

# SAN FRANCISCO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION



**Mayor  
London N. Breed**

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San Francisco, CA 94103  
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[www.mhbsf.org](http://www.mhbsf.org)  
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Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Chair  
Judy Zalazar Drummond, MA, Secretary  
Dawson Emmett Cooper II  
Arthur Curry  
Judith Klain, MPH  
Gregory Ledbetter  
Toni Parks  
Harriette Stallworth Stevens, EdD  
Richelle Slota, MA  
Ulash Thakore-Dunlap, MFT  
Idell Wilson

## AGENDA

**Behavioral Health Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, February 17, 2021  
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**REMOTE BHC MEETING ZOOM**

**CALL-IN #: 1-669-900-6833 & MEETING ID #: 848 3087 1951**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84830871951>**

## CALL TO ORDER

### Roll Call

### Changes and Additions to the Agenda

## ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

For discussion

### 1.1 Report from Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee

Discussion regarding Chair's meetings with Behavioral Health Services staff, meetings with members of the Board of Supervisors and community meetings about mental health or substance use.

#### 1.1 a) Update on vacancies and reappointments on the BHC

#### 1.1 b) Appointment of New BOS seat on the BHC

#### 1.1 c) SFMHEF hiring of Executive Director

### 1.2 Public Comment

### 1.3 Reports from Committees

Discussion regarding committee meetings, goals and accomplishments and BHC structure

**1.3 a) Information Committee no longer meeting.**

**1.3 b) Implementation Committee, Chair Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD**

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION: Be it resolved that the City & County of San Francisco shall (should?) provide additional police training and alternative and more appropriate first responder services 24/7 to adults experiencing mental health crisis.**

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION: Be it resolved that Bart Officer Eric Hofstein shall be commended for exceptional service, aiding and supporting people experiencing mental health crisis at the San Francisco BART.**

**Replacement of Standing Committee**

**Question: BHC does not do Legislation, only resolutions; BOS does Legislation only**

**1.3 c) Nominating Committee, Chair Judith Klain**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE SLATE**

**CHAIR**

**VICE-CHAIR**

**SECRETARY**

**1.3 d) Bylaws Revision Ad Hoc Committee, Chair Bahlam Vigil**

**Recommendation for creation of a Parliamentary Committee**

**1.3 e) Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Committee, Chair Judy Drummond**

**1.4 People or Issues Highlighted by BHC: Suggestions of people, programs, or both, that Commissioners believe should be acknowledged or highlighted by the BHC.**

**1.4 a) Motion in Support of Lowell High School Students, Commissioner Bahlam Javier Vigil**

**1.5 Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission**

**1.6 New business - Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee**

**1.6 a) Discussion of Revised BHC Bylaws and creation of Parliamentary Committee**

**1.6 b) Suggestions for future trainings, Orientation of Commissioners & CALBHB/C Roles & Duties of Commissioners**

**1.7 Public comment**

## **ITEM 2.0 ACTION ITEMS**

For discussion and action

**2.1 Public comment**

**2.2 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the minutes of the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of January 20, 2021 be approved as submitted.**

**2.3 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the corrected minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of December 16, 2020 be approved as resubmitted.**

**ITEM 3.0 REPORT FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR**

**3.1 Discussion regarding Behavioral Health Services Department – Communication, a report on the activities and operations of Behavioral Health Services (BHS), including budget, planning, policy, and programs and services.**

**3.2 Public Comment**

**4.0 Final Public Comment**

**Adjournment**

## DISABILITY ACCESS

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Ordinance 90-10 added Section 2A.22.3 to the Administrative Code, which adopted a Citywide Americans with Disabilities Act Reasonable Modification Policy that requires City departments to: (1) provide notice to the public of the right to request reasonable modification; (2) respond promptly to such requests; (3) provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services to people with disabilities to ensure effective communication; and (4) train staff to respond to requests from the public for reasonable modification, and that requires the Mayor's Office on Disability to provide technical assistance to City department responding to requests from the public for reasonable modifications.

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## **POLICY ON CELL PHONE, PAGERS, AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

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## **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE**

Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils and other agencies of the City and County exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review. For more information on your rights under the Sunshine Ordinance (Chapter 67 of the San Francisco Administrative Code) or to report a violation of the ordinance, contact:

Sunshine Ordinance Task Force  
City Hall, Room 244  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689  
Telephone: (415)554-7724  
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## CONDUCT

In addition to following the Brown Act, and abiding by adopted meeting rules (e.g. Roberts Rules), the following guidelines are provided to help local mental health boards (MHBs) function as effective advisory bodies.

**A. Conduct Agreement** – A listing can be printed on agendas and/or read at the beginning of each meeting. The following list is an example:

1. Active Listening
2. Focus on Issues
3. Person-First Language (see below)
4. No Swearing
5. No Personal Attacks or Criticism (of self or others)
6. One person speaks at a time—no side bars
7. Keep comments short if possible—do not monopolize discussion
8. Limit the Use of Acronyms—“When in doubt, spell it out.”
9. Turn Off or Silence Cell Phones

### **B. Person-First Language**

When talking about people with mental illness, it is important to be mindful and use "person-first language". MHB members should set an example and lead the way in using terminology when speaking or writing that is positive and reflective of the person first.

Generic phrases such as "the mentally ill" or "psychologically disturbed" are not appropriate since they convey a lack of appreciation for and depersonalize the individual. These terms communicate and reinforce the discriminatory notion of a special and separate group that is fundamentally unlike the rest of "us."

The use of person-first language such as "a person with schizophrenia," "an individual with bipolar disorder," or "people with mental illnesses," communicates first that they are people and second that they have a disability. Use of person-first language, although sometimes awkward, is important and requires that we be mindful of what we present to the public.

#### **Language to Avoid**

• Mentally defective or disturbed • Mentally ill • Mentally or emotionally handicapped • Crazy, nuts, etc. • Emotionally challenged • Differently-abled • Victim or sufferer

#### **Person-First Language:**

• Person with a psychiatric or psychological disability • Person with schizophrenia • Person with a mental illness • Person with bipolar disorder • Individual living with mental illness

**C. Unconscious Bias**      **Training:** [www.calbhbc.org/training](http://www.calbhbc.org/training)

- Avoid Micro-Aggressions (Inequalities): Comments or actions that are subtly and often unintentionally hostile or demeaning to a member of a minority or marginalized group. (Such as looking at your cell phone while someone is speaking.)
- Be intentional about treating everyone with dignity and respect. (The Public, Speakers, MHB Members, Staff, Contractors, etc.)

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## **MINUTES Behavioral Health Commission Meeting Wednesday January 20, 2021**

**Commissioners present:** Acting Chair Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Secretary Judy Drummond, Dr. Harriette Stevens, Richelle Slota, Bahlam Javier Vigil, Idell Wilson, Toni Parks, Ulash Thakore Dunlap, Judith Klain, Dawson Cooper, Gregory Ledbetter

Public: Wynship Hillier, Terry Bohrer, Geoffrey Grier, Dr. David Elliott Lewis, Liza Mirkowski

BHS: Jessica Brown

Meeting began at 6:21 P.M.

We have quorum

### **1.0 COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

#### **1.1 Acting Chair of the Commission:**

- a. We had technical difficulties that caused us to begin late.
- b. Bahlam Javier Vigil introduced themselves. They have extensive community leadership and background. Welcome to the BHC.
- c. Vacant seats on the BHC:
  - Seat #2 Consumer. Supe District 7
  - Seat #6 Consumer. Supe District 10
  - Seat #8 Mental Health Professional. Supe District 9

Seat #10 Mental Health Professional. Supe District 2

Seat #13 Family. Rules Committee

Seat #14 Family. Rules Committee

Seat #16 Family. Rules Committee

### **Public Comment:**

1. Wynship Hillier: The new legislation went into effect on 12/13/20 and nothing has happened yet. Everyone needs to know this. No one terms out on January 31<sup>st</sup>.
2. David Elliott Lewis: It is incumbent on chair to verify this information. Carletta Jackson-Lane stated that there are new Supervisors on the Rules Committee and they will have to be contacted.

### **1.2 Committees:**

1. There have been no meetings due to lack of staff. Jessica Brown of DPH has completed a job description to give us an employee to run Zoom committee meetings; it might take 3-6 months. The committees must also have members whose terms have not expired. The meetings have to be from 9-5 because there will be a city employee running them.

### **1.3 Commissioners:**

- a. People or programs to be commended
  - 1) Judith Klain wants to commend the BART officer who helped out in a crisis situation she read about in the Chronicle. She will research and find his name.
  - 2) Bahlam Javier Vigil wants to recommend Ines Betancourt. He will provide information.
- b. Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission: None.
- c. Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee:
  - 1) Judith Klain reported that the Mobile Crisis Van doesn't come after dark. All commissioners supported her suggestion to put this on Executive Committee agenda and get something done asap.

### **1.4 Public Comment**

1. Geoffrey Grier wants to make a commendation for the wonderful work of the San Francisco Recovery Theatre.
2. Wynship Hillier said we are in violation of the Bown Act for giving no notice of this meeting. He thinks Marlo Simmons should not be commended since she is part of the system that he thinks is wrong.

## ITEM 2.0 ACTION ITEMS

1. **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission commends Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director of Behavioral Health Services.
  - a. **Moved by Harriette Stevens, seconded by Gregory Ledbetter.** 1 nay by Richelle Slota. **Motion carried.**
2. **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the Standing Committee known as the Information Committee will be discontinued. This can be done by the Acting Chair, Carletta Jackson-Lane.
3. **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the Behavioral Health Commission Retreat will be postponed to 2021.
  - a. A date will be set at the next Executive Committee meeting.
4. **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the corrected minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of July 15, 2020 be approved as resubmitted.
  - a. Moved by Judith Klain, seconded by Gregory Ledbetter. **Motion carried.**
5. **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the corrected minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of August 19, 2020 be approved as resubmitted.
  - a. Moved by Bahlam Javier Vigil, seconded by Judith Klain. **Motion carried.**
6. **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the corrected minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of September 16, 2020 be approved as resubmitted.
  - a. Moved by Harriette Stevens, second by Bahlam Javier Vigil. **Motion carried.**
7. **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the corrected minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of October 21, 2020 be approved as submitted.
  - a. Moved by Gregory Ledbetter, seconded by Toni Parks. **Motion carried.**
8. **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of November 18, 2020 be approved as submitted.
  - a. Moved by Judith Klain, seconded by Toni Parks. **Motion carried.**
9. **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of December 16, 2020 be approved as submitted.
  - a. Moved by Bahlam Javier Vigil, seconded by Toni Parks. **Motion carried.**

### 3.0 Report from Behavioral Health Services Director Jessica Brown.

- We will have a new Behavioral Health Director in the next few weeks.
- BHS is busy prioritizing vaccinations.
- Human Resources Committee is working with communities to pilot interventions.
- Crisis intervention has been launched as an alternative to policing.
- There is a racial equity action plan on how to close gaps in the workforce.
- HSA will do a presentation on housing in February.
- Will work to get Dr. Almeida to come in to talk to us about deaths of mentally ill during the pandemic.
- Bahlam Javier Vigil asked what is being done to mitigate COVID effect of TAY re suicide and family trauma. Jessica Brown discussed peer counseling and telehealth.

### 4.0 Public Comment

1. Wynship Hillier: BHS must not be given unlimited time. We are supposed to tell her what to do. Violates Brown and Sunshine Acts.
2. Terry Bohrer. Discussed report on homeless individuals.

3. Wynship Hillier: the agenda is misstated. Public comment is allowed on anything. Advocacy and education appear nowhere in our powers and duties.

This final public comment time is for the public to make a comment on any topic that is related to the Commissions responsibility for advocating and educating about San Francisco's Behavioral Health Services.

## ADJOURNMENT

Minutes prepared by Judy Drummond, Secretary

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## WELFARE & INSTITUTIONS CODE

### ARTICLE II - POWERS AND DUTIES

The MHB shall:

1. Operate in accordance with state and local legislation pertaining to the MHB set forth in Welfare & Institutions Code Section 5604.2 and in S.F. Administrative Code, Section 15.4-1.

a) Review and evaluate the mental health needs, services, priorities, facilities, and special problems of the City and County of San Francisco.

b) Review any City and County agreements entered into pursuant to California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5650.

c) Advise the Governing bodies, the Director of Public Health, the Director of Community Behavioral Health Services, and the Mayor, as to any aspect of the local mental health program.

d) Review and approve the procedures used to ensure citizen, consumer, family member, and professional involvement at all stages of the planning process.

e) Review the procedures used to ensure the involvement of interested members of the mental health community and the public in the development of the budget for Community Behavioral Health Services and report on its findings to the Board of Supervisors.

f) Submit an annual report to the Board of Supervisors on the needs and performance of the City and County's mental health system.

g) Review and make recommendations on applicants for the appointment of Director of Mental Health. The MHB shall be included in the selection process prior to the selection of a person to fill this position.

h) Review and comment on the City and County's performance outcome data and communicate its findings to the State Mental Health Commission. All such communications shall be reported to the Board of Supervisors, the Mayor, the Health Commission, the Director of Public Health, and the Director of Community Behavioral Health Services.

i) Assess the impact of the Managed Care Mandate and the realignment of services from the State to the City and County on services delivered to consumers and/or the local community.

j) The Mental Health Board established pursuant to Section 5604 shall conduct a public hearing on the draft plan and annual updates at the close of the 30-day comment period required by subsection (a). Each adopted plan and update shall include any substantive written recommendations for revisions. The adopted plan or update shall summarize and analyze the recommended revisions. The Mental Health Board shall review the adopted plan or update and make recommendations to the county mental health department for revisions. Mental Health Services Act, Section 10, 5848 (b).

**2.2 PROPOSED RESOLUTION: Be it resolved The San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission commends Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director of Behavioral Health Services.**

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Simmons brought her exceptional leadership style to this position, managing with clear expectations for her staff, and the department, and;

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Simmons, prior to this accepting this position, was Deputy Director of Behavioral Health Services, and;

**WHEREAS**, prior to the position of Deputy Director, Ms. Simmons was the Director of Mental Health Services Act Programs, and;

**WHEREAS**, in the role of Director of Mental Health Service Act programs, Ms. Simmons led a team that developed numerous innovative programs and responded to community needs, and;

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Simmons has an open-door policy and is available to all Behavioral Health Services employees, and;

**WHEREAS**, Behavioral Health Service employees at every position level feel respected and valued for the work they do, and;

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Simmons mentors and trains staff so they can develop stronger leadership skills and departmental knowledge, which increases staff retention and consistent knowledge about San Francisco Behavioral Health Services, and;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission commends Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director of Behavioral Health Services.

