

Steven Tierney, Ed.D.  
President

Sonia E. Melara, MSW  
Vice President

Edward A. Chow, M.D.  
Commissioner

James M. Illig  
Commissioner

Margine A. Sako  
Commissioner

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

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

## HEALTH COMMISSION

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
Edwin M. Lee, Mayor

Department of Public Health



Barbara A. Garcia, MPA  
Director of Health

Mark Morewitz, MSW  
Executive Secretary

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### MINUTES

#### HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, August 2, 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 James Illig  
Commissioner Margine Sako  
Commissioner David J. Sanchez  
Commissioner Catherine Waters

Excused: Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D.

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

#### 2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF JULY 19, 2011.

Action Taken: The minutes of the of the July 19, 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>

##### **Joint Commission Survey at San Francisco General Hospital**

On Monday, July 18, 2011, the Joint Commission arrived to conduct the organizations' triennial accreditation survey involving three programs: acute care hospital, clinical labs & anatomic pathology, and long term care. I want to thank the entire staff for the most successful Joint Commission accreditation survey in the last 30 years at SFGH. One of the surveyors remarked "*It is very apparent you live your hospital mission everyday - delivering quality healthcare with compassion and respect*", truly a shining moment for our organization. The surveyors conducted their exit interview on July 22, 2011 with the

hospital leadership team. The findings were minimal and San Francisco General Hospital remains Joint Commission accredited.

### **Greg Wagner Selected as New CFO**

I am very pleased to report that I have selected Greg Wagner as the new CFO for the San Francisco Department of Public Health. As CFO, Greg will be responsible for the Department's \$1.6 billion budget. He will begin his duties in August 2011. I know a number of the Health Commissioners have worked with Greg in the past and am confident we will continue to work well together as we address the continuing fiscal challenges ahead of us. Please join me in welcoming Greg to the Department of Public Health.

### **First Meeting of the Health Care Services Master Plan**

The kick off meeting for the Health Care Services Master Plan Task Force was held at City Hall on Wednesday, July 27. The Task Force is broadly representative of organizations and individuals committed to improving the health of San Franciscans, including President Tierney representing the Health Commission. The goals of the meeting were to provide the Task Force with an understanding of the Health Care Services Master Plan ordinance, their roles and responsibilities advising DPH on the development of the plan, and their focus on access to health care services for underserved populations in San Francisco. The next meeting will be from 5 p.m.-7:30 p.m. on September 22 at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center.

### **Public Health Lab Passes CMS Inspection**

On Friday, July 22, 2011, the Public Health Laboratories at 101 Grove St and City Clinic were inspected by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). I am happy to report that the Laboratory did well, and was issued a two-year Certificate of Compliance. The next inspection will be in 2013. An interesting side note to this inspection is that we are usually inspected by the State. However, due to budget reductions, the State asked the Federal Government to assist in these performing licensing and inspection responsibilities.

### **DPH Gets Grant to Prepare for Voluntary Accreditation**

I am very proud to report that the San Francisco Department of Public Health was one of 12 health departments nationwide to receive a grant to initiate and complete a community health improvement process in preparation for the new, voluntary, national accreditation process for public health departments due to launch in September. The \$35,000 grant, supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), was announced by the National Association of County and City Health Officials. The funding will help San Francisco develop a community health assessment and a community health improvement plan, two of the three prerequisites that every health department must complete before applying for accreditation. Tomás J. Aragón, MD, Health Officer, is leading this effort on behalf of the Department.

### **Community Oriented Primary Care Gets New Faces**

As part of DPH Community Program's efforts to ensure quality, integrated and sustainable primary care, Community Oriented Primary Care has hired new management staff to lead the integration of primary care homeless services.

- Joseph Pace, MD has been selected as Medical Director of Primary Care Homeless Services. In this new role he will oversee both Housing and Urban Health Medical Clinic and the Tom Waddell Health Center.
- Diana Amodia, MD is the new Assistant Director for the Tom Waddell Health Center.
- Maritza Penagos, LCSW, will provide administrative oversight for Tom Waddell Health Center.

