

James M. Illig
President

Edward A. Chow, M.D
Vice President

Sonia E. Melara, MSW
Commissioner

Margine A. Sako
Commissioner

David J. Sanchez, Jr., Ph.D.
Commissioner

Steven Tierney, Ed.D.
Commissioner

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

HEALTH COMMISSION

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
Gavin C. Newsom, Mayor

Department of Public Health



Barbara A. Garcia
Director of Health

Mark Morewitz, MSW
Executive Secretary

TEL (415) 554-2666
FAX (415) 554-2665

Web Site: <http://www.sfdph.org>

MINUTES

HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, January 4, 2011, 4:00 p.m.

101 GROVE STREET, ROOM 300 or ROOM 302
San Francisco, CA 94102

1) CALL TO ORDER

Present: Commissioner James Illig, President
Commissioner Catherine Waters
Commissioner David J. Sanchez
Commissioner Sonia E. Melara
Commissioner Steven Tierney, Ed.D.
Commissioner Margine Sako

Excused: Commissioner Edward A. Chow, Vice President

The meeting was called to order at 4:04pm.

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF DECEMBER 7, 2010

Action Taken: The minutes of the December 7, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.

3) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Barbara A. Garcia, Director of Health gave the report which can be viewed at:
<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp>

Budget Update

On December 21, the Department submitted its plan to reduce current year use of General Fund by 2.5%, which translates to an \$8.7M reduction in General Fund. Because the Department is projected to be overspent by \$9.8M, the reduction necessary to meet our target increased to \$18.5M. The Department's plan which is comprised entirely of revenue increases, totals \$20M and exceeds the \$18.5M target. After covering the \$9.8M net overspending, the General Fund decrease is \$10.2M.

Revenues from the 1115 Waiver and the SNF rate are continuing revenues that will increase our baseline budgeted revenue for 2011-12. Our remaining base budget target for 2011-12 is \$24.6M, plus an additional \$34.8M contingency plan.

New Health Officer

Pending official approval by the Board of Supervisors, I am pleased to announce that Tomás Aragón, MD, is the new Health Officer and Director of Population Health and Prevention (PHP; formerly Community Health & Safety). As the Health Officer, Dr. Aragón is authorized to exercise the police powers of the state to protect health and prevent the spread of diseases. He is charged with enforcing local health orders and ordinances, the orders and rules prescribed by the California Department of Public Health, and the statutes related to public health. As Director of PHP, he will direct and coordinate services in communicable disease control, environmental health, chronic disease and injury prevention, health promotion, public health laboratory, and disaster preparedness. He is trained in primary care internal medicine (SFGH), clinical infectious diseases (UCSF), HIV/AIDS research fellowship (UCSF), and epidemiology (DrPH, UC Berkeley School of Public Health). He holds a faculty appointment at UC Berkeley SPH. I know the Commissioners join me in welcoming Dr. Aragón to this new position and the exciting opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

Anne Kronenberg, Deputy Director of Health, Takes over Lead of DEM

One of Mayor Newsom's last official appointments before he left office was to appoint Anne Kronenberg, *Deputy Director of Health*, as the *Executive Director of the San Francisco Department of Emergency Management (DEM)* beginning January 1, 2011.

Interim Appointments

I have asked Marc Trotz to serve as Interim Director of Community Programs and Colleen Chawla to be Interim Director of Policy & Planning. I thank them for their willingness to serve in these important leadership roles during this transition period.

Susan Fernyak, MD Wins MFAC Award

Congratulations to **Susan Fernyak, MD**, *Director, Communicable Disease Control & Prevention*, who has been selected as one of the recipients of the prestigious Municipal Fiscal Advisory Committee (MFAC) Good Government Awards. The 31st Award Night will take place in City Hall on Monday, March 21, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. This event has evolved over the last three decades, but its purpose remains the same: **to recognize and acknowledge exemplary job performance and leadership by San Francisco City employees.** I am pleased to note that a DPH employee has been among the recipients of this award every year for the past 15 years.

Federal Health Care Reform Team Visits SFGH

San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH) hosted a December visit by Dr. Don Berwick, the new *Administrator of the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services*. Dr. Berwick and a number of prominent health care reform officials toured SFGH with a particular interest in learning about new programs and innovations that have improved patient care and expanded access with limited resources.