**DRAFT**

**REVISED MINUTES**

Behavioral Health Commission Meeting

Wednesday, July 15, 2020

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

**REMOTE BHC MEETING ZOOM**

**CALL-IN #: 1-669-900-6833 & MEETING ID #: 939 8475 9984**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Marylyn Tesconi, MA, Chair, Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Vice Chair, Judy Z. Drummond, MA, Secretary, , Judith Klain, MPH, Richelle Slota, MA, Harriette Stevens, EdD, Toni Parks, Gregory Ledbetter, Dawson Emmett Cooper and Terry Bohrer, RN, MSW, CLNC

**COMMISSIONERS ON LEAVE:** Ulash Thakore-Dunlap, MFT

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Arthur Curry, Idell Wilson.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Loy Proffitt (Administrator), Marlo Simmons, MFT, Acting Director of Behavioral Health Services, Wynship Hillier, David Elliott Lewis, PhD, Steven Banuelos, and two additional members of the public.

**Commissioner Tesconi** called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

**ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONER’S REPORTS.**

**1.1 Certificates of Commendation for Felton Institute for their work on Suicide Prevention, and Mother Brown’s Kitchen for their wonderful work in setting up and doing COVID19 tests in Hunters Point/Bayview.**

**1.2 Report from Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee**

Discussion regarding Chair’s meetings with Behavioral Health Service and staff, meetings with members of the Board of Supervisors and community meetings about mental health or substance use.

Commissioner Tesconi announced that Supervisor Peskin appointed Dawson Emmett Cooper to Seat #4, a Public Interest seat. Commissioner Cooper replaces Commissioner Bohrer who served two terms on the Commission. . Commissioner Cooper introduced himself and shared the mental health issues he is concerned about.

**1.3 Reports from Committees**

- a) Information Committee has not met and needs a new chair.
- b) Implementation Committee: will meet Monday August 3, 2020.
- c). Strategic Plan Committee, By-Laws Committee, Nominating Committee:

**Commissioner Tesconi** announced that there are seven vacant seats on the BHC: six Commissioners are waiting reappointment, and four Commissioners are

currently serving active terms. . Commissioner Marcus Dancer in Seat #14 and Supervisor Catherine Stefani in Seat #17 have resigned.

Motion by Judy Drummond, seconded by Richelle Slota to have a meeting on August 19, 2020.

Unanimously approved

d). Strategic Plan Committee:

1). Commissioner Bohrer said the Strategic Plan is a roadmap for each and every committee, with outcomes. She added that it is time to update the BHC ByLaws, she encouraged the BHC to schedule the Annual Retreat in September to establish new committees and set priorities for next year. These might include Tele-health needs, a Commission orientation committee, and site visits to BHC programs. She encouraged everyone to read and understand Mental Health San Francisco (MHSF) so the BHC can help with the future of San Francisco

The Committee will include Commissioners Tesconi, Stevens, Cooper and Drummond.

e). By-laws Revision Committee

The by-laws say that all Commissioners must serve on one committee.

f). Hiring Committee: Geoffrey Grier will begin August 1, 2020. Ms. Brooke left a training manual to help him get started.

**1.4 People or Issues Highlighted by BHC: Suggestions of people and/or programs that the board believes should be acknowledged or highlighted by the Behavioral Health Commission**

The Commission is grateful to Terry Bohrer, Marylyn Tesconi, Richelle Slota, and all who worked on the Annual Report. Terry Bohrer said we did not meet our goals for last year.. She encouraged the BHC to complete more program reviews.

**1.5 Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission**

Commissioner Bohrer talked about her proposal to DPH suggesting that BHC be staffed by DPH staff rather than through a contract with San Francisco Mental Health Education Funds. Dr. Colfax, Director of the Department of Public Health asked Dr. Halli Hammer, Director of Ambulatory Care, to work with the BHC.. Dr. Hammer will make a recommendation to the City Attorney.

Commissioner Klain suggested that the BHC have the retreat earlier this year to discuss this issue.

**1.6 New business - Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee**

Commissioner Klain suggested the BHC have an update on Mental Health San Francisco (MHSF), discuss the Retreat, and have a discussion about site visits.

**1.7 Public Comment**

David Elliott Lewis, PhD, thanked Ms. Simmons for her assistance with BHC issues over the past year.

## **2.0 ACTION ITEMS**

### **2.1 Public comment**

**Mr. Hillier** said this meeting was being held in violation of the Brown Act. Meeting must be posted 72 hours on DPH website. You may not take action at this meeting.

### **2.2 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of June 17, 2020 be approved as submitted**

Unanimously approved

### **2.3 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the Annual Report for FY 19/20 be approved as submitted**

Unanimously approved

### **2.4 Public Comment**

No public comments

## **3.0: REPORT FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR**

**3.1** Ms. Simmons said that the budget has no service or staff reductions. They are looking for new funding to implement Mental Health San Francisco (MHSF). The budget is not final. Ms. Simmons said that the contract between San Francisco Mental Health Education Funds (SFMHEF) will continue to support the staff.

Ms. Simmons highlighted items in the Behavioral Health Services Communication Report for June 2020,

- BHS is focusing on Health Equity for all who are served by BHS. There are over 2,000 people who are housed in Shelter In Place (SIP) hotels to protect them from catching COVID19.
- She discussed community wellness activities.

### **BHS Program Highlights**

- 1).3<sup>rd</sup> Street Substance Use Team
- 2).Frontline Workers Counseling Project at Chinatown North Beach Mental Health
- 3) Forensic and Justice Involved Behavioral Health Services
- 4) COVID19 Trans Community Resource Fair

- There have been staff cuts and there is no new hiring to replace people who have left positions in all divisions. Budgets are moving forward with changes in services
- 100+ staff are working on COVID19 issues.
- Ms. Simmons praised BHS staff, saying there is 80% contact with enrolled clients.
- There is on-going posting for the Director of Health Services of MHSF.

- There is work being done with school-age children, using tele-care, in-home teaching
- Seneca Mobile Response is now available for anyone under age 18, even without medical insurance.

The entire Communications Report can be found at:

[https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/CBHSdocs/CBHSDirMonRpts/2020/July\\_2020%20BHS\\_Monthly\\_Communications\\_Report.pdf](https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/CBHSdocs/CBHSDirMonRpts/2020/July_2020%20BHS_Monthly_Communications_Report.pdf)

### **3.2 Public Comment**

Mr. Hillier said he has been trying to get information about the 1200+ involuntarily committed mental health patients over one year.

### **4.0 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT UPDATES AND PUBLIC HEARINGS**

The passage of Proposition 63 (now known as the [Mental Health Services Act](#) or MHSA) in November 2004, provides increased annual funding to support county mental health programs. The Act addresses a broad continuum of prevention, early intervention and service needs and the necessary infrastructure, technology and training elements that will effectively support this system. This Act imposes a 1% income tax on personal income in excess of \$1 million. One of the requirements of the Act is that the county must provide annual updates as well as hearings for changes in the way the county implements the funding.

Commissioner Bohrer suggested that the BHC request a ten minute presentation by programs that are funded by MHSA so the BHC can know more about them.

### **5.1 Public Comment**

**Dr. Lewis** made the point that we need to keep contact with the Board of Supervisors and to please use the voice of this Commission to be an advocate.

**Mr. Hillier** reiterated that we must have a 72 hour notice of meetings. It can be a criminal action under section 53959. Commission Tesconi said that Loy Proffitt will check on why this was not posted.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 P.M.

**DRAFT**  
**REVISED MINUTES**  
**Behavioral Health Commission Meeting**  
Wednesday, August 19, 2020  
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Marylyn Tesconi, MA, Chair, Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Vice-Chair, Judy Drummond, MA, Secretary, Richelle Slota, MA, Toni Parks, Dawson Emmett Cooper, Judith Klain,, Ulash Thakore Dunlop, Arthur Curry, Harriette Stevens, EdD, Idell Wilson,

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Gregory Ledbetter

**COMMISSIONERS ON LEAVE:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT::** Acting BHS Director Marlo Simmons, MPH, Loy Proffitt, Administrator BHC, Geoffrey Grier, Dr. David Elliott Lewis, Terry Bohrer, Stephen Banuelos, Wynship Hillier

**Commissioner Tesconi** called the meeting to order at 6:03.

## **ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

### **1.1 Report from Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee**

Commissioner Tesconi, Chair, met with BHS Acting Director Marlo Simmons, Dr. Hali Hammer and Terry Bohrer regarding her proposal to separate the BHC and the San Francisco Mental Health Education Funds. Supervisor Stefani has also proposed legislation recommending the Executive Director become a civil service position.

She shared that there are no updates yet on the hiring of the Director of BHS. Ms. Simmons said staff support for the BHC will continue until a contract has been signed.

The BHC website needs to be renamed and the information updated.

### **1.2 Reports from Committees**

#### **1.2a Executive Committee:**

Terry Bohrer will do Site Visit Training on 9/11/20: Commissioners Toni Parks, Carletta Jackson-Lane, Richelle Slota, Dawson Cooper, Gregory Ledbetter, Judy Drummond, and Marylyn Tesconi will attend.

Teresa Comstock, Executive Director of the California Association of Local Mental Health Boards/Commissions, will train Commission members on the roles and responsibilities of Commissioners and about the Brown Act on Wednesday, 9/2/20.

Commissioners Judy Drummond, Richelle Slota, Toni Parks, Judith Klain, Gregory Ledbetter, Dawson Emmett Cooper, Marylyn Tesconi, and Carletta Jackson-Lane will attend.

#### **1.2b Information Committee**

The Information Committee has no chair. This matter is referred to the Executive Committee.

#### **1.2 c Implementation Committee**

Implementation Committee was rescheduled

#### **1.2 d Nominating Committee**

No report

#### **1.2e Bylaws Revision Committee**

There may be changes that will impact our ability to change certain sections. Tabled for more research. Commissioner Slota will join the Bylaws Committee.

#### **1.2 f Ad Hoc Strategic Plan Committee**

Commissioners Judy Drummond, Judith Klain, Gregory Ledbetter, Marylyn Tesconi, Dawson Cooper, and Carletta Jackson-Lane will be on the committee.

### **1.3 People or Issues Highlighted by BHC: Suggestions of people, programs, or both, that Commissioners believe should be acknowledged or highlighted by the Behavioral Health Commission**

**Commissioner Klain** nominated BHS Director Marlo Simmons for her perseverance and advocacy on behalf of those with mental health needs.

**Commissioner Jackson-Lane** nominated Dr. Mary Ann Jones, CEO of Westside MHS.

### **1.4 Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission**

**Commissioner Tesconi** was on a Zoom call with Police Chief Scott and University of San Francisco. \$120 million has been cut from budget to be reallocated to mental health services.

**Commissioner Stevens**, President of the CA Association of Local Mental Health Boards and Commissions, gave Board Conduct Guidelines to Loy Proffitt to disseminate to all Commissioners.

**Commissioner Ledbetter** nominated the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, (NAMI) Peer-to-Peer Training Program.

### **1.5 New business - Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee**

It was recommended that the Retreat becomes our venue to do trainings and meetings in two-hour blocks on Zoom, recorded so that anyone who is unavailable can watch them at later date. BHC suggested areas included Site Visit Training materials, Commissioner Roles of Conduct and Robert's Rules, Brown Act, Strategic Plan Committee, goals and priorities for the coming year.

## **1.6 Public comment**

**Mr. Grier** mentioned that this is a once in a lifetime opportunity. There is a meeting on 9/25-9/26/20 to figure where the \$120 million needs to go. It is a perfect fit for the BHC.

**Mr. Hillier** stated that the BHC cannot vote on a Motion that is not previously listed as an action item in the Agenda. Mr. Hillier stated BHC can't bypass elections and Motion should be rescinded from the minutes.

**Mr. Banuelos** said Ms. Simmons can address some of the increases for mental health services.

**Dr. Lewis** suggested that Commissioners to get involved in the many mental health initiatives.

## **ITEM 2.0 ACTION ITEMS**

For discussion and action: None.

### **2.1 Public comment**

**Mr. Hillier** requested agenda packets to be sent and was not received. Mr. Hillier went on to say that if more than a majority of the commission is not present, then it is a violation of the Brown Act.

**2.2 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of July 15, 2020 be approved as submitted.**

No Action taken

## **ITEM 3.0 REPORT FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR**

### **3.1 Report from Behavioral Health Services Director**

**Ms. Simmons** stated that the budget conversations are going well. No cuts to staff. If voted in, the unlocked Prop C funding will provide \$30 million for beds across the continuum of care. This will work to improve access to 24/7 care. The number of homeless tents on the street has expanded from 400 to 1200 tents in the last four months. The focus is on treatment beds, board and care, skilled nursing, and Hummingbird beds. No funding for permanent supportive housing is on the list now.

BHS is increasing training for staff due to COVID-19; employee assistance programs, and health support are available. All employees have health insurance and access to employee assistance programs. There is emergency access to hotel rooms for front line DPH employees.

The Communications Report can be found at the following address:

[https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/CBHSdocs/CBHSDirMonRpts/2020/August\\_2020\\_BHS\\_Monthly\\_Communications\\_Report.pdf](https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/CBHSdocs/CBHSDirMonRpts/2020/August_2020_BHS_Monthly_Communications_Report.pdf)

### **3.2 Public Comment**

**Mr. Hillier** stated that 2500 people are on involuntary treatment. It is appalling that this Commission is not looking into this. It is 3% of the City and County's population. How many patients are under Section 5300?

**Ms Simmons** responded that she has requested that information and will follow-up on the request.

**Dr. Lewis** said he believed that it is more like 500 in involuntary treatment.

**Mr. Banuelos** thanked Ms. Simmons for her support. He dealt with budgets for residential beds. Because of the nature of San Francisco, this supportive housing becomes permanent and then there is nowhere to go.