Josh Bamberger, MD will continue to provide medical leadership for Housing and Urban Health Medical Clinic. With the support of the seasoned staff at both HUH and TWHC, I am confident that this integration initiative will result in great success.

### **Discharge Numbers Show Progress on Community Integration**

Over 1,200 residents moved to community living from Laguna Honda's skilled nursing, hospice, rehabilitation and positive care programs during the five-year period of 2005 to 2010. Seventy-two percent of discharged residents moved into apartments with supportive services. Laguna Honda's success with community discharges is also a result of its partnerships with other agencies, including DPH's Targeted Case Management (TCM) program, which assists residents to find community placements, and the DPH Housing and Urban Health program, which is providing 500 units of accessible, subsidized housing for Laguna Honda residents. Also instrumental are the Department of Aging and Adult Services' Community Living Fund, the City's Diversion and Community Integration Program, DPH Community Behavioral Health Services, private contractors, and other government agencies.

### **Laguna Honda Community Partnership for DD Placement**

Laguna Honda's partnership with the Golden Gate Regional Center (GGRC) continues to expand the community-based options for residents with developmental disabilities. The third of four planned group homes licensed by GGRC will open in August. The Louvane Home will provide housing and care for developmentally delayed adults under age 60. In July, twenty staff members from Laguna Honda, the Public Guardian's Office and the Golden Gate Regional Center toured Louvane and other community-based sites, including the Horizon Adult Day Health Center in South San Francisco, to learn about placement options. Louvane joins the Byxbee Home in San Francisco and Capay Circle in Daly City in a network of DD homes dedicated to Laguna Honda residents. Each home accommodates four people. A fourth home, Village Lane in Daly City, is scheduled to open in spring 2012.

### **Physical Education Speaker Series Planned**

Mark your calendars for a series of informative and engaging sessions sponsored by the Community Health Promotion and Prevention's Shape Up San Francisco's Physical Education Advocates to learn why Physical Education (PE) is so important for health and academic achievement. The August series features **Dr. John Ratey**, Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and author of *Spark: The Revolutionary New Science of Exercise and the Brain* (August 11). The PE Speaker Series also includes **Ken Dyar** (August 4), Coordinator of Physical Education, Wellness, and Athletic Competition in the Delano Unified School District and the 2006 California Teacher of the Year; and **Darin Curtis** (August 25), PE Teacher at Tierra del Sol Middle School in San Diego as well as the 2011 California Teacher of the Year. For more details, to download flyers, or to RSVP to any of these free events, go to [www.shapeupsf.org/pe/outreach](http://www.shapeupsf.org/pe/outreach). Contact Marianne Szeto at [marianne.szeto@sfdph.org](mailto:marianne.szeto@sfdph.org) with questions.

### **HIV Researchers Work Presented at International AIDS Society Meeting**

A number of our staff from the HIV /AIDS Office and its Sections had abstracts or posters accepted for this summer's International AIDS Society Meeting in Rome, Italy. Because there are so many presentations and because I think it is worth the Commissioner's time to review the abstracts of what is being presented, I am attaching a complete listing, including authors and summaries to this Director's Report. You will note that the names of DPH staff are in bold face type. It is because of the fine work of these eminent researchers that San Francisco continues to lead the nation and the world in HIV/AIDS epidemiology, treatment and prevention.

## **National Health Care for the Homeless Conference**

As Director of Health, I am frequently reminded of the national leadership roles DPH staff holds in many of their professional associations. This year, Deborah Borne, MD, was Chair of the Conference planning Committee for the National HealthCare for the Homeless Conference.

<http://www.nhchc.org/2011conference/index.html> . Barbara Wismer, MD was Chair of the Research Committee and Co-chair of the Clinicians Network Steering Committee. They were among a number of other staff from Tom Waddell Health Center and Housing and Urban Health who attended and participated in the 2011 National Health Care for the Homeless Conference & Policy Symposium, *A Prescription for Ending Homelessness: Social and Health Equity*, June 23-25 in Washington DC.

