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President

HEALTH COMMISSION

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Vice President

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
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Commissioner

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Director of Health

Margine A. Sako
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Executive Secretary

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

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MINUTES

HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

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

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

1) CALL TO ORDER

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:10pm.

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2011.

Action Taken: The minutes of the September 20, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved.

3) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Barbara A. Garcia, Director of Health, presented the report which is a current overview of the state of public health in San Francisco. The full report can be viewed at:

<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp>

In this Director's Report, I am pleased to highlight four initiatives at Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center in community integration, innovative treatment, resident centered care, and the creation of a therapeutic environment. The Health Commission meeting of October 4, 2011 focuses on the work of Laguna Honda, California's first LEED-certified hospital, and the country's most modern skilled nursing facility.

Community Integration

As you know, over 1,200 Laguna Honda residents moved to community housing from 2005-2010, 70% of them to independent living. The hospital's community integration efforts involve both short stay and long term residents. Four recently discharged residents had a combined total stay at the hospital of over 100 years. Though a resident can receive care at the hospital for many years, he or she continues to have potential for transition to non-hospital settings.

The focus on community integration at the hospital moves into a new phase next month when Laguna Honda hosts a discharge fair where residents will have one-stop shopping for many of the services that combine to make the transition from the hospital possible. The participating organizations include the Asian Law Caucus, the Community Living Fund, the County Veteran's Service Office, the Department of Aging and Adult Services, the Diversion & Community Integration Program, Immigration Services, the Independent Living Resource Center, In-Home Support Services, Paratransit Services, the Peer Mentor Program, Self-Help for the Elderly, the Targeted Case Management program, the Volunteer Legal Services Program, and West Bay Housing.

Innovation in Pain Management

Comprehensive pain clinics have become an increasingly successful approach for treating debilitating chronic or persistent pain. The Laguna Honda pain clinic, which opened this year, provides a blend of traditional and complementary approaches to relieve physical and psychosocial symptoms.

Clinic practitioners use integrative therapies to understand and relieve the highly specific pain of each patient. Treatment modalities might include acupuncture, cognitive behavioral therapy, Feldenkrais (postural and movement therapy), humor therapy or medical clowning, massage, medications, meditation, music therapy, tai chi, and yoga. The effectiveness of the Laguna Honda pain clinic is in part due to the personal experiences of hospital practitioners, some of whom are living with the chronic pain similar to their patients. Clinic staff say their work is emblematic of the team approach to care in the new Laguna Honda; putting existing competencies together in new ways to provide improved outcomes.

Resident Centered Care

A new phase in the hospital's transition to a resident-centered model of care begins later this year. Nursing home reform consultants hired by the Controller's Office with Prop C money set aside by voters to improve city services have assisted the hospital in making the transition to consistent assignments of caregivers to residents, a national best practice. The model supports practitioner responsiveness to resident needs and preferences by allowing residents and caregivers extended time to become familiar with one another.

As part of the organizational development initiative, the hospital has undertaken other projects designed to sustain community, including social dining, monthly community meetings of residents and staff on each 60-person care neighborhood, and the integration of clinical and non-clinical staff into neighborhood "dream teams" responsible for operations in each of the hospital's 13 specialized nursing programs.

Through a process of "small tests of change," the consultants and Laguna Honda staff in all branches of the organization will continue the work of creating an organizational culture that puts residents at the forefront of care planning. Consultants will return to the hospital later this year for a final series of learning sessions with staff members and residents.

Therapeutic Environment

An important part of the Laguna Honda Replacement Project was the reclamation of the Clarendon Valley, the hospital's backyard, formerly the site of its maintenance yard. The beautification of the valley was both in keeping with the hospital's sustainability goals as well as the desire to integrate the healing effects of nature into the clinical regimen.

The valley is now the site of the hospital's animal-assisted therapy program, raised planting beds for wheelchair users to grow flowers and vegetables, a small orchard. Commissioners are aware of all these amenities. In addition to this creative re-use of the campus, the hospital provides a range of therapeutic activities designed to stimulate cognition and memory, build self-confidence, and help residents retain range of motion and muscle strength. Among them are tai chi, a popular art therapy program for the hospital's many resident painters, a poet's group, and daily aquatics in the new pools.

Creating Life

At the hospital's September 24 celebration marking a year of achievements, over 650 staff members, residents and their families enjoyed live music, bar-b-que, and carnival games to commemorate the success of the largest hospital move in California history, the conclusion of federal oversight, and the increase in Laguna Honda's rating by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The celebratory mix of residents and staff shows that the strengthening of a life-sustaining community at Laguna Honda is one of the Department of Public Health's central achievements of the past year.

Director Garcia also announced that the DPH was awarded a community transformation grant.