#### **4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT**

##### **4.1 Public Comment**

**Mr. Grier** said he applaud everyone. We have a magnanimous job to do and have to step up. There is an initiative to ownership for those underserved.

**Mr. Hillier** stated in response to Dr. Lewis comment, that Conservatorship accounts for only 60 patients; 2500 petitions are filed per year. There are only 600 in the system. You're saying only 1 in 3 of those petitions fail or are not honored? The Superior Court is concealing information.

**Adjournment 8:02**

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES**

**Behavioral Health Commission Meeting**

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Meeting called to order at 6:15 by Chair Marylyn Tesconi

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Marylyn Tesconi, MA, Chair; Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Vice-Chair; Judy Z. Drummond, MA, Secretary; Dawson Emmett. Cooper II; Arthur Curry; Ulash Thakore-Dunlap, MFT; Gregory Ledbetter; Toni Parks; Richelle Slota, MA; Harriette Stevens, EdD; and Idell Wilson

**COMMISSIONERS ON LEAVE:** Judith Klain, MPH

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** none

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Loy M. Proffitt, MBA, Administrator BHC, Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director, Behavioral Health Services (BHS); Dr. Mary Ann Jones, Ph.D., CEO, Westside Community Services; David Elliott Lewis, Ph.D.; MHA-SF; Wynship Hillier; Steven Banuelos.

**ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONER’S REPORTS**

**1.2 Report from Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee**

Commissioner Tesconi said that according to the City Attorney, we must have quorum to have this meeting. She asked that the person using the name “International Terrorist” please change name to “unknown?” There was no response so Loy Proffitt changed name to “unknown.”

Site visit training is changed to September 26, 10 am-12 pm.

Commissioner Slota was reappointed by Sandra Fewer through 2023. Commissioners Drummond, Thakore Dunlop, Ledbetter, and Tesconi are waiting reappointment. There are 7 vacancies.

Teresa Yu will send a representative to give the BHC a short report about the start of Mental Health San Francisco (MHSF) and talk about housing.

Legislation posed by Supervisor Stefani was posted on August 31st and will be heard by the Rules Committee after 30-day rule by October 1<sup>st</sup>.

She spoke with City Attorney regarding zoom identification (international terrorist), she recommended we rename that person or disable the chat.

Theresa Comstock’s training was very helpful

**1.2 Reports from Committees: all Commission members are required to be on one committee.**

**1.2a Executive Committee:**

Strategic Planning Committee should be a standing committee.

**1.2b Information Committee**

Does not need to exist anymore.

**1.2 c Implementation Committee**

Commissioner Jackson-Lane, Chair said the committee met on September 13, 2020. Ida McCray will come to the next meeting to talk about women in the jails. Commissioner Idell Wilson wanted to discuss the impact of Prop 63 dollars on programs that are being pushed forward, especially in Hunters Point/Bayview. Commissioner Jackson-Lane is looking for someone to present.

**1.2 d Nominating Committee**

This committee needs to reconvene because we need new officers and we need to elect new people to Commission positions. Commissioners Klain, Chair, Ledbetter, and Wilson volunteered. The committee will present a proposed slate in January 2021.

**1.2e Bylaws Revision Committee**

The committee met on 9/10/20. The City Attorney's office is willing to give us a law student to review our bylaws. They will meet in next few weeks to continue this project.

**1.2 f Strategic Plan Committee**

Commissioner Drummond, Chair, and Commissioners Tesconi, Klain, Cooper, Ledbetter, and Jackson-Lane are on the Committee. Commissioner Drummond did not get the agenda posted within the 72-hour window. She will set up a new meeting through Loy Proffitt.

**1.3 People or Issues Highlighted by BHC: Suggestions of people, programs, or both, that Commissioners believe should be acknowledged or highlighted by the Behavioral Health Commission**

**Commissioner Wilson** wants to thank Helynna Brooke for the work she did for 21 years.

**Commissioner Jackson-Lane** presented an award to Dr. Mary Ann Jones, CEO of Westside Mental Health Services for her lifelong work as a brave, revolutionary leader for mental health services to underserved communities.

**Commissioner Slota** recommended a resolution commending health care workers who are working above and beyond the call of duty.

**Commissioner Ledbetter** nominated NAMI Peer-to-Peer Training Program.

**1.4 Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission**

**Commissioner Ledbetter** is attending NAMI Peer-to-Peer Training Program. It is excellent.

**Commissioner Tesconi** will participate on 9/22/20 in a discussion of human rights funds in the African American community. Money is being reallocated from the Police Department. Loy Proffitt will send a link to participants if they want to attend.

**Commissioner Stevens** is attending meetings on the Data Notebook which will be due in January. It contains information on what should include on telehealth and issues related to COVID19. We have been restricted in our activities, so we need to write about our responses. What will our plan be in the future?

**Commissioner Wilson** went to the Implementation Committee meeting and it was very informal and very interesting

**Commissioner Cooper** will participate in CORO of Northern CA, resilient SF infrastructure Leadership every Wednesday through the end of November.

Commissioner Ledbetter attended a meeting with Mega Black SF, a group Mayor Breed put together looking for reparations with money taken away from police.

### **1.5 New business - Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee**

**Commissioner Ledbetter:** The BHC should look at Kindred Nursing Home on Bush Street, a senior care home operating under COVID. Conditions are horrendous. There is undertrained staff. Only two telephones for patients to use, with one designated to quarantine unit. Only one cell phone for 100 patients. This is only one of many complaints.

In October the Strategic Planning Committee will lay out things we to do in the New year and incorporate this into our work. We can move forward in a united front.

**Commissioner Thakore Dunlap** said she liked the idea of strategically training BHC members and scaffolding. We need to support and prepare ourselves to support our communities.

### **1.6 Public comment**

**Mr. Hillier** said he was well within his constitutional rights to have the name “international terrorist.” He was trying to respond when he was put on mute.

**Dr. Lewis:** “International terrorist” is a threat and is entirely unprofessional. Free speech is not unlimited speech.

## **ITEM 2.0 ACTION ITEMS**

For discussion and action: No discussion

### **2.1 Public comment**

Mr.Hillier requested that his name be correctly spelled. In July their wasn't a motion to accept Dawson Cooper did not happen. The resignation of Marcus Dancer was not there. There were many errors in the July minutes. At the August meeting, Arthur Curry was present. (Gregory Ledbetter says he was not present.) My comments are completely misrepresented. After motion I said you should rescind and expunged from the minutes because no notice was given from that. “I'm wondering if there was a breach of the rules,” there was no disability notice on the agenda.

**Mr. Banuelos:** The August minutes were not posted with agenda.

**Commissioner Tesconi** suggested he email his objections to Loy Proffitt.

### **2.2 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of August 19, 2020 be approved as corrected.**

10 Aye, Commissioner Arthur Curry voted Nay, Adopted.

### **ITEM 3.0 REPORT FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR**

The Director's Report was based on information that went out with the agenda. The greatest impact is on our staffing. We are working hard to hire new people to take the weight off. We are getting people vaccinated for flu season. We are working to hire an Executive Director. BHS is moving up the ladder. There will be 2 new divisions for health services. One for rules of all health plan systems. There will be an office of coordinated care. Over the next couple of years, we will restructure all adult systems of care. We have opportunities for better care over the next three years. We highlighted Helynna Brooke in our newsletter for her years of service to Behavioral Health. MHSF is getting ready to be implemented. Prop C will give hundreds of millions for housing and mental health. The Supreme Court of CA said they are not going to hear the complaints. The City is redirecting police funding to the African American community. We need to be better partners with the community, so if you have any ideas, let us know.

**Commissioner Jackson Lane** asked how to get involved with and participate in the hiring process of the Director, It is one of the Commissions mandates from the State.

**Ms. Simmons** said she would email the Chair of the Hiring Committee.

**Commissioner Jackson Lane** asked that as part of Prop C: are there specific sections for behavioral health money?

**Ms. Simmons** said at least 25% of the funding needs to be spent on mental health, specifically for preventing homelessness. It can't be used to replace things. It has to be for new services.

**Commissioner Jackson Lane** asked if it is true that there is a 30% loss of staff?

**Ms. Simmons:** Staff is down, clinicians by 20%, psychiatrists by 30%, leadership by 40%. Email me if you want exact numbers. 24% are managing COVID deployments – trying to manage staff to part time. There is a peak in overdoses in hotel rooms and we need staff to go there. Lots of people are working to help with COVID but it is impacting our services.

**Commissioner Slota** asked how DPH staff are doing in staying free of COVID?

**Ms. Simmons** said there are not many cases; a handful of concerns that turned out to be nothing. 2 programs had a staff person get COVID. Cases were traced to the community. COVID is wreaking havoc across the board.

**Commissioners Slota and Ledbetter** offered support for the outstanding work of DPH and their employees. Commendations across the board from all Commissioners. We respect and appreciate what you have done in the hardest of times.

**Commissioner Stevens:** When we have events in the community, we should include under represented consumers and viable stakeholders. We need to hear from the community about their experiences with all mental health & behavioral health programs. We need the big picture, then stakeholders can fit into that.

**Commissioner Drummond** suggested an umbrella group around mental health like there was under the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) umbrella. That was incredible.

**Commissioner Thakore Dunlop** thanked Ms. Simmons for her leadership, saying she appreciated her collaborative efforts. She asked how the BHC can advocate on red tape bureaucracy?

**Ms. Simmons** said that one of the challenges are the Civil Service Rules and how they operate in the hiring process. BHS is committed to hiring from the community. It may take 18 months to hire someone. This creates the most barriers.

**Commissioner Parks** said it is difficult for the consumer to access DPF & BHS. Her experience with websites and forms has shown her that government forms are not user unfriendly and poorly designed.

### 3.2 Public Comment

**Mr. Hillier** said 2500 new people are ordered into involuntary treatment. It is appalling that this Commission is not looking into this. It is 3% of the City and County's population. How many patients are under Section 5300?

**Ms. Simmons** responded that she followed-up on the request.

**Dr. Lewis** said it's more like 500 who are in involuntary treatment.

**Mr. Banuelos** thanked Ms. Simmons and shared that he dealt with budgets for residential beds. Because of the nature of San Francisco, this supportive housing becomes permanent and then there is nowhere to go.

### 4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

**Mr. Banuelos** asked if they had a sense about the per cent of client contacts pre COVID?

**Ms. Simmons** said that in a two- week period, 67-80% are in contact by phone. We're evaluating if there is enough frequency. COVID is traumatizing everyone. A lot more is needed.

**Dr. Lewis** said that we are in a time of great change. We should try to get seats on these advisory boards so there are mental health people on board. BHC should have a seat at the table.

Commissioner Parks shared that she tried to apply for the committee They want long essays. It seems like you have to know someone.

**Mr. Hillier:** I remind you that there are 2500 petitions filed for long term treatment. I made a reference to staff to ask for more information to Marlo Simmons to report back to October meeting. How many new outpatients come in from June to July?

**Ms. Simmons:** I sent you an email, I think I found out what you are referencing. I want to talk to you offline.

**Mr. Hillier** said that the new legislation by Supervisor Stefani to reform staff relationship was introduced on 8/18/20. The 30<sup>th</sup> day is tomorrow. It could come up in the Rules Committee next Monday. It is your choice if you wish to continue to hold a meeting in violation in the Brown Act. The August meeting was not posted. Section 9A of the Sunshine Act says any document used in a meeting must be distributed beforehand.

### Adjournment 8:13 PM

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES**

**Behavioral Health Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, October 21, 2020  
Remote Zoom Meeting  
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Commissioner Tesconi called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Marylyn Tesconi, MA, Chair, Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Vice-Chair, Judy Drummond, MA, Secretary Judith Klain, Richelle Slota, Gregory Ledbetter, Ulash Thakore-Dunlop, MA, Dr. Harriette Stevens, PhD, Toni Parks, Idell Wilson, Dawson Emmett Cooper

**COMMISSIONERS ON LEAVE:** None

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Arthur Curry

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Loy Proffitt (Administrator), Marlo Simmons, MFT, Acting Director of BHS, Teresa Yu, LMFT, MHSA Program Coordinator

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** Terry Bohrer, Wynship Hillier, Dr. David Elliott-Lewis, Stephen Banuelos

**ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

**1.1 Report from Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee**

Discussion regarding Chair's meetings with Behavioral Health Services staff, meetings with members of the Board of Supervisors, and community meetings about mental health or substance use.

1.1 a) Update on vacancies and reappointments to the BHC

**Commissioner Tesconi** said there have been no changes in the status of reappointment or appointments of new commissioners.

1.1 b) Update on Sunshine Ordinance Complaint: There was no update.

1.1 c) Suggestions for more BHC engagement: No suggestions were made.

1.1 d) Restructuring of the BHC

**Commissioner Tesconi** said that the Supervisor Stefani's proposed legislation to require that DPH staff support the BHC and restructuring of appointments and terms was approved by the Rules Committee on 10/19/20. It will go to the full board for final approval.

**Commissioners Ledbetter and Wilson** said they received no notification of the hearing.

**1.2 Reports, Updates and Changes on Committee**

Discussion regarding committee meetings, goals and accomplishments and proposed new committees

1.2a) Implementation Committee: Commissioner Jackson-Lane, Chair, reported that the committee met on October 13, 2020 and had a presentation from Ms. Ida McCray, retired Executive Director of San Francisco Sheriffs Department (SFSD) Women's Resource Center.

1.2b) Bylaws Revision Committee has not met.

1.3c) Strategic Plan Committee met and went over Section 1 of the plan. They will meet again to finalize edits, changes, and ideas about the plan.

1.3 d) Nominating Committee: Commissioner Klain reported that we will keep the current roster until January 2021. Commissioners Richelle Slota and Carletta Jackson-Lane nominated themselves for the position of Chair of the BHC.

1.3 e) Site Visit Committee is now a standing committee with Commissioners Richelle Slota, Chair, Gregory Ledbetter, Judith Klain, Marylyn Tesconi.

1.3 f) Legislative Committee will stay abreast of current legislation and play an advocacy role. Commissioner Judith Klain wants to be included in this group.

### **1.3 Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission**

**Commissioner Ledbetter** attended a NAMI conference.

#### **1.4 Public Comment**

**Mr. Banuelos** asked to be sent paperwork on the Strategic Plan and minutes of meetings. He asked to be on the Legislative Committee.

