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MINUTES
HEALTH COMMISSION
FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
Tuesday, October 4, 2011, 2:00 p.m.
375 LAGUNA HONDA BOULEVARD,
P1218 Conference Room
San Francisco, CA 94116

1) CALL TO ORDER

Present: Commissioner James M. Illig, Chair
Commissioner Steven Tierney, Ed.D. Ex Officio Member
Commissioner Sonia Melara, Member
Commissioner Edward A. Chow, M.D., Member

The meeting was called to order at 3:04pm.

2) APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 6, 2011 FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Action Taken: The minutes of the September 6, 2011 Finance and Planning Committee meeting were unanimously approved.

3) MONTHLY CONTRACTS REPORT

Jacquie Hale, Director of Office of Contract Management and Compliance reviewed the report.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chow asked that a key for the codes be included in the packets.

Commissioner Chow and Illig requested additional clarification on the reason the San Francisco Suicide Prevention sole-source contract term is only three years when the other two sole source contracts on the report have terms of five years. In addition, Commissioners Chow and Illig had concern that the San Francisco Suicide Prevention contract began over a year ago. Ms. Hale stated that she would check on the facts of the situation and would send a response through Mr. Morewitz.

Commissioner Tierney asked that relevant DPH staff be available by phone to answer the Committee's questions in the future.

Action Taken: The Committee unanimously recommended that the full Commission approve the Contracts Report.

4) RFP UPDATE REPORT

Jacquie Hale, Director of Office of Contract Management and Compliance reviewed the report which gave information on DPH RFP efforts for the past year.

Commissioner Comments/ Follow-Up:

Commissioner Illig thanked Ms. Hale for the thorough report and stated that moving forward, the report should show current RFPs and those in the planning stages.

5) DRAFT CHARITY CARE AND COMMUNITY BENEFITS REPORT

Frances Culp, Senior Health Planner gave the presentation which provided a highlight of the FY 2010 Charity Care report data. Included in the report is data from the past ten years of San Francisco Charity Care.

The Following Are Highlights of the Discussion of This Item:

The data for the total number of Charity Care recipients is not unduplicated across hospitals.

The State requires that hospitals provide free or discounted services to individuals in households making less than 350% of the federal poverty level who are either uninsured or insured with high medical costs.

The DPH report only includes data on patients who have received free care. * Data for patients who agreed to pay for services and did not is not counted in the report.

**(After the meeting, Ms. Culp confirmed that the report contains data on patients who received both free or discounted care.)*

The dramatic increase in CPMC's Charity Care cases is due to a change in their Charity Care registration procedures. Whereas other hospitals enroll patients in Charity Care after a patient has received services, CPMC's Charity Care enrollment is now done prior to treating the patient. Because many patients were not previously following through with their Charity Care applications after receiving treatment, many actual Charity Care cases were sent to collections and eventually incorrectly counted as "bad debt." This prompted CPMC to change their Charity Care enrollment process.

Unlike other hospitals and Healthy San Francisco, CPMC is not requiring hard copies to prove income during the Charity Care eligibility process. Instead, they are using review of databases to ascertain patient income.

Commissioners Comments/ Follow-Up

Commissioner Melara asked for information on why the average cost of CPMC and St. Luke's patient is so much lower than the other hospitals.

Commissioner Illig requested that the charts reflect a combined total of CPMC and St. Luke's Charity Care.

Commissioner Illig asked CPMC to provide data for Charity Care patients who are insured but need a particular procedure for which their insurance does not cover.

Commissioner Illig stated that he hopes the full Commission recommends that the report be sent to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor's Office for their review.

The Committee members thanked Ms. Culp for the presentation.

6) UPDATE ON THE 5-YEAR BUDGET TASK FORCE

Barbara Garcia, Director of Health and Greg Wagner reviewed the presentation which proposed that the Health Commission create a 5-Year-Budget Subcommittee of the Finance and Planning Committee. The presentation proposed the following three budget priorities in which budget decisions should be aligned: Integrated Service Delivery System, Public Health Accreditation, and Financial Efficiency.

Action Taken: The Committee recommended that the full Health Commission approve the creation of a new 5-Year Budget Task Force Subcommittee of the Finance and Planning Committee.

7) COMMITTEE ANNUAL CALENDAR

The Committee reviewed the calendar for the November 1, 2011 meeting.

8) EMERGING ISSUES

There was no discussion of this item.

9) PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

10) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:56pm.