State Approves New Methadone Dispensing Site

I am very pleased to report that the State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs recently approved the Community Behavioral Health Services (CBHS) Pharmacy at 1380 Howard St. to become a methadone dispensing site for San Francisco's Office- Based Opiate Treatment (OBOT) program.

SF FIRST/Homeless Outreach Team: Art Corner

SF FIRST plans on running "Art Corner" at Fulton & Larkin every first Friday of the month. When the weather improves, there is a possibility of extending it to a weekly event. The team plans on building on this initial success by combining it with an increased homeless outreach presence during the event, and by inviting its own current clients to try a healthy, expressive activity in the hopes of expanding their recreational repertoire.

A special thanks to Rajesh Parekh, MD, who took the lead on this activity, and to everyone who contributed ideas and time to get this program up and running. I will continue to update the Commissioners on the progress of the Art Corner project as it evolves.

December Pertussis Clinics Target Latinos

The San Francisco Immunization Coalition worked with DPH, San Francisco State University, Mission Head Start, SF Unified School District, Mission Neighborhood Health Center, and Good Samaritan Family Resource Center to hold Tdap (adult/adolescent whooping cough booster vaccine) clinics in San Francisco's Mission District in December. The clinics were free and open to the public but targeted to family members and caregivers who are in contact with a young child. A copy of the flyer in English and Spanish is attached.

Update of Grant for Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Plan (ECHPP)

The purpose of the ECHPP one-year grant is to help local health departments to begin implementing the National HIV/AIDS Strategy. A short-term, intensive planning process ending in early February will be followed by implementation of some of the priorities identified in the Plan. The HIV Prevention Section (HPS) has convened a Steering Committee to develop the ECHPP Plan with representatives from HIV Health Services, Community-Oriented Primary Care, STD Prevention & Control, and HIV Epidemiology. The Plan will consist of two main parts: 1) an inventory of the continuum of services for people living with and at risk for HIV, and 2) goals, objectives, and strategies for the future with regard to 14 required and 10 recommended activities listed in the grant. Examples of activities are: routine opt-out HIV screening in clinical settings, community-based HIV testing, partner services, and linkage to care. The Steering Committee will get feedback and endorsement from the HIV Prevention Planning Council and the HIV Health Services Planning Council. Anyone with questions about the Steering Committee and its activities can contact Dara Geckeler at dara.geckeler@sfdph.org.

State Tobacco Control Program Releases New Smoking Data

On December 20, the California Tobacco Control Program released new smoking prevalence data for the state as well as counties. Statewide, smoking declined 33.8% from 20.1% in 1990 to 14.2% in 2008 while in San Francisco smoking declined by 31.4% from 19.7% in 1990 to 13.5% in 2008.

Smoking prevalence continues to vary across ethnic populations. For example, smoking among Asians declined from 13.9% in 1990 to 8.1% in 2008, while among Asian men, it declined from 21.3% to 12.8%. Among African Americans, smoking declined from 24.1% to 14.2% and among Hispanics from 17.2% to 10.2%. While smoking prevalence for the LGBT population is only available for 2004, it is important to note that the 2004 state survey found that 30% of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people smoke, more than twice the California average. Counties with larger cities tended to have lower rates while rural counties tended to have higher rates. San Francisco however did not follow the trend for urban vs. rural.

Food Security Task Force Releases Annual Report

The San Francisco Food Security Task (FSTF) released its annual report for 2010. The report presents the case that because of the high cost of living in San Francisco, federal poverty guidelines do not accurately demonstrate need. Because of this, many residents who earn too much to receive federal benefits nevertheless need food assistance. The report also notes the growing demand for all food and nutrition programs. For example, the need for home delivered meals for seniors and the disabled continues to exceed allotted funds. The FSTF report is available online at: www.sffood.org. For more information, contact Paula Jones, paula.jones@sfdph.org.

Syphilis Rates Continue to Rise in SF

After a year of decline, early syphilis rates in San Francisco are rebounding. Between January and September of 2010, 460 early syphilis cases were reported, a 21.7% increase over the same period in 2009. Over 90% of early syphilis cases were among MSM and over 1/3 had a previous syphilis diagnosis. Consistent with previous years, 58% of the early syphilis cases were white, 20% Hispanic, 10% African American and 6% Asian/PI. Over half of

the cases were over the age of 40 and 60% were HIV infected. Nearly 1/3 of early syphilis cases reported using methamphetamines and over ¼ reported using erectile dysfunction medication in the past year. Nearly half of reported cases had met sex partners on the Internet.

