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Minutes

HEALTH COMMISSION

COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 20, 2010, 2:00 p.m.

101 Grove, Room 302, San Francisco, CA 94102

1) **CALL TO ORDER**

Present:

Commissioner Margine Sako, Chair

Commissioner James M. Illig, Member

Commissioner Catherine Waters R.N., Ph.D., Member

Commissioner Sako called the meeting to order at 2:04pm.

2) **APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 16, 2010 COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Action Taken: The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2010 meetings.

3) **INITIATIVES IN DPH HOUSING AND URBAN HEALTH (HUH)**

Marc Troz, Director of HUH and Margo Antonetty, Deputy Director of HUH, gave the presentation which gave an overview of the current array of services funded and managed through this DPH Division. To view the report, please see the link under the April 20th meeting heading: <http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/hc/FinlyPlanCommMtgs.asp>.

Commissioner Follow-Up /Action

The following are responses by Mr. Troz and Ms. Antonetty in response to questions from the Commissioners:

- Every resident in a DPH or Human Services Agency housing unit has access to medical care in the HUH medical clinic located at 234 Eddy Street. Medical and mental health services are reimbursable but there is no source of reimbursement for housing operating costs.

- The Direct Access housing project model is unique because of the level of collaboration within various DPH Divisions contributing to the array of supportive services available to residents.
- Most people living in DPH housing have long-term care needs and do not have the financial resources to support themselves. Generally residents of DPH housing pay 50% of their income towards rent. The average resident's monthly income is \$350.00; the actual monthly operating cost per housing unit is \$500-700 a month.
- Most people living these HUH housing are 45 yrs and older and previously had lived on the street for much of their lives.
- There are generally vacancies in the DPH housing portfolio due to death and people who leave on their own or who are asked to leave because they cannot follow the building rules.
- Scattered-site housing projects augment other types of DPH housing and strive to meet the needs of clients who do not want to share housing. Because blocks of rooms are rented by DPH, residents in these units are generally not isolated.
- When a new housing project is developed, it is put into the City base budget. DPH housing-related expenses begin after a building is built. When the City invests a huge amount in the development of a building, it attracts other City, state and federal departments/agencies.
- There is an HUH policy that appropriately deals with temporary vacancies due to incarceration and episodes of inpatient care. Housing is held for a period of time when residents are incarcerated or hospitalized.
- HUH is moving towards including more studios with bathrooms in their housing portfolio.

4) INITIATIVES IN DPH ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Rajiv Bhatia MD, Director of Environmental Health and OSH gave the presentation which provided a highlight of initiatives in this DPH Division. To view the org chart that Dr. Bhatia used in his presentation, please view the link under the April 20th meeting heading:
<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/hc/FinlyPlanCommMtg.asp>

- Most of the programs in this Division work with businesses and offer fee-based services. Much of the revenue of this Division is earned through the fees paid for these services.
- Most of the regulatory functions and DPH activities related to the Health Code are within this Division. Some examples of the Division's regulatory functions include testing pesticides for safety; checking weights and scales for accuracy, and making sure exotic pets are not smuggled into the City.
- The Division is involved in assessing land impact when new real estate development is considered.
- Work place issues are generally not regulated by this Division unless there are workplace health safety issues.

- The Healthy Development Measurement Tool was developed by this Division to assess the extent with land use plans, projects, or policies will impact health conditions of San Francisco's residents. The tool is a success and is being used internationally. It can be seen at: <http://www.thehdm.org/>.
- The Division has been studying the high rate of pedestrian accidents and will be proposing some possible solutions in the next year.

Commissioner Follow-Up /Action

Commissioner Sako requested that Dr. Bhatia regularly and frequently report to the Committee whenever his division proposes changes or recommendations that will affect the Health Code or other health policies.

5) **COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE CALENDAR**

6) **EMERGING ISSUES**

None

7) **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

8) **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:57pm.

Mark Morewitz
Health Commission Executive Secretary