a good linkage between clinicians and school health
- 2) BMI collection should be done with a purpose in mind; i.e., what end does the school have in mind for the data that it collects?
- 3) Positive change from BMI collection and reporting is in part dependent on parental readiness.

Dr. Schaechter and Mr. Castresana agreed that the committee should not be worried about parental pushback, but rather presenting the information in a non-threatening manner to parents and providing them with a support system should the parents want to initiate change.

Dr. Schaechter changed the topic to obesity as a reportable disease. There was discussion about the implications to insurance that would result from this.

Ms. Timmann provided an update on the Governor's Fitness Challenge. She stated that the Governor's Office was considering launching the program in schools in January on a limited scale. They are still working through the long and short term rewards. They are formulating a program that will incorporate all fitness levels and are looking to involve the families.

The group moved on to review the recommendation for repealing the tax on private health club memberships. They decided to not include this in their final recommendations since they could not anticipate what the fiscal impacts would be.

Dr. Schaechter recognized Mr. Williamson, Chief of Staff for Senator Dawson and solicited his input on the subcommittee's recommendations. Mr. Williamson requested that the council consider and address the epidemic of type 2 diabetes. The subcommittee wholeheartedly agreed that measures need to be taken to reduce the burden of this disease.

Dr. Schaechter recessed the meeting at 12:15 PM.

Dr. Schaechter reconvened the meeting at 3:45 PM.

The subcommittee finished reviewing their final recommendations for incorporation into the full council review the next day.

There was some debate about the recommendation to eventually eliminate corn syrups in the food at schools and child care facilities. The subcommittee agreed to recommend that the reductions but not the elimination of corn syrup since the science behind the elimination was not yet definitive.

The subcommittee requested input from Mr. Hannan regarding food advertisement restrictions. They specifically were interested in the feasibility of these restrictions. Mr. Hannan stated used the example of tobacco advertising and stated that restrictions on food advertising would be more complicated. The subcommittee decided not to pursue this issue.

The subcommittee began reviewing the recommendations drafted by the other subcommittees. They were not able to make it through all of the recommendations, but were able to formulate questions to ask the other subcommittees in the full council deliberations the next day.

The questions were:

- 1) To Active Lifestyles Subcommittee: Please describe why February was chosen for the Healthy Floridian's Month. Is there concern about it conflicting with other activities such as Black History Month activities?
- 2) To Active Lifestyles Subcommittee: Does the "public/private stakeholders" include bariatric surgeons?
- 3) To Active Lifestyles Subcommittee: Is it a statutory prohibition to develop public/private partnerships?
- 4) To Active Lifestyles Subcommittee regarding the use of public lands and facilities after hours: Are you recommending that these areas are provided for free? Can local entities find funding to help with the cost of overhead (e.g., clean-up costs, small admission fee, etc.)

Due to time constraints the subcommittee was unable to review the Education Subcommittee's recommendations. The committee members agreed to review these before the full council meeting the next day.

Dr. Schaechter adjourned the meeting at 5:05 PM

Written by: Catherine Howard
Approved by: Judy Schaechter