STD411 – Mobile App for Measuring Risky Behavior

The STD Prevention and Control Services Section released its first mobile iPhone “app” specifically geared for gay, bi and trans-men and other men who have sex with men (MSM). The app, called **STD411**, offers a new opportunity for users to explore the connections between sexual activities, risk and sexual health. STD411 was designed as an easy-to-use interactive application for the Apple family of products – iPhone, iPad and iTouch – and is downloadable free of charge via www.iTunes.com. **STD411** also provides links to more information and resources via the national-model website, www.SFCityClinic.org. Using visual cues represented by flashing “condom” images, the user can evaluate the risk for STDs associated with a wide range of sexual activities. This free app does not ask for any user information or registration for use. For more information about **STD411**, visit the app store in iTunes or email iSTD@sfdph.org.

Go Folic! Women’s Nutrition Project

Throughout January, the DPH Go Folic! Women's Nutrition Project will celebrate National Folic Acid Awareness Week (Jan 4-10) by reaching out to young women at San Francisco Farmer's Markets about the importance of folic acid in their diet and the role it plays in having healthy babies. Staff will be at the Mission Community Market on Thursdays, and the Alemany and Fillmore Farmer's Markets on Saturdays. For more information, contact Shivaun Nestor, shivaun.nestor@sfdph.org. The Go Folic! Website is at www.gofolic.org.

Project Homeless Connect

As expected, the December 9th Project Homeless Connect event at Bill Graham Civic Auditorium was extraordinarily busy and a reminder of how many people continue to be in need of services. 1735 people experiencing homelessness were served by **931** volunteers. Medical-related highlights:

Forensic AIDS Project Services Coordinator to Present at Leadership Summit

Isele Gonzalez, Forensic AIDS Project (FAP) Prevention Services Coordinator, was selected to speak at the opening plenary session of the national HIV Prevention Leadership Services conference held in Washington DC in mid-December. The subject of the opening plenary was an overview of HIV Prevention Leadership Services and of CDC expectations for grantees. Ms. Gonzalez talked about the community planning process and what is needed in to take the next steps in HIV prevention planning. The annual summit offers AIDS directors, program managers, executive directors, HIV prevention program staff, CPG members and other HIV prevention partners a forum to exchange information about HIV prevention services and how to improve them.

Unsung Hero Award

Karen Pierce has received an "Unsung Hero" award for her work with the Bayview Hunters Point Health and Environmental Assessment Task Force from the Anthem Blue Cross San Francisco Community Advisory Committee in early December. The Unsung Hero award was established to provide recognition of the importance of community leaders who work to create, in different and unique ways, healthier, more equitable programs and communities. Karen is a DPH Health Program Coordinator working jointly with the Community Health Promotion and Prevention and Contract Development and Technical Assistance sections.

Ms. Garcia stated that earlier in the day there was an incident near 1380 Howard Street involving a CBHS client who was shot. The incident caused the closure of the Behavioral Access center which is located at 1380 Howard Street. There will be a full debriefing on the incident by Eileen Shields, the DPH Public Information Officer, tomorrow.

Ms. Garcia also stated that the Board of Supervisors will approve Dr. Aragon as Health Officer on January 11.

Commissioner Illig congratulated Dr. Fernyak for winning the MFAC award. He suggested that Commissioner Tierney, a board member of the Public Health Foundation, explore whether the Foundation would consider funding a plaque that would list the DPH employees who have won the MFAC and other prestigious honors.

4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

5) FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Tierney, Chair of the Finance and Planning Committee, stated that the Committee recommended that the Contracts Report be approved. It also discussed a presentation on the process determining prevailing salaries for Public Works projects. The Committee heard about the impending closure of Positive Equals Change, a DPH contractor, because of serious fiscal management issues. Finally, the Committee heard an update on the Correction Action Plan of Westside Community Services. Barbara Garcia, will seek legal advice from the City Attorney as to how to move forward on the Westside situation.

Commissioner Tierney stated that Gregg Sass, Chief Financial Officer, will prepare a training for the Commissioners on the overall budget. Commissioner Tierney encouraged all the Commissioners to submit specific items they would like included in the training.

Action Taken: The Contracts Report was unanimously approved.

6) DPH ANNUAL REPORT

Jim Soos, Assistant Director of Policy and Planning, made a presentation that highlighted some of the DPH achievements during the past year. He stated that the report is available on the DPH website.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Tierney noted that the accommodation SFGH received for provision of outstanding cancer care may be related to the fact that SFGH also does extensive cancer screening.

