

Approved April 14, 2009

GACHA
Executive Council Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2009
Conference Call

Members Present

Mark Garrett
Judi Billings
Charlie Emlet

Members Excused

Jeff Schouten
David Lee
Mic McCoy

Members Unexcused

Staff

John Peppert
Lynn Johnigk

Others Present

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Garrett at 2:00 p.m.
The agenda was reviewed. Discussion item “Medical Marijuana” was removed.

Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2008

There was consensus to allow the minutes as printed. The following correction is to be made: add Judith Billings under Members Excused. Allowed with the correction. One abstention.

January 5, 2009

It was moved by Emlet to accept the minutes as printed. Seconded by Garrett. The following correction is to be made under Vice Chair Report, 4th paragraph: replace the question marks with “HIV care and prevention direct services”. Passed with correction. One abstention.

Vice Chair Report – Mark Garrett

The Medical Monitoring Project is in its fourth year. There are twenty-six sites funded and Washington State was invited to reapply for money.

AIDS Awareness and Action Day is February 18 in Olympia. A total of 350 are registered to attend, thirteen are from Spokane.

DOH Report – John Peppert

Legislature –Infectious Disease and Reproductive Health is working on very few bills. A part of HB 5890, flexibility in the school system, suspends AIDS education until July 1, 2011. The Office of Superintendent and Public Instruction supports the concept but has concerns around some of the bills elements.

Of the bills introduced so far on health care issues, none impact the Early Intervention Program.

Charging a five cent tax on bottled water to raise funds for local health is under discussion.

Budget – There is no information regarding the supplemental or 2009-11 budgets. A preliminary budget forecast for February 19 was requested by the Legislature.

All public health funding has been removed from the stimulus bill passed by the Senate today. The House version still contains funding for HIV, STD, and TB.

WACs – There are different concerns being raised with different recommendations suggested depending on the group reviewing the proposals. Peppert suggested an in-person Council meeting on March 10 with invitations extended to Pierce County AIDS Foundation, Lifelong AIDS Alliance, and the AIDSNET Council so all can discuss the current drafts. All agreed this was a good idea.

Kevin Fenton, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, announced the new director for the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention is Dr. Jonathon Mermin.

Boards and Commissions – Governor Gregoire’s most recent proposal regarding boards lists GACHA on the “take no action and keep” list.

March Meeting

Schedule for 9 – 12:30

WAC discussion – 1 hour

2009 workplan – meetings, cost reduction

PREP

AIDS Awareness and Action Day Report

The conference call was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.