**Dr. Lewis** stated that in the past Committees had public members. He asked to be on the Legislative Committee.

**Mr. Hillier** said that there are only nine members of the Commission, and only four are serving current terms. Public must be able to speak on all agenda items.

### **ITEM 2.0 NEW BUSINESS – SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **2.1a Discussion of ideas for Retreat content and scheduling**

**Commissioner Klain** suggested the Retreat consist of a half day working on the Strategic Plan for next two years, and how to structure committees.

**Commissioner Drummond** suggested we lay out specific instructions related to Brown and Sunshine Acts, and Robert's Rules of Order and how to set up committee meetings.

**Commissioner Klain** suggested we make possible clarity of work we need to do and implement priorities.

**Commissioner Ledbetter** said we should streamline and eliminate obstacles.

MHSF should be on the agenda as a way to get us to participate in this important piece of work.

Ad Hoc Retreat Planning committee will be Commissioner Klain, Chair, Commissioner Slota, Commissioner Ledbetter, and Terry Bohrer, member of the public.

Terry Bohrer, member of the public, will facilitate the Strategic Plan Session.

David Elliott-Lewis, member of the public, will facilitate the MHSF session.

## 2.1b Suggestions of people or programs Commissioners would like to acknowledge or commend

No suggestions were made.

## 2.1 c) Suggestions for future agenda items

Commissioner Tesconi would like to contact young women from the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) program.

## 2.2 Public comment

Mr. Hillier discussed the time limits before the Retreat according to Robert's Rules of Order.

## ITEM 3.0 ACTION ITEMS

### 3.1 Public Comment

Mr. Hillier made comments about changes to last month's minutes. He said the minutes were approved without corrections and a motion was incorrectly made.

Commissioner Tesconi said she would forward the changes to Loy Proffitt.

## ITEM 4.0 REPORT FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

4.1 Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director of Behavioral Health Services Department reviewed the BHS Director's Report about COVID19 practices, language access, and suicide prevention.

For MHSF: 12 of 13 implementation groups have been appointed. MHSF will convene in December and will host community forums with BHC.

Ms. Simmons is happy to talk to use about programs so we can become more visible and impactful. We can co-host events.

### 4.2 Public Comment

Mr. Banuelos asked if MHSF is an increase in resources or have things not really changed?

Ms. Simmons said that MHSF may be the catalyst we need to get things done.

Mr. Hillier said we need to assess the needs and problems of those 2500 people involuntary committed each year.

## ITEM 5.0 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT UPDATES AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

### 5.1 Mental Health Service Act Updates and Public Hearings

The passage of Proposition 63 (now known as the [Mental Health Services Act](#) or MHSA) in November 2004, provides increased annual funding to support county mental health programs. The Act addresses a broad continuum of prevention, early intervention and service needs and the necessary infrastructure, technology and training elements that will effectively support this system. This Act imposes a 1% income tax on personal income in excess of \$1 million. One of the requirements of the Act is that the county must provide annual updates as well as hearings for changes in the way the county implements the funding.

Ms. Yu gave an update on SB803. There will be a webinar the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of November.

## **5.2 Public Comment**

**Mr. Hillier** said he is not excited about SB803. He thinks it is more social control.

### **ITEM 6.0 PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Mr. Hillier** suggested that all Commissioners should get a copy of Robert's Rules of Order #12,

**Dr. Lewis:** talked about alternatives to police response, the Human Rights Commission, City and SF Crisis Support teams, and the Coalition on Homelessness. He said Commissioners should be aware of all these meetings and participate.

**Adjournment 8:05 PM**

UNADOPTED

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES**  
**Behavioral Health Commission Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 18, 2020**  
**6:00 PM – 7:45 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Commissioner Jackson-Lane, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:17 PM.**

**ROLL CALL** by Commissioner Drummond, Secretary: no quorum

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Chair, Judy Drummond, MA, Secretary, Judith Klain, MPH, Richelle Slota, Gregory Ledbetter, Dr. Harriette Stevens, PhD, Dawson Emmett Cooper

**COMMISSIONERS ON LEAVE:** Ulash Thakore-Dunlop, MFT, Idell Wilson

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Arthur Curry, Toni Parks

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director of BHS, Jessica Brown, MPH, MHSA Director, Teresa Yu, LMFT, MHSA Program Coordinator, Wynship Hillier, Terry Bohrer, Dr. David Elliott-Lewis, Stephen Banuelos, Geoffrey Grier, SF Recovery Theatre, Stephen Banuelos, and John Sarpulla,

Commissioner Jackson-Lane made the decision to go forward with the meeting to hear reports, presentation by Marlo Simmons, Acting Director of BHS, Jessica Brown, Director of MHSA, and provide the opportunity for members of the public to speak. Normally the Commission does not meet in December, except for the retreat, which gives the opportunity for the Commission to develop its goals and priorities for 2021. The retreat has been postponed until the vacant seats have been filled in 2021.

**ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONERS REPORTS**

**1.1 Report from Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee**

Commissioner Jackson-Lane, Acting Chair, reported that Commissioner Marylyn Tesconi resigned from the BHC, effective 11/9/20. She informed the Board of Supervisors and all of the Commissioners. The Commission thanks her for her tireless work for the BHC.

**1.1 (a). Update on vacancies and reappointments on the BHC**

There are five Commissioners with current appointments: Commissioners Jackson-Lane, Slota, Klain, Cooper, and Parks. Commissioners Thakore-Dunlap, Ledbetter, Drummond and Curry have finished their first terms and have applied for a second term.

There are eight (8) vacancies: two (2) consumer seats, five (5) family member seats, one (1) mental health professional seat, and one (1) Board of Supervisors seat

1.1 (b) Supervisor Stefani's legislation regarding the BHC staffing requirement that DPH civil service staff the Commission, was passed by the full Board of Supervisors on November 3, 2020.

[Administrative Code - Department of Public Health - Providing Staff for the Behavioral Health Commission]200951 Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require the Department of Public Health to provide administrative staff to support the Behavioral Health Commission; to expand the membership criteria to conform to state law; and to reset all Commission member terms as of January 1, 2021, to be staggered so that no more than one-third of the members' terms expire at one time.

1.1 (c) Cultural Competency training for commissions was done by Commissioner Dawson Cooper on 9/26/20.

## 1.2 Reports from Committees

1.2 (a). Information Committee Marcus Dancer, Chair, resigned from the BHC, and moved to Texas. A new Chair is needed.

1.2 (b). Implementation Committee. Carletta Jackson-Lane, Chair, said the committee had a meeting on 10/13/20. At the Chair's request Ms. Simmons had Kathleen Minioza, BHS Project Manager provide data to the committee regarding the number of BHS vacant staff positions. There are 650 staff positions who report to the BHS Director. As of 11/12/20, BHS has 113 total vacancies, which is 17.38% of all 650 available positions. 90 are part of the Behavioral Health Services Hiring Plan, and 23 are listed on the BHS Vacancy Report. Some of the key positions are: nine (9) Senior Psychiatric Physicians, (job class 2242/2243), 37 Behavioral Health Clinicians, (job class 2930), and six (6) Senior Behavioral Health Clinicians, (job class 2932).

The committee continues to focus on following up on the six resolutions in the Annual report for FY 19-20 with members of the Board of Supervisors.

1.2 (c). Nominating Committee: Commissioner Klain, Chair, reported that the meeting did not have quorum. Commissioners Jackson-Lane, Acting Chair and Slota have expressed interest in running for Chair. Commissioner Cooper recommended we hold off until we have filled all of the seats on the commission. Election has to be held in February 2021.

1.2 (d). Bylaws Revision Ad Hoc Committee: Commissioner Dawson Cooper, Chair reported that the committee plans to meet in December.

1.2 (e) Strategic Plan Committee: Commissioner Drummond, Chair, reported that the committee is holding off until more commissioners are appointed. The strategic plan will be used as part of the new Commissioner training program.

## 1.3 People or Issues Highlighted by BHC: Suggestions of people, programs, or both that Commissioners believe should be acknowledged or highlighted by the Behavioral Health Commission.

No reports

1.4 **Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission**

**Commissioner Klain** shared that she and Marylyn Tesconi met with Supervisor Mar's aide about current activities in District 4. They are opening a winter shelter for people who are homeless, advocating for a van to come into the community to provide services for people who are homeless and other needs. Supervisor Mar is looking at how to use Prop C funds.

**Dr. Stevens** reported that she was selected to serve on the interview panel for the first round of applicants for the new Behavioral Health Services Director position.

1.5 **New Business. Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee**

**Commissioner Jackson-Lane** stated that the retreat, usually scheduled in December: Don't know when and if that will happen, since we are in an inactive position with no staff and only five (5) Commissioners.

1.6 **Public Comment**

**Stephen Banuelos** said he spoke with Victor Young, Board of Supervisor's Rules Committee clerk, about his application for a seat on the BHC for either of the Mental Health Professional seats, 8 or 15

**Geoffrey Grier:** said that he has gone through a tumultuous experience with the hiring process for the executive director position for the BHC. He still has respect for the BHC. These are unprecedented times providing both trial by fire and an opportunity to respond to the very specific need for a mobile and astute BHC. He things thinks the mission is not boring. It is very serious.

**David Elliott Lewis:** said that he was the chair of the SF Mental Health Education Funds (SFMHEF) executive director search committee to find a new executive director. Six interviews were completed and the committee identified a star candidate, Geoffrey Grier. He was approved by the SFMHEF Board of Directors, but there is no funding for the position at this time. He suggested that commissioners attend the Mental Health San Francisco (MHSF) meeting on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 meeting, as members of the public. This MHSF Implementation Working Group oversees outcomes for legislation.

**Marlo Simmons** said that Geoffrey Grier can possibly be hired through the SFMHEF funding process which sunsets in June. She spoke with Jessica Brown, who will hire the staff person. The BHC staff person will be imbedded within the SFMHEF team.

**Jessica Brown** said BHS wants to maintain what the BHC can do and a person who fits BHS core principles.

**Khash Nattagh,** UCSF medical student works at a start-up with other medical students. They have developed a mobile program, OSMind, a mini EMT that can track meds, moods, and send messages to help homeless and mentally ill clients.

**Wynship Hillier** said this meeting is being held in violation of the Brown Act that requires all packets be sent to whoever requests one. There should be public comment

after each agenda item. He questions how the public can expect to speak to each item in three minutes?

**Commissioner Jackson-Lane** stated that all information was posted on the BHC website.

## **Item 2.0 ACTION ITEMS**

No votes were taken on any action items because the meeting did not have quorum. All items will be moved to the December 16, 2020 BHC meeting agenda.

### **2.1 Public comment**

No comments

**2.2 Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission commends Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director of Behavioral Health Services.

**2.3 Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the Standing Committee known as the Information Committee will be discontinued.

**2.4 Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the Behavioral Health Commission Retreat will be postponed to January 2021.

**2.5 Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of July 15, 2020 be approved as resubmitted.

**2.6 Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of August 19, 2020 be approved as resubmitted.

**2.7 Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of September 16, 2020 be approved as resubmitted.

**2.8 Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the corrected minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of October 21, 2020 be approved as submitted.

## **Item 3.0 Report from Acting Behavioral Health Services Director**

**3.1** Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director of BHS gave a report on the activities and operations of Behavioral Health Services (BHS), including a budget, planning, policy, and programs and services.

She said that hiring of the Director of BHS is moving into the final part of the interview process. There should have a name in the next few weeks.

There is a MHSF meeting on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:30. This group will have a voice in developing new programs for the behavioral health services. Everyone is encouraged to attend and participate.

This has been a really tough time for the world and for this Commission. She is so inspired by how the members are continuing to be advocates and how much Commissioners care. There is a lot of support and she wants to acknowledge how hard members are all working, and she is inspired at how everyone is so committed.

Ms. Simmons said that she and Jessica Brown want to present about the MHSA housing programs at the December BHC meeting. The new 3-year plan was presented to the Commission in May 2020, including the addition of innovation projects. There is a power point about the Innovation Project plan to present to programs to explain how to access innovation dollars. There

will be Request for Qualifications (RFQ) submissions from individuals and community based programs to partner with existing MHSA funded programs, including Culturally Congruent Innovation Programs and Black African American Community Programs. The Innovation Project programs have to come from the community. There is a need for commissioners who reflect the population. Mission Mental Health has a program for African American men. BHS is seeking innovation proposals. Information and forms can be obtained from Teresa Yu, MHSA Program Coordinator. Proposals should be submitted to Teresa Yu, as well.

### 3.2 Public Comment

**Wynship Hillier** said that one year ago, this body passed a resolution about involuntarily admitted patients. Tens of thousands have been subjected to ex parte restrictions.

**Stephen Banuelos** likes that we can explore what Teresa Yu and Jessica Brown are talking about

## 4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

This final public comment time is for the public to make a comment on any topic that is related to the Commissions responsibility for advocating and educating about San Francisco's Behavioral Health Services.

### 4.1 Public Comment

**Wynship Hillier** stated that the Commission Bylaws are not correct. Quorum should be half of the appointed members. Given that you have five, you now have quorum. Need to change this in the bylaws.

**David Elliott Lewis** said that Wynship Hillier has a point so could the commission look into this?

**Commissioner Jackson-Lane** stated that the in the San Francisco Administrative Code it says that quorum for all City commissions is 50% plus one (1), of the entire number of seats for that commission. The BHC has 17 seats, so for a quorum there must be nine (9) commissioners present.

Adjournment 7:45 pm.

Minutes by Judy Drummond, Secretary

## DISABILITY ACCESS

The ADA is a civil rights law that protects people with different types of disabilities from discrimination in all aspects of social life. More specifically, Title II of the ADA requires that all programs offered through the state and local government such as the City and County of San Francisco must be accessible and usable to people with disabilities. The ADA and City policy require that people with disabilities have equal access to all City services, activities, and benefits. People with disabilities must have an equal opportunity to participate in the programs and services offered through the City and County of San Francisco. If you believe your rights under the ADA are violated, contact the ADA Coordinator.

