

Cook County Safe Disposal of Pharmaceuticals Advisory Committee

Wednesday, February 27, 2019, 10 a.m.
Conference Room of 704 Daley Center, Chicago, Illinois 60608
Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Cara Smith (Chair), Comm. Debra Shore (MWRD member), Olga Lyandres (Community member), Peter Fotos (Producer Representative), Christopher Lipman (Dept. of Environmental Control member), Percy Harris (Dept. of Public Health Member), Patricia Horne (non-voting member). Undersheriff Paula Driver Evans (Guest).

Meeting was called to order at 10:10 am. by Chair Smith.

I. Old Business

A. Collection and Destruction Activity. Patricia Horne reported on the activities of the Sheriff's Prescription Drug Take Back Program (Program) including collection and destruction from 80 permanent sites. Collection and destruction by the Sheriff's Prescription Drug Take Back Program and monitoring of other public programs located in Cook County amounted to 20,000 pounds of unwanted medicine in 2018.

Horne also reported the Program website had been expanded to include a video on how to dispose of unwanted medicine, an interactive map of permanent collection locations, instructions for the free Mail Back Service provided to senior citizens and homebound disabled adult residents of Cook County, a Producer and Repackager registry, past Advisory Committee Meeting Agendas and Minutes as well as other reports, data and links. Horne noted that promotional materials had been developed for the program including multi-language written and voicemail instructions for the 1-844 Got Usd Rx Toll Free Hotline for County residents, brochures, posters and bumper stickers, and a direct mail campaign for the Mail Back Service.

It was further reported that the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago ("MWRD") had again generously approved a grant for the program in the amount of \$100,000 (split between a full time sworn officer's staff time and purchase of permanent collection boxes for eligible locations in the MWRD boundaries). Horne further reported that an in-kind contribution for disposal services had also been received from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for twenty permanent collection box sites, and that Covanta Indianapolis, IN donated destruction services free of charge.

It was reported that the 2017 Annual Report was posted on the Sheriff's Prescription Drug Take Back Program webpage and the 2018 Annual Report was in the process of being completed.

A webpage link will be sent to each member along with a Request Form for persons eligible for the Mail Back Service.

II. New Business

New locations for permanent collection boxes were discussed as well as possible links to hospices to assist grieving families and skilled nursing sites.

The biennial survey was discussed.

III. Schedule for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Quarter Meetings

The following was agreed to for the 2019 Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule: Wednesday, February 27, 2019, Tuesday, April 23, 2019, Tuesday, July 23, 2019, Tuesday, December 3, 2019. All meetings begin at 10 a.m. and are held in the 704 Conference Room, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington, Chicago, Illinois 60602.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Horne