

Meeting Summary

Tobacco and Health Trust Fund Board

August 14, 2013

2:00 p.m.

Room 2A

450 Capitol Avenue

Hartford, Connecticut

Members Present: Anne Foley, Katherine Lewis, Robert Zavoski, Elaine O’Keefe, Ellen Dornelas, Diane Becker, Lisa Hammersley, Patricia Checko, Robert Leighton, and Geralyn Laut.

Members Absent: Ken Ferrucci, Cheryl Resha, Douglas Fishman, Joel Rudikoff, Cynthia Adams, Larry Deutsch, and Michael Rell.

Welcome	The chair, Anne Foley, noted the presence of a quorum and began the Board of Trustees meeting by having everyone introduce themselves.
Approval of May 15 th Meeting Minutes	<p>Patricia Checko asked about the outstanding issue mentioned in the “Next Steps” portion of the minutes, regarding the board’s 2010 recommendation to fund the second component of the Lung Cancer and Genetic Research Project for \$250,000. The chair asked for a small workgroup to be convened to examine the issue, and Deputy Commissioner Katherine Lewis agreed to coordinate a meeting with the appropriate parties.</p> <p>Patricia Checko moved approval of the May 15th meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Robert Zavoski. The minutes were approved unanimously on a voice vote.</p>
Review Legislative and Budget Changes to the Tobacco and Health Trust Fund	The chair reviewed the legislative and budgetary changes to the Tobacco and Health Trust Fund Board from the 2013 session and answered clarifying questions from members. The chair explained that the board has \$3 million to expend in each fiscal year.

	<p>Robert Zavoski clarified that the UConn-Medicaid Partnership FY 2014-15 \$200,000 earmark for the Tobacco Health and Trust Fund was to fund the establishment of a collaboration between the UConn Health Center and the Department of Social Services through which the University's faculty expertise could support the administration of the Medicaid Program in a manner that best makes use of federal funding. The earmark would be used to fund the establishment of the partnership.</p>
<p>New Ethics Opinion</p>	<p>The chair asked Cynthia Isales, Esq., Assistant General Counsel from the Office of State Ethics to briefly explain the new Advisory Opinion No. 2013-03. Ms. Isales gave a summary of the opinion and answered clarifying questions from members.</p>
<p>Discussion of Public Hearing</p>	<p>The chair reviewed the summary of the public hearing testimony regarding recommendations for expenditure of Tobacco and Health Trust Funds for 2013.</p> <p>The board did not express interest in recommending expenditure of funds on radon education and awareness.</p> <p>The board discussed recommending expenditure of funds on tobacco retailer violation programs. Carole Meredith from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services gave some background and information on the department's current efforts in this area. She will prepare written information to share with the board for their next meeting.</p>
<p>Discussion of 2013 Funding Recommendations</p>	<p>The chair asked for board input and discussion regarding funding priorities for 2013.</p> <p>The chair reviewed two potential opportunities for funding submitted by Robert Leighton: (1) prevention initiatives through the CT Alliance Boys and Girls Club; and (2) expansion of target</p>

	<p>population for quitlines services through ProChange. The chair also reviewed another potential funding opportunity that is supported by three Greenwich legislators: Teen Kids News series of anti-tobacco segments. The Teen Kids News group will be asked to attend the next meeting to explain their funding proposal more thoroughly.</p> <p>Barbara Walsh from the Department of Public Health will prepare information on previously funded existing contracts to present at the next meeting in order to facilitate priority setting and determine the level of existing need. She will also provide information on the evaluative aspects of the funded proposals.</p> <p>Patricia Checko motioned to make a recommendation to fund the Department of Correction (DOC) proposal for its second year, to honor the board's prior commitment. The motion was seconded by Elaine O'Keefe. The board unanimously approved the motion on a voice vote. DOC will present on their work to date from the with first-year funding at the next meeting.</p> <p>Ellen Dornelas discussed making impoverished populations a priority for funding.</p>
Next Steps	<p>The chair announced that a survey will be circulated to determine board members' availability for the next meeting.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.</p>