Ordinance 90-10 added Section 2A.22.3 to the Administrative Code, which adopted a Citywide Americans with Disabilities Act Reasonable Modification Policy that requires City departments to: (1) provide notice to the public of the right to request reasonable modification; (2) respond promptly to such requests; (3) provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services to people with disabilities to ensure effective communication; and (4) train staff to respond to requests from the public for reasonable modification, and that requires the Mayor's Office on Disability to provide technical assistance to City department responding to requests from the public for reasonable modifications.

UNADOPTED

# SAN FRANCISCO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION



**Mayor  
London N. Breed**

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Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Chair  
Judy Zalazar Drummond, MA, Secretary  
Dawson Emmett Cooper II  
Arthur Curry  
Judith Klain, MPH  
Gregory Ledbetter  
Toni Parks  
Harriette Stallworth Stevens, EdD  
Richelle Slota, MA  
Ulash Thakore-Dunlap, MFT  
Idell Wilson

## **MINUTES Behavioral Health Commission Meeting Wednesday December 16, 2020**

Call to order at 6:13

**Roll Call:** Chair Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Secretary Judy Drummond, Dawson Cooper, Toni Parks, Dr. Harriette Stevens, Richelle Slota, Ulash Thakore-Dunlap

**Absent:** Arthur Curry, Judith Klain, Gregory Ledbetter, Idell Wilson

**DPH staff** Marlo Simmons,

**Public:** Terry Bohrer, Steven Banuelos, Wynship Hillier, Kat Koh, Liza Murawski, Geoffrey Grier, David Elliott-Lewis, Liza Murawski

### **ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

#### **Chair of the Commission**

Update on vacancies and reappointments on the BHC. Bylaws Article III concerning membership and unexcused absences to Commission meetings.

Supervisor Stefani's legislation regarding the BHC staffing requirement that DPH staff the Commission, was passed by the full Board of Supervisors on November 3, 2020.

[Administrative Code - Department of Public Health - Providing Staff for the Behavioral Health Commission]200951 Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require the Department of Public Health to provide administrative staff to support the Behavioral Health Commission; to expand the membership criteria to conform to state law; and to reset all Commission member terms as of January 1, 2021, to be staggered so that no more than one-third of the members' terms expire at one time.

#### **Committee Chairs**

**None of the Committees met during the last month.**

- Implementation Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Bylaws Revision Ad Hoc Committee
  - Chair recommended Commissioners read roles of Commissioners in Sunshine and Roberts Rules.
- Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Committee
- Site Visit – Program Review Ad Hoc Committee
  - Commissioner Slota commented on difficulty setting up a meeting with no staff.

### **Commissioners**

People or programs to be commended.

1. CORO of Northern CA commended by Commissioner Cooper.
2. Geoffret Grier commended the interventions done by Mayor, including West Side, nd Rafiki,

Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission

1. Judy Drummond attended Zoom MHSF meeting on 12/14/20.
2. Dr. Harriette Stevens attended Zoom MHSF meeting on 12/14/20.
3. CORO of Northern CA attended by Dawson Cooper.

Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee of 1/12/20.

**None.**

### **Public Comment**

1. Wynship Hillier: gave clarification of member status. Referred to bylaws re election of officers.
2. Steven Banuelos: Comment of Commissioner status.
3. Liza Murawski asked for clarification on how to get on Commission. Told to reapply.

### **ITEM 2.0 ACTION ITEMS**

**NO ACTION CAN BE TAKEN BECAUSE OF LACK OF QUORUM.** Items will be tabled until next meeting.

### **Public Comment**

1. Wynship Hillier: complained re violation of Brown Act for minutes not mailed out, and no public comment on every single item.
2. Steven Banuelos: please add to agenda the relationship between BHC and MHSF and DPH meetings.
3. David Elliott Lewis: commended Chair for pulling meetings together without quorum or staff.

### **ITEM 3.0 REPORT FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR**

Discussion with Marlo Simmons, Acting BH Director. Director Simmons said we will be getting staff soon who will report to Jessica Brown. Spoke re MHSF and Prop C funding. There is already one street crisis team in place and it is very successful with 40 calls in one week.

#### **Public Comment**

1. Wynship Hillier: Criticism of Behavioral Health Services Director's report.

### **4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Steve Banuelos: There should be no retreat until all Commissioners are in place.
2. Wynship Hillier: Criticism of agenda and public comment.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN BY TONI PARKS, SECONDED BY JUDY DRUMMOND.  
UNANIMOUS TO ADJOURN.**

## DISABILITY ACCESS

The ADA is a civil rights law that protects people with different types of disabilities from discrimination in all aspects of social life. More specifically, Title II of the ADA requires that all programs offered through the state and local government such as the City and County of San Francisco must be accessible and usable to people with disabilities. The ADA and City policy require that people with disabilities have equal access to all City services, activities, and benefits. People with disabilities must have an equal opportunity to participate in the programs and services offered through the City and County of San Francisco. If you believe your rights under the ADA are violated, contact the ADA Coordinator.

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**Disability Accommodations:** To request assistive listening devices, real time captioning, sign language interpreters, readers, large print agendas or other accommodations, please contact the Commission Secretary at (415) 558-6309, or [commissions.secretary@sfgov.org](mailto:commissions.secretary@sfgov.org) at least 72 hours in advance of the hearing to help ensure availability.

**Language Assistance:** To request an interpreter for a specific item during the hearing, please contact the Commission Secretary at (415) 558-6309, or [commissions.secretary@sfgov.org](mailto:commissions.secretary@sfgov.org) at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

SPANISH: Agenda para la Comisión de Planificación. Si desea asistir a la audiencia, y quisiera obtener información en Español o solicitar un aparato para asistencia auditiva, llame al 415-558-6309. Por favor llame por lo menos 48 horas de anticipación a la audiencia.

CHINESE: 規劃委員會議程。聽證會上如需要語言協助或要求輔助設備，請致電415-558-6309。請在聽證會舉行之前的至少48個小時提出要求。

TAGALOG: Adyenda ng Komisyon ng Pagpapalano. Para sa tulong sa lengguwahe o para humiling ng Pantulong na Kagamitan para sa Pagdinig (headset), mangyari lamang na tumawag sa 415-558-6309. Mangyaring tumawag nang maaga (kung maaari ay 48 oras) bago sa araw ng Pagdinig.

RUSSIAN: Повестка дня Комиссии по планированию. За помощью переводчика или за вспомогательным слуховым устройством на время слушаний обращайтесь по номеру 415-558-6309. Запросы должны делаться минимум за 48 часов до начала слушания.

## **POLICY ON CELL PHONE, PAGERS, AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

The ringing of and use of cell phones, pagers, and similar sound-producing electronic devices are prohibited at this meeting. Please be advised that the Chair may order the removal from the meeting room of any person(s) responsible for the ringing or use of a cell phone, pager, or other similar sound-producing electronic devices.

## **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE**

Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils and other agencies of the City and County exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review. For more information on your rights under the Sunshine Ordinance (Chapter 67 of the San Francisco Administrative Code) or to report a violation of the ordinance, contact:

Sunshine Ordinance Task Force  
City Hall, Room 244  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689  
Telephone: (415)554-7724  
Fax: 4(15) 554-5163  
E-mail: [soft@sfgov.org](mailto:soft@sfgov.org)

Citizens interested in obtaining a free copy of the Sunshine Ordinance can request one from the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force or by printing Chapter 67 of the San Francisco Administrative Code from the internet at: [www.sfgov.org/sunshine](http://www.sfgov.org/sunshine)

To view Mental Health Board agendas and minutes, you may visit the MHB web page at: [www.sfgov.org/mental\\_health](http://www.sfgov.org/mental_health). You may also go to the Government Information Center at the Main Library at Larkin and Grove in the Civic Center. You may also get copies of these documents through the MHB office at 255-3474.

## **LOBBYIST REGISTRATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Individuals and entities that influence or attempt to influence local legislative or administrative action may be required by the San Francisco Lobbyist Ordinance [SF Campaign & Governmental Conduct Code 2.100] to register and report lobbying activity. For more information about the Lobbyist Ordinance, please contact the San Francisco Ethics Commission at 30 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 3900, San Francisco, CA 94102; telephone (415) 581-2300; fax (415) 581-2317; website [www.sfgov.org/ethics](http://www.sfgov.org/ethics).

## WELFARE & INSTITUTIONS CODE

### ARTICLE II - POWERS AND DUTIES

The MHB shall:

1. Operate in accordance with state and local legislation pertaining to the MHB set forth in Welfare & Institutions Code Section 5604.2 and in S.F. Administrative Code, Section 15.4-1.

a) Review and evaluate the mental health needs, services, priorities, facilities, and special problems of the City and County of San Francisco.

b) Review any City and County agreements entered into pursuant to California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5650.

c) Advise the Governing bodies, the Director of Public Health, the Director of Community Behavioral Health Services, and the Mayor, as to any aspect of the local mental health program.

d) Review and approve the procedures used to ensure citizen, consumer, family member, and professional involvement at all stages of the planning process.

e) Review the procedures used to ensure the involvement of interested members of the mental health community and the public in the development of the budget for Community Behavioral Health Services and report on its findings to the Board of Supervisors.

f) Submit an annual report to the Board of Supervisors on the needs and performance of the City and County's mental health system.

g) Review and make recommendations on applicants for the appointment of Director of Mental Health. The MHB shall be included in the selection process prior to the selection of a person to fill this position.

h) Review and comment on the City and County's performance outcome data and communicate its findings to the State Mental Health Commission. All such communications shall be reported to the Board of Supervisors, the Mayor, the Health Commission, the Director of Public Health, and the Director of Community Behavioral Health Services.

i) Assess the impact of the Managed Care Mandate and the realignment of services from the State to the City and County on services delivered to consumers and/or the local community.

j) The Mental Health Board established pursuant to Section 5604 shall conduct a public hearing on the draft plan and annual updates at the close of the 30-day comment period required by subsection (a). Each adopted plan and update shall include any substantive written recommendations for revisions. The adopted plan or update shall summarize and analyze the recommended revisions. The Mental Health Board shall review the adopted plan or update and make recommendations to the county mental health department for revisions. Mental Health Services Act, Section 10, 5848 (b).

**2.2 PROPOSED RESOLUTION: Be it resolved The San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission commends Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director of Behavioral Health Services.**

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Simmons brought her exceptional leadership style to this position, managing with clear expectations for her staff, and the department, and;

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Simmons, prior to this accepting this position, was Deputy Director of Behavioral Health Services, and;

**WHEREAS**, prior to the position of Deputy Director, Ms. Simmons was the Director of Mental Health Services Act Programs, and;

**WHEREAS**, in the role of Director of Mental Health Service Act programs, Ms. Simmons led a team that developed numerous innovative programs and responded to community needs, and;

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Simmons has an open-door policy and is available to all Behavioral Health Services employees, and;

**WHEREAS**, Behavioral Health Service employees at every position level feel respected and valued for the work they do, and;

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Simmons mentors and trains staff so they can develop stronger leadership skills and departmental knowledge, which increases staff retention and consistent knowledge about San Francisco Behavioral Health Services, and;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission commends Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director of Behavioral Health Services.

**DRAFT**

**REVISED MINUTES**

Behavioral Health Commission Meeting

Wednesday, July 15, 2020

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

**REMOTE BHC MEETING ZOOM**

**CALL-IN #: 1-669-900-6833 & MEETING ID #: 939 8475 9984**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Marylyn Tesconi, MA, Chair, Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Vice Chair, Judy Z. Drummond, MA, Secretary, , Judith Klain, MPH, Richelle Slota, MA, Harriette Stevens, EdD, Toni Parks, Gregory Ledbetter, Dawson Emmett Cooper and Terry Bohrer, RN, MSW, CLNC

**COMMISSIONERS ON LEAVE:** Ulash Thakore-Dunlap, MFT

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Arthur Curry, Idell Wilson.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Loy Proffitt (Administrator), Marlo Simmons, MFT, Acting Director of Behavioral Health Services, Wynship Hillier, David Elliott Lewis, PhD, Steven Banuelos, and two additional members of the public.

**Commissioner Tesconi** called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

**ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS.**

**1.1 Certificates of Commendation for Felton Institute for their work on Suicide Prevention, and Mother Brown's Kitchen for their wonderful work in setting up and doing COVID19 tests in Hunters Point/Bayview.**

**1.2 Report from Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee**

Discussion regarding Chair's meetings with Behavioral Health Service and staff, meetings with members of the Board of Supervisors and community meetings about mental health or substance use.

Commissioner Tesconi announced that Supervisor Peskin appointed Dawson Emmett Cooper to Seat #4, a Public Interest seat. Commissioner Cooper replaces Commissioner Bohrer who served two terms on the Commission. . Commissioner Cooper introduced himself and shared the mental health issues he is concerned about.

**1.3 Reports from Committees**

- a) Information Committee has not met and needs a new chair.
- b) Implementation Committee: will meet Monday August 3, 2020.
- c). Strategic Plan Committee, By-Laws Committee, Nominating Committee:

**Commissioner Tesconi** announced that there are seven vacant seats on the BHC: six Commissioners are waiting reappointment, and four Commissioners are

currently serving active terms. . Commissioner Marcus Dancer in Seat #14 and Supervisor Catherine Stefani in Seat #17 have resigned.

Motion by Judy Drummond, seconded by Richelle Slota to have a meeting on August 19, 2020.

Unanimously approved

d). Strategic Plan Committee:

1). Commissioner Bohrer said the Strategic Plan is a roadmap for each and every committee, with outcomes. She added that it is time to update the BHC ByLaws, she encouraged the BHC to schedule the Annual Retreat in September to establish new committees and set priorities for next year. These might include Tele-health needs, a Commission orientation committee, and site visits to BHC programs. She encouraged everyone to read and understand Mental Health San Francisco (MHSF) so the BHC can help with the future of San Francisco

The Committee will include Commissioners Tesconi, Stevens, Cooper and Drummond.

e). By-laws Revision Committee

The by-laws say that all Commissioners must serve on one committee.

f). Hiring Committee: Geoffrey Grier will begin August 1, 2020. Ms. Brooke left a training manual to help him get started.

**1.4 People or Issues Highlighted by BHC: Suggestions of people and/or programs that the board believes should be acknowledged or highlighted by the Behavioral Health Commission**

The Commission is grateful to Terry Bohrer, Marylyn Tesconi, Richelle Slota, and all who worked on the Annual Report. Terry Bohrer said we did not meet our goals for last year.. She encouraged the BHC to complete more program reviews.

