

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 1, 2014

To: Members of the VCU Fluoride Commission – Dave Bengs (Chair), Mark Thiros (Co-Chair), Tim Daly, Judith Harrington, Jon Schoer, Kevin Steele, Jennifer Waldo

From: Stu Walesh, Facilitator

CC: Steve Poulos; John Hardwick; Mike Langer; Shihua Chen; Times; Post Tribune; Gary Foreman; William Hirzy; Ed Charbonneau; Mary Woodworth; Peggy Busse; James R. Miller, MD; Douglas M. Bush; Terry G. Schechner, DDS; Linda S. Orgain; Hollis Russinof; Ed Popcheff; E. Angeles Martinez Mier, DDS, MSD, PhD; Jim Powers; Michelle Greenhalgh; Jean Caster; Ron Ziolkowski; Eileen Curosh, RDH, BS; Isaac Zeckel, DDS; Christopher Gall, DDS; Robert Corns, DDS; Michael Pancini; Jillian Pancini; Paul Sechrist

Re: Summary of Meeting 4 on Thursday, June 25, 2014

Participants: All members of the Commission; Steve Poulos, Utilities Director; Shihua Chen, Water Operations Manager; Stu Walesh, Facilitator; John Hardwick, Coordinator; Ron Ziolkowski, IT; the speakers listed below, about 30 citizens, and James Wolf of the *Post*.

1. Welcome – The special purpose meeting started at 5:05 PM with Commission Chair Dave Bengs welcoming everyone and indicating that the purpose of this Commission meeting was to provide an opportunity for individuals to **speak in opposition** to the Valparaiso City Utilities Department of Water Works/City of Valparaiso, through its treatment and distribution of the public water supply, being the mechanism to provide fluoride to the general public via systemic fluoridation. Commission members introduced themselves.

2. Speakers – Presentations that had been pre-arranged were offered as follows:

Gary L. Foreman – CEO, Producer, and Director of Native Sun Productions, Chicago, IL and San Antonio, TX. He arranged for all of the presentations and introduced the the speakers. Gary Foreman showed a video featuring Sharly Attkison, investigative reporter (The video is titled “Sharyl Attkison on Life After CBS News “ and is available at the VCU website <http://ci.valparaiso.in.us/index.aspx?nid=532> or google Valparaiso City Utilities). He also showed the video titled “10 Facts about Fluoride“ featuring Michael Connet, Attorney, Fluoride Action Network (The video and a summary of it are available at the VCU website).

David C. Kennedy, DDS – Retired dental practitioner and Past President of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology. Gary Foreman showed a video featuring David Kennedy and titled “Poisoned Babies“ (The video is available at the VCU website) and then David Kennedy spoke via Skype while his untitled PowerPoint slides were shown locally (The slide presentation is available on the VCU website).

Bill Osmunson, DDS, MPH – Bright Now Dental, Portland, OR. Bill Osmunson spoke via Skype with his untitled PowerPoint slides being shown locally (The PowerPoint slide presentation is available on the VCU website).

J. William Hirzy, PhD – Retired Senior Scientist, Office of Pesticides and Toxic Substances, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Charter member and officer of EPA headquarters professional employees union; and Washington representative of the American Environmental Health Project and Fluoride Action Network. Hirzy spoke using a PowerPoint slide set titled “Adding Fluoride to Water is a Bad Idea – The Short Version“ (The PowerPoint is available on the VCU website).

Each speaker’s presentation was followed by questions/comments offered by Commission members and members of the audience.

3. The next step – Facilitator Stu Walesh indicated that the next Commission meeting would be at the City Hall in several weeks. Everyone on the email contact list will be automatically notified. In the interim, Commission members will be asking follow up questions. Walesh reminded everyone that the VCU website includes about 70 documents/materials submitted in support of and opposition to ongoing fluoridation by the VCU and also provides agendas for and summaries of Commission meetings. Interested individuals were urged to provide their email addresses to VCU personnel and become part of the contact list for the Commission’s project.

4. Adjourn – Chairman Dave Bengs adjourned the meeting at about 8:45 PM.

Next scheduled Commission meeting – After polling Commission members shortly after Meeting 4 to determine their availability, the next Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 23, 5:00 PM, City Hall. An agenda will be distributed about one week before the meeting.