Commissioner Illig commended the DPH staff on its outstanding accomplishments and excellent work. He also make a slight correction to the report by stating that Commissioner Ed Chow should be listed as the Vice President of the Commission.

Commissioner Sanchez commended the DPH for excellent work and for the outstanding report. He also suggested that DPH consider including a letter from the Health Commission President in future versions of the report.

Commissioner Illig asked Mr. Morewitz to write a draft letter of introduction and send copies of the report to the Board of Supervisors. He also asked Mr. Morewitz to draft a letter thanking Anne Kronenberg for her excellent work on the report.

7) CBO STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS UPDATE

Michelle Magee, Harder & Company Senior Vice President, gave the presentation. She stated that because of the critical role community based organizations (CBO) play in delivering City-funded services to vulnerable populations, Mayor Newsom asked Barbara Garcia and Kate Howard, the Mayor's Deputy Budget Director, to convene nonprofit and City leaders to work together to articulate a vision for CBO service delivery and establish a clear accountability framework.

The following comments regarding this item were made by Ms. Garcia:

- As a next step, the leadership of City Departments will meet a few times throughout the year to continue the discussion of these issues; in addition there will be also be meetings of program managers from all the City Departments to discuss strategies and achievable outcomes.
- The DPH will continue to work to support the strengthening of its CBO contractors' infrastructure. In addition she stated that the City may need to revisit its policy on the rate of its cost of living adjustment (COLA) and how it may impact CBO infrastructure. City contractors may also be encouraged to diversify funding sources to be less reliant on City funding.
- She will continue attempts to encourage the adoption and use of corrective action plans and to improve general communication within City departments and between the City and its contractors.
- The City Controller's office will gather policies on corrective action from different City departments and will maintain a centralized list of non-profits that are on corrective action plans. Prior to being listed on this centralized list, there will be a process to work with the CBO CEO and its board. If that process does not yield sufficient results, the CBO will be listed on the City list of corrective action plans so that all City agencies can be made aware of CBO's issues.
- Walden House and Haight Ashbury (HAFC) will soon merge into one organization under the umbrella of the Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinics.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Sako suggested that the group working on this project narrow the goals so that they are more achievable.

Commissioner Tierney stated that he is pleased to see that corrective action plans are prioritized in the report. He also stated that the Finance and Planning Committee will continue to review and discuss the DPH contractors' Corrective Action Plans.

Commissioner Sanchez stated that he understands that the issues of boards of non-profits are complex and difficult to change. He stated that the report is excellent and that he looks forward to seeing positive outcomes.

Commissioner Illig stated that it makes a huge difference that Ms. Garcia and the Controller's Office are supportive of this effort. He looks forward to hearing future reports of progress in this arena.

Public Comment: Jacob Moody stated that some of the CBO community encourages consideration of making changes to the City contract boilerplate to support the efforts of this plan. He also acknowledged the leadership efforts of Ms. Garcia and the Controller's Office in regard to this project.

8) OTHER BUSINESS

JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Melara, Chair of the Laguna Honda Hospital (LHH) JCC, stated that the JCC met on 12/3/10. The two major items discussed were the patient move preparation and a presentation from the Controller's Office regarding the LHH Gift Fund. She noted that many of the recommendations made by the Controller have already been implemented by DPH. She requested that Mr. Morewitz email all the Commissioners a copy of the Controller's presentation on this topic.

Commissioner Sanchez, member of the San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH) JCC, stated that the Joint Commission made an unplanned site visit to SFGH in response to an anonymous complaint about its pharmacy. However, the site visit went well and no major issues were reported.

Commissioner Illig asked the Commissioner their preference regarding the date to hold the Health Commission elections. The Commissioners decided to hold elections at the January 18, 2011 meeting.

COMMITTEE AGENDA SETTING

Commissioner Sako, Chair of the Community and Public Health Committee, stated that she would like to set a 12-month calendar at the 1/18/11 meeting. She encouraged all Commissioners to submit topics and questions for the calendar to Mr. Morewitz.

9) CLOSED SESSION

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERSONNEL ISSUES, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, BARBARA A.GARCIA AND EXECUTVE SECRETARY, MARK MOREWITZ

D) Reconvene in Open Session

Action Taken: The Commission voted to not disclose matters discussed in closed session.

10) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29pm.