**1.5 Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission**

Commissioner Bohrer talked about her proposal to DPH suggesting that BHC be staffed by DPH staff rather than through a contract with San Francisco Mental Health Education Funds. Dr. Colfax, Director of the Department of Public Health asked Dr. Halli Hammer, Director of Ambulatory Care, to work with the BHC.. Dr. Hammer will make a recommendation to the City Attorney.

Commissioner Klain suggested that the BHC have the retreat earlier this year to discuss this issue.

**1.6 New business - Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee**

Commissioner Klain suggested the BHC have an update on Mental Health San Francisco (MHSF), discuss the Retreat, and have a discussion about site visits.

**1.7 Public Comment**

David Elliott Lewis, PhD, thanked Ms. Simmons for her assistance with BHC issues over the past year.

## **2.0 ACTION ITEMS**

### **2.1 Public comment**

**Mr.Hillier** said this meeting was being held in violation of the Brown Act. Meeting must be posted 72 hours on DPH website. You may not take action at this meeting.

### **2.2 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of June 17, 2020 be approved as submitted**

Unanimously approved

### **2.3 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the Annual Report for FY 19/20 be approved as submitted**

Unanimously approved

### **2.4 Public Comment**

No public comments

## **3.0: REPORT FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR**

**3.1** Ms. Simmons said that the budget has no service or staff reductions. They are looking for new funding to implement Mental Health San Francisco (MHSF). The budget is not final. Ms. Simmons said that the contract between San Francisco Mental Health Education Funds (SFMHEF) will continue to support the staff.

Ms. Simmons highlighted items in the Behavioral Health Services Communication Report for June 2020,

- BHS is focusing on Health Equity for all who are served by BHS. There are over 2,000 people who are housed in Shelter In Place (SIP) hotels to protect them from catching COVID19.
- She discussed community wellness activities.

### **BHS Program Highlights**

- 1).3<sup>rd</sup> Street Substance Use Team
- 2).Frontline Workers Counseling Project at Chinatown North Beach Mental Health
- 3) Forensic and Justice Involved Behavioral Health Services
- 4) COVID19 Trans Community Resource Fair

- There have been staff cuts and there is no new hiring to replace people who have left positions in all divisions. Budgets are moving forward with changes in services
- 100+ staff are working on COVID19 issues.
- Ms. Simmons praised BHSstaff, saying there is 80% contact with enrolled clients.
- There is on-going posting for the Director of Health Services of MHSF.

- There is work being done with school-age children, using tele-care, in-home teaching
- Seneca Mobile Response is now available for anyone under age 18, even without medical insurance.

The entire Communications Report can be found at:

[https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/CBHSdocs/CBHSDirMonRpts/2020/July\\_2020%20BHS\\_Monthly\\_Communications\\_Report.pdf](https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/CBHSdocs/CBHSDirMonRpts/2020/July_2020%20BHS_Monthly_Communications_Report.pdf)

### **3.2 Public Comment**

Mr. Hillier said he has been trying to get information about the 1200+ involuntarily committed mental health patients over one year.

### **4.0 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT UPDATES AND PUBLIC HEARINGS**

The passage of Proposition 63 (now known as the [Mental Health Services Act](#) or MHSA) in November 2004, provides increased annual funding to support county mental health programs. The Act addresses a broad continuum of prevention, early intervention and service needs and the necessary infrastructure, technology and training elements that will effectively support this system. This Act imposes a 1% income tax on personal income in excess of \$1 million. One of the requirements of the Act is that the county must provide annual updates as well as hearings for changes in the way the county implements the funding.

Commissioner Bohrer suggested that the BHC request a ten minute presentation by programs that are funded by MHSA so the BHC can know more about them.

### **5.1 Public Comment**

**Dr. Lewis** made the point that we need to keep contact with the Board of Supervisors and to please use the voice of this Commission to be an advocate.

**Mr. Hillier** reiterated that we must have a 72 hour notice of meetings. It can be a criminal action under section 53959. Commission Tesconi said that Loy Proffitt will check on why this was not posted.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 P.M.

**DRAFT**  
**REVISED MINUTES**  
**Behavioral Health Commission Meeting**  
Wednesday, August 19, 2020  
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Marylyn Tesconi, MA, Chair, Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Vice-Chair, Judy Drummond, MA, Secretary, Richelle Slota, MA, Toni Parks, Dawson Emmett Cooper, Judith Klain,, Ulash Thakore Dunlop, Arthur Curry, Harriette Stevens, EdD, Idell Wilson,

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Gregory Ledbetter

**COMMISSIONERS ON LEAVE:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT::** Acting BHS Director Marlo Simmons, MPH, Loy Proffitt, Administrator BHC, Geoffrey Grier, Dr. David Elliott Lewis, Terry Bohrer, Stephen Banuelos, Wynship Hillier

**Commissioner Tesconi** called the meeting to order at 6:03.

## **ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

### **1.1 Report from Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee**

Commissioner Tesconi, Chair, met with BHS Acting Director Marlo Simmons, Dr. Hali Hammer and Terry Bohrer regarding her proposal to separate the BHC and the San Francisco Mental Health Education Funds. Supervisor Stefani has also proposed legislation recommending the Executive Director become a civil service position.

She shared that there are no updates yet on the hiring of the Director of BHS. Ms. Simmons said staff support for the BHC will continue until a contract has been signed.

The BHC website needs to be renamed and the information updated.

### **1.2 Reports from Committees**

#### **1.2a Executive Committee:**

Terry Bohrer will do Site Visit Training on 9/11/20: Commissioners Toni Parks, Carletta Jackson-Lane, Richelle Slota, Dawson Cooper, Gregory Ledbetter, Judy Drummond, and Marylyn Tesconi will attend.

Teresa Comstock, Executive Director of the California Association of Local Mental Health Boards/Commissions, will train Commission members on the roles and responsibilities of Commissioners and about the Brown Act on Wednesday, 9/2/20. Commissioners Judy Drummond, Richelle Slota, Toni Parks, Judith Klain, Gregory

Ledbetter, Dawson Emmett Cooper, Marylyn Tesconi, and Carletta Jackson-Lane will attend.

#### **1.2b Information Committee**

The Information Committee has no chair. This matter is referred to the Executive Committee.

#### **1.2 c Implementation Committee**

Implementation Committee was rescheduled

#### **1.2 d Nominating Committee**

No report

#### **1.2e Bylaws Revision Committee**

There may be changes that will impact our ability to change certain sections. Tabled for more research. Commissioner Slota will join the Bylaws Committee.

#### **1.2 f Ad Hoc Strategic Plan Committee**

Commissioners Judy Drummond, Judith Klain, Gregory Ledbetter, Marylyn Tesconi, Dawson Cooper, and Carletta Jackson-Lane will be on the committee.

### **1.3 People or Issues Highlighted by BHC: Suggestions of people, programs, or both, that Commissioners believe should be acknowledged or highlighted by the Behavioral Health Commission**

**Commissioner Klain** nominated BHS Director Marlo Simmons for her perseverance and advocacy on behalf of those with mental health needs.

**Commissioner Jackson-Lane** nominated Dr. Mary Ann Jones, CEO of Westside MHS.

### **1.4 Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission**

**Commissioner Tesconi** was on a Zoom call with Police Chief Scott and University of San Francisco. \$120 million has been cut from budget to be reallocated to mental health services.

**Commissioner Stevens**, President of the CA Association of Local Mental Health Boards and Commissions, gave Board Conduct Guidelines to Loy Proffitt to disseminate to all Commissioners.

**Commissioner Ledbetter** nominated the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, (NAMI) Peer-to-Peer Training Program.

### **1.5 New business - Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee**

It was recommended that the Retreat becomes our venue to do trainings and meetings in two-hour blocks on Zoom, recorded so that anyone who is unavailable can watch them at later date. BHC suggested areas included Site Visit Training materials, Commissioner Roles of Conduct and Robert's Rules, Brown Act, Strategic Plan Committee, goals and priorities for the coming year.

## 1.6 Public comment

**Mr. Grier** mentioned that this is a once in a lifetime opportunity. There is a meeting on 9/25-9/26/20 to figure where the \$120 million needs to go. It is a perfect fit for the BHC.

**Mr. Hillier** stated that the BHC cannot vote on a Motion that is not previously listed as an action item in the Agenda. Mr. Hillier stated BHC can't bypass elections and Motion should be rescinded from the minutes.

**Mr. Banuelos** said Ms. Simmons can address some of the increases for mental health services.

**Dr. Lewis** suggested that Commissioners to get involved in the many mental health initiatives.

## ITEM 2.0 ACTION ITEMS

For discussion and action: None.

### 2.1 Public comment

**Mr. Hillier** requested agenda packets to be sent and was not received. Mr. Hillier went on to say that if more than a majority of the commission is not present, then it is a violation of the Brown Act.

**2.2 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of July 15, 2020 be approved as submitted.**

No Action taken

## ITEM 3.0 REPORT FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

### 3.1 Report from Behavioral Health Services Director

**Ms. Simmons** stated that the budget conversations are going well. No cuts to staff. If voted in, the unlocked Prop C funding will provide \$30 million for beds across the continuum of care. This will work to improve access to 24/7 care. The number of homeless tents on the street has expanded from 400 to 1200 tents in the last four months. The focus is on treatment beds, board and care, skilled nursing, and Hummingbird beds. No funding for permanent supportive housing is on the list now.

BHS is increasing training for staff due to COVID-19; employee assistance programs, and health support are available. All employees have health insurance and access to employee assistance programs. There is emergency access to hotel rooms for front line DPH employees.

The Communications Report can be found at the following address:

[https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/CBHSdocs/CBHSDirMonRpts/2020/August\\_2020\\_BHS\\_Monthly\\_Communications\\_Report.pdf](https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/CBHSdocs/CBHSDirMonRpts/2020/August_2020_BHS_Monthly_Communications_Report.pdf)

### 3.2 Public Comment

**Mr. Hillier** stated that 2500 people are on involuntary treatment. It is appalling that this Commission is not looking into this. It is 3% of the City and County's population. How many patients are under Section 5300?

**Ms Simmons** responded that she has requested that information and will follow-up on the request.

**Dr. Lewis** said he believed that it is more like 500 in involuntary treatment.

**Mr. Banuelos** thanked Ms. Simmons for her support. He dealt with budgets for residential beds. Because of the nature of San Francisco, this supportive housing becomes permanent and then there is nowhere to go.

#### **4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT**

##### **4.1 Public Comment**

**Mr. Grier** said he applaud everyone. We have a magnanimous job to do and have to step up. There is an initiative to ownership for those underserved.

**Mr. Hillier** stated in response to Dr. Lewis comment, that Conservatorship accounts for only 60 patients; 2500 petitions are filed per year. There are only 600 in the system. You're saying only 1 in 3 of those petitions fail or are not honored? The Superior Court is concealing information.

**Adjournment 8:02**

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES**

**Behavioral Health Commission Meeting**

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Meeting called to order at 6:15 by Chair Marylyn Tesconi

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Marylyn Tesconi, MA, Chair; Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Vice-Chair; Judy Z. Drummond, MA, Secretary; Dawson Emmett. Cooper II; Arthur Curry; Ulash Thakore-Dunlap, MFT; Gregory Ledbetter; Toni Parks; Richelle Slota, MA; Harriette Stevens, EdD; and Idell Wilson

**COMMISSIONERS ON LEAVE:** Judith Klain, MPH

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** none

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Loy M. Proffitt, MBA, Administrator BHC, Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director, Behavioral Health Services (BHS); Dr. Mary Ann Jones, Ph.D., CEO, Westside Community Services; David Elliott Lewis, Ph.D.; MHA-SF; Wynship Hillier; Steven Banuelos.

**ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONER’S REPORTS**

**1.2 Report from Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee**

Commissioner Tesconi said that according to the City Attorney, we must have quorum to have this meeting. She asked that the person using the name “International Terrorist” please change name to “unknown?” There was no response so Loy Proffitt changed name to “unknown.”

Site visit training is changed to September 26, 10 am-12 pm.

Commissioner Slota was reappointed by Sandra Fewer through 2023. Commissioners Drummond, Thakore Dunlop, Ledbetter, and Tesconi are waiting reappointment. There are 7 vacancies.

Teresa Yu will send a representative to give the BHC a short report about the start of Mental Health San Francisco (MHSF) and talk about housing.

Legislation posed by Supervisor Stefani was posted on August 31st and will be heard by the Rules Committee after 30-day rule by October 1<sup>st</sup>.

She spoke with City Attorney regarding zoom identification (international terrorist), she recommended we rename that person or disable the chat.

Theresa Comstock’s training was very helpful

**1.2 Reports from Committees: all Commission members are required to be on one committee.**

**1.2a Executive Committee:**

Strategic Planning Committee should be a standing committee.

**1.2b Information Committee**

Does not need to exist anymore.

**1.2 c Implementation Committee**

Commissioner Jackson-Lane, Chair said the committee met on September 13, 2020. Ida McCray will come to the next meeting to talk about women in the jails. Commissioner Idell Wilson wanted to discuss the impact of Prop 63 dollars on programs that are being pushed forward, especially in Hunters Point/Bayview. Commissioner Jackson-Lane is looking for someone to present.

**1.2 d Nominating Committee**

This committee needs to reconvene because we need new officers and we need to elect new people to Commission positions. Commissioners Klain, Chair, Ledbetter, and Wilson volunteered. The committee will present a proposed slate in January 2021.

**1.2e Bylaws Revision Committee**

The committee met on 9/10/20. The City Attorney's office is willing to give us a law student to review our bylaws. They will meet in next few weeks to continue this project.

**1.2 f Strategic Plan Committee**

Commissioner Drummond, Chair, and Commissioners Tesconi, Klain, Cooper, Ledbetter, and Jackson-Lane are on the Committee. Commissioner Drummond did not get the agenda posted within the 72-hour window. She will set up a new meeting through Loy Proffitt.

**1.3 People or Issues Highlighted by BHC: Suggestions of people, programs, or both, that Commissioners believe should be acknowledged or highlighted by the Behavioral Health Commission**

**Commissioner Wilson** wants to thank Helynna Brooke for the work she did for 21 years.

**Commissioner Jackson-Lane** presented an award to Dr. Mary Ann Jones, CEO of Westside Mental Health Services for her lifelong work as a brave, revolutionary leader for mental health services to underserved communities.