4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Derek Kerr, M.D., submitted the following written comments:

Last November, the Controller's Gift Fund Audit found an ending balance of \$1,716,938 on June 30, 2010. This balance included \$835,307 in stocks, and \$881,631 in cash.

Laguna Honda's Gift Fund report for 2010-2011 shows an beginning balance of \$1,369,781 on July 1, 2010. That includes a fall to \$676,015 in stocks and to \$693,766 in cash. (The ending balance for 6/30/2011 is \$1,306,093 - a 20-year low.) Overnight - between 6/30/2010 and 7/1/2010 - the Gift Fund lost \$347,157. This includes a stock loss of \$159,292, plus a cash loss of \$187,865. The Controller's accounting cannot be so different from Laguna Honda's. "Unrealized gains & losses" cannot explain the \$187,865 loss in cash. The \$347,157 discrepancy - or loss, requires a full public accounting.

Maria Rivero M.D., submitted written comments:

Dr. Katz's 3 year financial conflict of interests working as a paid consultant for HMA led us to discover its role in fighting Proposition D – The 2006 LHH Ballot Initiative to prevent admission of dangerous patients to LHH. In 2005, LHH's top administration was replaced by administrators from SFGH, with no experience in LTC and HMA's contract with the City was extended to: 1) Mentor the new LHH executives 2)Help the new LHH executives develop the plan of correction for the 2006 State Licensing survey and monitor its implementation 3)Respond to the DOJ. Based on public records, it appears that HMA was paid with public funds to craft a campaign message countering a Ballot Initiative. None of these political consultations were relevant to the scope of work in the HMA contract. In fact, the contract between the City and HMA contains a clause titled "Prohibition on Political Activity with City Funds

5) FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Commissioner Illig, Chair, stated that the Committee reviewed the Contracts Report and an RFP Update. The Committee reviewed and gave feedback on the draft FY 2010 Charity Care Report which will be presented to the full Commission on October 18, 2011. A presentation was also made regarding the Five Year Budget Taskforce which is focusing on development of budget principles which will assist the Commission with long range budget planning. The Committee made a recommendation that on October 18, 2011, the full Commission hear the presentation and consider approving the Task Force as a subcommittee of the Finance and Planning Committee.

Action Taken: The Contracts Report was unanimously approved.

6) LHH EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Commissioner Melara, LHH JCC Chair, announced the names of the following employees:

Irene Monteciar, RN

Positive Care

Ellen Apolinario, Nurse Manager

Nursing 3

Outpatient Clinic Staff

Violeta Estrada	Gary Sakita
Emma Martinez	Arica Bolbolian
Garneth Jean Rosario	John Cruz
Rawan Shurafa	Jingyan Liu
Yubing Xue	Robert Orme
Juan Dabi	Mari Pacleb
Bonnie Richardson	Patrick Porter
Sheila Washington-Andrews	
Niall Quinn	

North Mezzanine Resident Care Team

Olivia Ignacio
Jinky Dioquino
Marthalina Comia
Evangeline Madayag
Luzviminda Wu
Perla Garcia
Larry Sullivan
John Chan
Mariel Badiola

Customer Service Champions

Sandy Ng-Administration
John “Jack” Bradley, Locksmith
Dion Lazo, Telecommunications Senior Operator

7) LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL (LHH) ANNUAL REPORT

Mivic Hirose, LHH Executive Administrator gave the presentation which reviewed LHH's major accomplishments during the past year and highlighted several residents' stories.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Illig commended Ms. Hirose on a thorough report and thanked all the LHH staff for the wonderful work they do each day.

Commissioner Chow asked for more information on the number of people transitioned into the community. Ms. Hirose stated that LHH discharges about twenty people to the community each month. As part of this effort, LHH collaborates with the DPH Placement team to find the most appropriate placements for LHH residents who are able to live within a lower level of care.

Commissioner Chow asked how many people are on the LHH waitlist. Ms. Hirose stated that there are currently forty-two people on the LHH waitlist.

Commissioner Sanchez stated that LHH is an institution matched by no other in the nation. He is proud of its long history of assisting people in need in San Francisco.

10) OTHER BUSINESS

JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Melara, Chair of the LHH JCC Committee, stated that at the September 27, 2011 meeting, the Laguna Honda Hospital JCC heard several reports:

- The presentation on Convergent Technologies reviewed the cutting edge use of technology implemented throughout the operations of the new building. Many of these systems will also be used in the SFGH rebuild project so the Laguna Honda team is able to get to know the system and pass along lessons learned.
- In the Cultural Competency report, the Committee heard about the many ways that the Laguna Honda staff and administration strive to meet the residents through their cultural traditions and languages.
- The Committee also heard the quarterly update on the Gift Fund Report.

COMMITTEE AGENDA SETTING

There was no discussion of this issue.

11) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:13pm.