

Montana Public Health Association
Advocacy and Policy Committee
Nov. 30, 2010 Meeting

Attendance: Cintya, Melanie Reynolds, Joyce Burgett, Barbara Schneeman, Lynn Hellenga, Alicia Thompson, Erin McGowan, and Kristina Davis

U of M Masters of Public Health Students: Anna Buckner, Rebecca, Katelyn Loring, Usha kumari Valappil, Carly Borth, , Nikki Graham, Debi Gibson, Jennifer Pinnow and Catherine Sanders

Agenda/Notes

1.0 Introductions

2.0 Additions To Agenda

3.0 Old Business

3.1 Food Safety Legislation – Going back to the House, passed Senate, some discussion regarding Senator Tester’s amendments, there were a couple of late breakers, just making sure small farmers have some responsibility when it comes to food borne illness. Tester’s amendments are now being considered under Bennett’s amendments. It was decided by the committee to visit with Deb Frandsen, Senator Tester’s field staff person, and have a conversation with her regarding the public health concerns and food safety. Melanie, Jennifer and Lora will have a conversation with Deb about the public health concerns.

3.2 Children, Families, Health, & Human Services Interim Committee 2009-2010- not discussed

3.3 Lobbyist 2011 Legislative Session- not discussed

3.4 Prevention and Public Health Fund Update Johans amendment (Cintya)- not discussed

3.5 MPHA Preconference workshop not discussed

3.6 Safe Chemicals Act- Sign on Letter Women’s Voices of the Earth - a lot of concern with the statistical data and how it was used. MPHA will support this legislation but will need to approve any other communication where our name is used.

4.0 New Business

4.1 Legislative Session Barbara purveying all the bill requests, developing a preference list.

Discussed MPHA priorities as determined by the membership in relationship to the bills drafted. APHA has state bill tracking capabilities on their online community site. If others would like to access this site, name and email address would need to be sent to APHA for permission to this site. APHA has talking points available for the priority issues that MPHA has chosen.

Once we know who is on committee assignments, we need to start focusing on who has relationships with those key committee members. AMPHO’s shifting their priorities to defense. A smaller committee will be formed to decide how we are going to proceed coordinating with AMPHO and MEHA.

Kristina, Barb and Melanie volunteered to be on this smaller committee. Students Carly and Usha would like to be part of it. MEHA should be invited also.

4.2 EPA and Public Health Sign on Letter- Lora will email this information to the group and the group will send their comments back.

5.0 Next webinar