**Commissioner Slota** recommended a resolution commending health care workers who are working above and beyond the call of duty.

**Commissioner Ledbetter** nominated NAMI Peer-to-Peer Training Program.

**1.4 Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission**

**Commissioner Ledbetter** is attending NAMI Peer-to-Peer Training Program. It is excellent.

**Commissioner Tesconi** will participate on 9/22/20 in a discussion of human rights funds in the African American community. Money is being reallocated from the Police Department. Loy Proffitt will send a link to participants if they want to attend.

**Commissioner Stevens** is attending meetings on the Data Notebook which will be due in January. It contains information on what should include on telehealth and issues related to COVID19. We have been restricted in our activities, so we need to write about our responses. What will our plan be in the future?

**Commissioner Wilson** went to the Implementation Committee meeting and it was very informal and very interesting

**Commissioner Cooper** will participate in CORO of Northern CA, resilient SF infrastructure Leadership every Wednesday through the end of November.

Commissioner Ledbetter attended a meeting with Mega Black SF, a group Mayor Breed put together looking for reparations with money taken away from police.

### **1.5 New business - Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee**

**Commissioner Ledbetter:** The BHC should look at Kindred Nursing Home on Bush Street, a senior care home operating under COVID. Conditions are horrendous. There is undertrained staff. Only two telephones for patients to use, with one designated to quarantine unit. Only one cell phone for 100 patients. This is only one of many complaints.

In October the Strategic Planning Committee will lay out things we to do in the New year and incorporate this into our work. We can move forward in a united front.

**Commissioner Thakore Dunlap** said she liked the idea of strategically training BHC members and scaffolding. We need to support and prepare ourselves to support our communities.

### **1.6 Public comment**

**Mr. Hillier** said he was well within his constitutional rights to have the name “international terrorist.” He was trying to respond when he was put on mute.

**Dr. Lewis:** “International terrorist” is a threat and is entirely unprofessional. Free speech is not unlimited speech.

## **ITEM 2.0 ACTION ITEMS**

For discussion and action: No discussion

### **2.1 Public comment**

Mr.Hillier requested that his name be correctly spelled. In July their wasn't a motion to accept Dawson Cooper did not happen. The resignation of Marcus Dancer was not there. There were many errors in the July minutes. At the August meeting, Arthur Curry was present. (Gregory Ledbetter says he was not present.) My comments are completely misrepresented. After motion I said you should rescind and expunged from the minutes because no notice was given from that. “I'm wondering if there was a breach of the rules,” there was no disability notice on the agenda.

**Mr. Banuelos:** The August minutes were not posted with agenda.

**Commissioner Tesconi** suggested he email his objections to Loy Proffitt.

### **2.2 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of August 19, 2020 be approved as corrected.**

10 Aye, Commissioner Arthur Curry voted Nay, Adopted.

### **ITEM 3.0 REPORT FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR**

The Director's Report was based on information that went out with the agenda. The greatest impact is on our staffing. We are working hard to hire new people to take the weight off. We are getting people vaccinated for flu season. We are working to hire an Executive Director. BHS is moving up the ladder. There will be 2 new divisions for health services. One for rules of all health plan systems. There will be an office of coordinated care. Over the next couple of years, we will restructure all adult systems of care. We have opportunities for better care over the next three years. We highlighted Helynna Brooke in our newsletter for her years of service to Behavioral Health. MHSF is getting ready to be implemented. Prop C will give hundreds of millions for housing and mental health. The Supreme Court of CA said they are not going to hear the complaints. The City is redirecting police funding to the African American community. We need to be better partners with the community, so if you have any ideas, let us know.

**Commissioner Jackson Lane** asked how to get involved with and participate in the hiring process of the Director, It is one of the Commissions mandates from the State.

**Ms. Simmons** said she would email the Chair of the Hiring Committee.

**Commissioner Jackson Lane** asked that as part of Prop C: are there specific sections for behavioral health money?

**Ms. Simmons** said at least 25% of the funding needs to be spent on mental health, specifically for preventing homelessness. It can't be used to replace things. It has to be for new services.

**Commissioner Jackson Lane** asked if it is true that there is a 30% loss of staff?

**Ms. Simmons:** Staff is down, clinicians by 20%, psychiatrists by 30%, leadership by 40%. Email me if you want exact numbers. 24% are managing COVID deployments – trying to manage staff to part time. There is a peak in overdoses in hotel rooms and we need staff to go there. Lots of people are working to help with COVID but it is impacting our services.

**Commissioner Slota** asked how DPH staff are doing in staying free of COVID?

**Ms. Simmons** said there are not many cases; a handful of concerns that turned out to be nothing. 2 programs had a staff person get COVID. Cases were traced to the community. COVID is wreaking havoc across the board.

**Commissioners Slota and Ledbetter** offered support for the outstanding work of DPH and their employees. Commendations across the board from all Commissioners. We respect and appreciate what you have done in the hardest of times.

**Commissioner Stevens:** When we have events in the community, we should include under represented consumers and viable stakeholders. We need to hear from the community about their experiences with all mental health & behavioral health programs. We need the big picture, then stakeholders can fit into that.

**Commissioner Drummond** suggested an umbrella group around mental health like there was under the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) umbrella. That was incredible.

**Commissioner Thakore Dunlop** thanked Ms. Simmons for her leadership, saying she appreciated her collaborative efforts. She asked how the BHC can advocate on red tape bureaucracy?

**Ms. Simmons** said that one of the challenges are the Civil Service Rules and how they operate in the hiring process. BHS is committed to hiring from the community. It may take 18 months to hire someone. This creates the most barriers.

**Commissioner Parks** said it is difficult for the consumer to access DPF & BHS. Her experience with websites and forms has shown her that government forms are not user unfriendly and poorly designed.

### 3.2 Public Comment

**Mr. Hillier** said 2500 new people are ordered into involuntary treatment. It is appalling that this Commission is not looking into this. It is 3% of the City and County's population. How many patients are under Section 5300?

**Ms. Simmons** responded that she followed-up on the request.

**Dr. Lewis** said it's more like 500 who are in involuntary treatment.

**Mr. Banuelos** thanked Ms. Simmons and shared that he dealt with budgets for residential beds. Because of the nature of San Francisco, this supportive housing becomes permanent and then there is nowhere to go.

### 4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

**Mr. Banuelos** asked if they had a sense about the per cent of client contacts pre COVID?

**Ms. Simmons** said that in a two- week period, 67-80% are in contact by phone. We're evaluating if there is enough frequency. COVID is traumatizing everyone. A lot more is needed.

**Dr. Lewis** said that we are in a time of great change. We should try to get seats on these advisory boards so there are mental health people on board. BHC should have a seat at the table.

Commissioner Parks shared that she tried to apply for the committee They want long essays. It seems like you have to know someone.

**Mr. Hillier:** I remind you that there are 2500 petitions filed for long term treatment. I made a reference to staff to ask for more information to Marlo Simmons to report back to October meeting. How many new outpatients come in from June to July?

**Ms. Simmons:** I sent you an email, I think I found out what you are referencing. I want to talk to you offline.

**Mr. Hillier** said that the new legislation by Supervisor Stefani to reform staff relationship was introduced on 8/18/20. The 30<sup>th</sup> day is tomorrow. It could come up in the Rules Committee next Monday. It is your choice if you wish to continue to hold a meeting in violation in the Brown Act. The August meeting was not posted. Section 9A of the Sunshine Act says any document used in a meeting must be distributed beforehand.

### Adjournment 8:13 PM

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES**  
**Behavioral Health Commission Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 21, 2020**  
**Remote Zoom Meeting**  
**6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Commissioner Tesconi called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Marylyn Tesconi, MA, Chair, Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Vice-Chair, Judy Drummond, MA, Secretary Judith Klain, Richelle Slota, Gregory Ledbetter, Ulash Thakore-Dunlop, MA, Dr. Harriette Stevens, PhD, Toni Parks, Idell Wilson, Dawson Emmett Cooper

**COMMISSIONERS ON LEAVE:** None

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Arthur Curry

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Loy Proffitt (Administrator), Marlo Simmons, MFT, Acting Director of BHS, Teresa Yu, LMFT, MHSA Program Coordinator

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** Terry Bohrer, Wynship Hillier, Dr. David Elliott-Lewis, Stephen Banuelos

**ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

**1.1 Report from Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee**

Discussion regarding Chair's meetings with Behavioral Health Services staff, meetings with members of the Board of Supervisors, and community meetings about mental health or substance use.

1.1 a) Update on vacancies and reappointments to the BHC

**Commissioner Tesconi** said there have been no changes in the status of reappointment or appointments of new commissioners.

1.1 b) Update on Sunshine Ordinance Complaint: There was no update.

1.1 c) Suggestions for more BHC engagement: No suggestions were made.

1.1 d) Restructuring of the BHC

**Commissioner Tesconi** said that the Supervisor Stefani's proposed legislation to require that DPH staff support the BHC and restructuring of appointments and terms was approved by the Rules Committee on 10/19/20. It will go to the full board for final approval.

**Commissioners Ledbetter and Wilson** said they received no notification of the hearing.

**1.2 Reports, Updates and Changes on Committee**

Discussion regarding committee meetings, goals and accomplishments and proposed new committees

1.2a) Implementation Committee: Commissioner Jackson-Lane, Chair, reported that the committee met on October 13, 2020 and had a presentation from Ms. Ida McCray, retired Executive Director of San Francisco Sheriffs Department (SFSD) Women's Resource Center.

1.2b) Bylaws Revision Committee has not met.

1.3c) Strategic Plan Committee met and went over Section 1 of the plan. They will meet again to finalize edits, changes, and ideas about the plan.

1.3 d) Nominating Committee: Commissioner Klain reported that we will keep the current roster until January 2021. Commissioners Richelle Slota and Carletta Jackson-Lane nominated themselves for the position of Chair of the BHC.

1.3 e) Site Visit Committee is now a standing committee with Commissioners Richelle Slota, Chair, Gregory Ledbetter, Judith Klain, Marylyn Tesconi.

1.3 f) Legislative Committee will stay abreast of current legislation and play an advocacy role. Commissioner Judith Klain wants to be included in this group.

### **1.3 Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission**

**Commissioner Ledbetter** attended a NAMI conference.

#### **1.4 Public Comment**

**Mr. Banuelos** asked to be sent paperwork on the Strategic Plan and minutes of meetings. He asked to be on the Legislative Committee.

**Dr. Lewis** stated that in the past Committees had public members. He asked to be on the Legislative Committee.

**Mr. Hillier** said that there are only nine members of the Commission, and only four are serving current terms. Public must be able to speak on all agenda items.

### **ITEM 2.0 NEW BUSINESS – SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **2.1a Discussion of ideas for Retreat content and scheduling**

**Commissioner Klain** suggested the Retreat consist of a half day working on the Strategic Plan for next two years, and how to structure committees.

**Commissioner Drummond** suggested we lay out specific instructions related to Brown and Sunshine Acts, and Robert's Rules of Order and how to set up committee meetings.

**Commissioner Klain** suggested we make possible clarity of work we need to do and implement priorities.

**Commissioner Ledbetter** said we should streamline and eliminate obstacles.

MHSF should be on the agenda as a way to get us to participate in this important piece of work.

Ad Hoc Retreat Planning committee will be Commissioner Klain, Chair, Commissioner Slota, Commissioner Ledbetter, and Terry Bohrer, member of the public.

Terry Bohrer, member of the public, will facilitate the Strategic Plan Session.

David Elliott-Lewis, member of the public, will facilitate the MHSF session.

### **2.1b Suggestions of people or programs Commissioners would like to acknowledge or commend**

No suggestions were made.

### **2.1 c) Suggestions for future agenda items**

Commissioner Tesconi would like to contact young women from the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) program.

### **2.2 Public comment**

Mr. Hillier discussed the time limits before the Retreat according to Robert's Rules of Order.

## **ITEM 3.0 ACTION ITEMS**

### **3.1 Public Comment**

Mr. Hillier made comments about changes to last month's minutes. He said the minutes were approved without corrections and a motion was incorrectly made.

Commissioner Tesconi said she would forward the changes to Loy Proffitt.

## **ITEM 4.0 REPORT FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR**

4.1 Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director of Behavioral Health Services Department reviewed the BHS Director's Report about COVID19 practices, language access, and suicide prevention.

For MHSF: 12 of 13 implementation groups have been appointed. MHSF will convene in December and will host community forums with BHC.

Ms. Simmons is happy to talk to use about programs so we can become more visible and impactful. We can co-host events.

### **4.2 Public Comment**

Mr. Banuelos asked if MHSF is an increase in resources or have things not really changed?

Ms. Simmons said that MHSF may be the catalyst we need to get things done.

Mr. Hillier said we need to assess the needs and problems of those 2500 people involuntary committed each year.

## **ITEM 5.0 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT UPDATES AND PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **5.1 Mental Health Service Act Updates and Public Hearings**

The passage of Proposition 63 (now known as the [Mental Health Services Act](#) or MHSA) in November 2004, provides increased annual funding to support county mental health programs. The Act addresses a broad continuum of prevention, early intervention and service needs and the necessary infrastructure, technology and training elements that will effectively support this system. This Act imposes a 1% income tax on personal income in excess of \$1 million. One of the requirements of the Act is that the county must provide annual updates as well as hearings for changes in the way the county implements the funding.

**Ms. Yu** gave an update on SB803. There will be a webinar the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of November.

**5.2 Public Comment**

**Mr. Hillier** said he is not excited about SB803. He thinks it is more social control.

**ITEM 6.0 PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Mr. Hillier** suggested that all Commissioners should get a copy of Robert's Rules of Order #12,

**Dr. Lewis:** talked about alternatives to police response, the Human Rights Commission, City and SF Crisis Support teams, and the Coalition on Homelessness. He said Commissioners should be aware of all these meetings and participate.

**Adjournment 8:05 PM**

UNADOPTED

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES**  
**Behavioral Health Commission Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 18, 2020**  
**6:00 PM – 7:45 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Commissioner Jackson-Lane, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:17 PM.**

**ROLL CALL** by Commissioner Drummond, Secretary: no quorum

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Chair, Judy Drummond, MA, Secretary, Judith Klain, MPH, Richelle Slota, Gregory Ledbetter, Dr. Harriette Stevens, PhD, Dawson Emmett Cooper

**COMMISSIONERS ON LEAVE:** Ulash Thakore-Dunlop, MFT, Idell Wilson

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Arthur Curry, Toni Parks

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director of BHS, Jessica Brown, MPH, MHSA Director, Teresa Yu, LMFT, MHSA Program Coordinator, Wynship Hillier, Terry Bohrer, Dr. David Elliott-Lewis, Stephen Banuelos, Geoffrey Grier, SF Recovery Theatre, Stephen Banuelos, and John Sarpulla,

Commissioner Jackson-Lane made the decision to go forward with the meeting to hear reports, presentation by Marlo Simmons, Acting Director of BHS, Jessica Brown, Director of MHSA, and provide the opportunity for members of the public to speak. Normally the Commission does not meet in December, except for the retreat, which gives the opportunity for the Commission to develop its goals and priorities for 2021. The retreat has been postponed until the vacant seats have been filled in 2021.

**ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONERS REPORTS**

**1.1 Report from Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee**

Commissioner Jackson-Lane, Acting Chair, reported that Commissioner Marylyn Tesconi resigned from the BHC, effective 11/9/20. She informed the Board of Supervisors and all of the Commissioners. The Commission thanks her for her tireless work for the BHC.

**1.1 (a). Update on vacancies and reappointments on the BHC**

There are five Commissioners with current appointments: Commissioners Jackson-Lane, Slota, Klain, Cooper, and Parks. Commissioners Thakore-Dunlap, Ledbetter, Drummond and Curry have finished their first terms and have applied for a second term.

There are eight (8) vacancies: two (2) consumer seats, five (5) family member seats, one (1) mental health professional seat, and one (1) Board of Supervisors seat

1.1 (b) Supervisor Stefani's legislation regarding the BHC staffing requirement that DPH civil service staff the Commission, was passed by the full Board of Supervisors on November 3, 2020.

[Administrative Code - Department of Public Health - Providing Staff for the Behavioral Health Commission]200951 Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require the Department of Public Health to provide administrative staff to support the Behavioral Health Commission; to expand the membership criteria to conform to state law; and to reset all Commission member terms as of January 1, 2021, to be staggered so that no more than one-third of the members' terms expire at one time.

1.1 (c) Cultural Competency training for commissions was done by Commissioner Dawson Cooper on 9/26/20.

## 1.2 Reports from Committees

1.2 (a). Information Committee Marcus Dancer, Chair, resigned from the BHC, and moved to Texas. A new Chair is needed.

1.2 (b). Implementation Committee. Carletta Jackson-Lane, Chair, said the committee had a meeting on 10/13/20. At the Chair's request Ms. Simmons had Kathleen Minioza, BHS Project Manager provide data to the committee regarding the number of BHS vacant staff positions. There are 650 staff positions who report to the BHS Director. As of 11/12/20, BHS has 113 total vacancies, which is 17.38% of all 650 available positions. 90 are part of the Behavioral Health Services Hiring Plan, and 23 are listed on the BHS Vacancy Report. Some of the key positions are: nine (9) Senior Psychiatric Physicians, (job class 2242/2243), 37 Behavioral Health Clinicians, (job class 2930), and six (6) Senior Behavioral Health Clinicians, (job class 2932).

The committee continues to focus on following up on the six resolutions in the Annual report for FY 19-20 with members of the Board of Supervisors.

1.2 (c). Nominating Committee: Commissioner Klain, Chair, reported that the meeting did not have quorum. Commissioners Jackson-Lane, Acting Chair and Slota have expressed interest in running for Chair. Commissioner Cooper recommended we hold off until we have filled all of the seats on the commission. Election has to be held in February 2021.

1.2 (d). Bylaws Revision Ad Hoc Committee: Commissioner Dawson Cooper, Chair reported that the committee plans to meet in December.

1.2 (e) Strategic Plan Committee: Commissioner Drummond, Chair, reported that the committee is holding off until more commissioners are appointed. The strategic plan will be used as part of the new Commissioner training program.

## 1.3 People or Issues Highlighted by BHC: Suggestions of people, programs, or both that Commissioners believe should be acknowledged or highlighted by the Behavioral Health Commission.

No reports

1.4 **Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission**

**Commissioner Klain** shared that she and Marylyn Tesconi met with Supervisor Mar's aide about current activities in District 4. They are opening a winter shelter for people who are homeless, advocating for a van to come into the community to provide services for people who are homeless and other needs. Supervisor Mar is looking at how to use Prop C funds.

**Dr. Stevens** reported that she was selected to serve on the interview panel for the first round of applicants for the new Behavioral Health Services Director position.

1.5 **New Business. Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee**

**Commissioner Jackson-Lane** stated that the retreat, usually scheduled in December: Don't know when and if that will happen, since we are in an inactive position with no staff and only five (5) Commissioners.

1.6 **Public Comment**

**Stephen Banuelos** said he spoke with Victor Young, Board of Supervisor's Rules Committee clerk, about his application for a seat on the BHC for either of the Mental Health Professional seats, 8 or 15

**Geoffrey Grier:** said that he has gone through a tumultuous experience with the hiring process for the executive director position for the BHC. He still has respect for the BHC. These are unprecedented times providing both trial by fire and an opportunity to respond to the very specific need for a mobile and astute BHC. He things thinks the mission is not boring. It is very serious.

**David Elliott Lewis:** said that he was the chair of the SF Mental Health Education Funds (SFMHEF) executive director search committee to find a new executive director. Six interviews were completed and the committee identified a star candidate, Geoffrey Grier. He was approved by the SFMHEF Board of Directors, but there is no funding for the position at this time. He suggested that commissioners attend the Mental Health San Francisco (MHSF) meeting on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 meeting, as members of the public. This MHSF Implementation Working Group oversees outcomes for legislation.

**Marlo Simmons** said that Geoffrey Grier can possibly be hired through the SFMHEF funding process which sunsets in June. She spoke with Jessica Brown, who will hire the staff person. The BHC staff person will be imbedded within the SFMHEF team.

**Jessica Brown** said BHS wants to maintain what the BHC can do and a person who fits BHS core principles.

**Khash Nattagh,** UCSF medical student works at a start-up with other medical students. They have developed a mobile program, OSMind, a mini EMT that can track meds, moods, and send messages to help homeless and mentally ill clients.

**Wynship Hillier** said this meeting is being held in violation of the Brown Act that requires all packets be sent to whoever requests one. There should be public comment

after each agenda item. He questions how the public can expect to speak to each item in three minutes?

**Commissioner Jackson-Lane** stated that all information was posted on the BHC website.

## **Item 2.0 ACTION ITEMS**

No votes were taken on any action items because the meeting did not have quorum. All items will be moved to the December 16, 2020 BHC meeting agenda.

### 2.1 Public comment

No comments

2.2 **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission commends Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director of Behavioral Health Services.

2.3 **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the Standing Committee known as the Information Committee will be discontinued.

2.4 **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the Behavioral Health Commission Retreat will be postponed to January 2021.

2.5 **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of July 15, 2020 be approved as resubmitted.

2.6 **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of August 19, 2020 be approved as resubmitted.

2.7 **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of September 16, 2020 be approved as resubmitted.

2.8 **Proposed Resolution:** Be it resolved that the corrected minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of October 21, 2020 be approved as submitted.

## **Item 3.0 Report from Acting Behavioral Health Services Director**

3.1 Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director of BHS gave a report on the activities and operations of Behavioral Health Services (BHS), including a budget, planning, policy, and programs and services.

She said that hiring of the Director of BHS is moving into the final part of the interview process. There should have a name in the next few weeks.

There is a MHSF meeting on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:30. This group will have a voice in developing new programs for the behavioral health services. Everyone is encouraged to attend and participate.

This has been a really tough time for the world and for this Commission. She is so inspired by how the members are continuing to be advocates and how much Commissioners care. There is a lot of support and she wants to acknowledge how hard members are all working, and she is inspired at how everyone is so committed.

Ms. Simmons said that she and Jessica Brown want to present about the MHSA housing programs at the December BHC meeting. The new 3-year plan was presented to the Commission in May 2020, including the addition of innovation projects. There is a power point about the Innovation Project plan to present to programs to explain how to access innovation dollars. There

will be Request for Qualifications (RFQ) submissions from individuals and community based programs to partner with existing MHSA funded programs, including Culturally Congruent Innovation Programs and Black African American Community Programs. The Innovation Project programs have to come from the community. There is a need for commissioners who reflect the population. Mission Mental Health has a program for African American men. BHS is seeking innovation proposals. Information and forms can be obtained from Teresa Yu, MHSA Program Coordinator. Proposals should be submitted to Teresa Yu, as well.

### 3.2 Public Comment

**Wynship Hillier** said that one year ago, this body passed a resolution about involuntarily admitted patients. Tens of thousands have been subjected to ex parte restrictions.

**Stephen Banuelos** likes that we can explore what Teresa Yu and Jessica Brown are talking about

## 4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

This final public comment time is for the public to make a comment on any topic that is related to the Commissions responsibility for advocating and educating about San Francisco's Behavioral Health Services.

### 4.1 Public Comment

**Wynship Hillier** stated that the Commission Bylaws are not correct. Quorum should be half of the appointed members. Given that you have five, you now have quorum. Need to change this in the bylaws.

**David Elliott Lewis** said that Wynship Hillier has a point so could the commission look into this?

**Commissioner Jackson-Lane** stated that in the San Francisco Administrative Code it says that quorum for all City commissions is 50% plus one (1), of the entire number of seats for that commission. The BHC has 17 seats, so for a quorum there must be nine (9) commissioners present.

Adjournment 7:45 pm.

Minutes by Judy Drummond, Secretary

## DISABILITY ACCESS

The ADA is a civil rights law that protects people with different types of disabilities from discrimination in all aspects of social life. More specifically, Title II of the ADA requires that all programs offered through the state and local government such as the City and County of San Francisco must be accessible and usable to people with disabilities. The ADA and City policy require that people with disabilities have equal access to all City services, activities, and benefits. People with disabilities must have an equal opportunity to participate in the programs and services offered through the City and County of San Francisco. If you believe your rights under the ADA are violated, contact the ADA Coordinator.

Ordinance 90-10 added Section 2A.22.3 to the Administrative Code, which adopted a Citywide Americans with Disabilities Act Reasonable Modification Policy that requires City departments to: (1) provide notice to the public of the right to request reasonable modification; (2) respond promptly to such requests; (3) provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services to people with disabilities to ensure effective communication; and (4) train staff to respond to requests from the public for reasonable modification, and that requires the Mayor's Office on Disability to provide technical assistance to City department responding to requests from the public for reasonable modifications.

UNADOPTED

[Motion Supporting Lowell High School Black Student Union and Urging The City of San Francisco Board of Supervisor, Mayor, and The Department of Public Health, Take Immediate Action/Support of BIPOC Adolescents Fighting Against Systemic and Cultural Racism In The City Of San Francisco and Affirms Racism as a Behavioral Health Issue.]

### Supplemental Information

On January 21st, 2021, the San Francisco Examiner reported in their article “Students denounce ‘rampant, unchecked racism’ at Lowell after slurs flood anti-racism lesson” reported that “A lesson on anti-racism at Lowell High School on Wednesday was bombarded by racist, anti-Semitic and pornographic images and language.”

On February 5th, 2021, Lowell High School students and community members rallied against Lowell High School’s Racism, calling for a change in leadership and Culture. The Examiner interviewed a Lowell High School Black Student Union student in their article titled “Lowell students rally against racism, call for new leadership and policies,” a freshman named Hannah Chikere, one of 45 Black High School Students attending Lowell High School, stated in the article that “Sometimes I wonder what would happen to me if I went to this school in person. Every student is judged down to the detail of their being. It is insensitive to call our cries for help exaggerations or stories.”.

Lowell High School has had a notorious history for upholding cultural and institutional racism systems, having had several systemic and cultural racism incidents both amongst current students and alumni.

The Behavioral Health Commission cannot ignore that systemic Racism, whether it be in our educational system or outside the educational system, is a leading danger to the decline of behavioral health of young Black Indigenous People of color.

According to a study called “The Impact of Racism on Child and Adolescent Health” conducted by Maria Trent, Danielle G. Dooley, Jacqueline Dougé, “The impact of Racism has been linked to birth disparities and mental health problems in children and adolescents. The biological mechanism that emerges from chronic stress leads to increased and prolonged levels of exposure to stress hormones and oxidative stress at the cellular level. Prolonged exposure to stress hormones, such as cortisol, leads to inflammatory reactions that predispose individuals to chronic disease.” continuing further in the study, “Children may also experience personally mediated racism early in their schooling, which may be internalized and ultimately affect their interactions with others.”

A research article published in the journal Social Work in Mental Health, titled “Experience of Racism as a Correlate of Developmental and Health Outcomes Among Urban Adolescent Mental Health Clients,” studied 760 urban black and brown adolescent participants. One of the discoveries was that “Racism was associated with significantly elevated environmental risk (e.g., violence, sexual abuse or assault, exposure to drug use), behavioral risk (e.g., drug use)

and worry (e.g., worry about hurting self or others, worry about doing dangerous things). Overall, Racism was significantly associated with more negative health and well-being outcomes than the ability to get a gun, sexual orientation, and being enrolled in school. The authors conclude that experience of Racism should be routinely assessed at intake to mental health services along with traumatic experiences such as physical or sexual abuse.”

Therefore, the Behavioral Health Commission supports Lowell High School’s Black Student Union and their demands for Leadership and Cultural change in Lowell High School that addresses its history of racism as well as all young people fighting against Systemic and Cultural Racism within schools and outside of schools, committing itself to do its part in tackling Systemic and Cultural Racism as a root cause of behavioral health problems amongst adolescents,

The Behavioral Health Commission urges the County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Mayor, and the Department of Public Health to address systemic and cultural Racism impacting young people’s behavioral health both in schools and outside of school, which is negatively impacting BIPOC’s behavioral health.

Lastly, the Behavioral Health Commission affirms that Racism is a behavioral health issue, both within itself and as a cause of behavioral health issues amongst BIPOC.