### Commissioner Comment/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Waters stated that she is pleased that the DPH is moving forward with the voluntary Public Health accreditation process and congratulated everyone involved in obtaining the grant to assist with this process.

## **4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following written public comment was submitted by Maria Rivero M.D, former LHH physician: In 9/09, we reported a potential conflict of interest between Health Director Dr. Mitchell Katz and a contractor – Health Management Associates (HMA). In 2005 and 2006, HMA received a \$250,000 contract to assess and help the Health Department. Within 2 years, Dr. Katz got onto HMA's payroll as a consultant. Starting in 2008, Dr. Katz was receiving over \$10,000 a year from HMA. In 2009 the Health Department paid HMA \$65,000 to provide consulting services. At the same time, HMA paid Dr. Katz \$10,000 to do consulting work for HMA! In 2010 the Health Department extended HMA's contract twice, boosting their payments from \$65,000 to \$103,000. Dr. Katz recommended and signed off on HMA's contract extensions, while receiving another \$10,000 from HMA. All told, HMA was paid \$103,000 by the Health Department while Health Department Director Katz was paid \$30,000 by HMA.

Derek Kerr M.D. stated that in 2009, Davis Ja and Associates won a contract to evaluate LHH services. Davis Ja resides at same address as Deborah Sherwood, QA director of CBHS. Dr. Kerr stated that he filed a whistleblower complaint in 2009 because Ms. Sherwood was on the review panel which awarded an evaluation contract to Davis Ja and Associates to evaluate CBHS Substance Abuse Services.

Dale Gluth, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, stated that his organization is experienced with serving high-need populations including transgenders and during the past year conducted approximately seventy thousand HIV tests in alignment with DPH standards. The organization has applied for funding four times and has been rejected each time.

## **5) FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Jim Illig, Chair stated that the Committee reviewed the outline for the annual report on Healthy San Francisco and heard an update on the Integrated Service Delivery System. It was presented with an extensive Contracts Report and two other individual contracts. The Committee made comments on the format of the Contracts Report and recommended that the full Commission approve all contracts.

Action Taken: The Contracts Report and the two individual contracts were unanimously approved.

## **6) SEAT BELT SAFETY**

Rochelle Dicker, MD, SFGH San Francisco Injury Center, made the presentation and stated that the recent death of her colleague Dr. Kevin Mack in an vehicular accident of a UCSF mini-bus prompted UCSF to change its seat belt policy for all its vehicles.

Colleen Chawla, Deputy Director of Health and Director of Policy and Administration, stated that Kathy Murphy, Deputy City Attorney, conveyed to her that federal law preempts any county from making a law more stringent than federal law. The Health Commission may choose to recommend that San Francisco add this issue to its legislative platform.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Tierney asked to adjourn the meeting in honor of Kevin Mack.

Commissioner Sako asked Ms. Chawla to clarify the types of vehicles that would be impacted by any change in policy because many local businesses use mini-buses and vans. Ms. Chawla stated that any recommended policy change would impact all vans and mini-buses but not Muni vehicles.

**7) DPH HIV RESEARCH EFFORTS**

Tomas Aragon, MD, DPH Health Officer, introduced the presentations and stated that the HIV research being conducted at DPH continues to effectively impact the world of HIV. As part of its research, the DPH HIV sections provide important services to clients, train providers, and educate the community. They also bring a huge amount of research money into the City coffers.

Susan Scheer, PhD, MPH, Director of the HIV Epidemiology Section; Jonathan Fuchs, MD, MPH, Director of the Vaccine Studies, HIV Research Section; Moupali Das, MD, MPH, Director of Research, HIV Prevention Section; and Bill Blum, Interim Director of HIV Health Services made the presentation.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Tierney asked for more information on how the DPH efforts of getting intravenous drug users (IDUs) into treatment have been so successful. Ms. Sheer stated that the data presented reports only on AIDS cases; the number of people with HIV (not AIDS) who have been linked to care is substantially lower than that for the folks who have an AIDS diagnosis. Dr. Colfax, Director of HIV Prevention, stated that San Francisco's needle exchange programs have been very effective with linking people who have HIV into care.

Commissioner Illig asked how the consensus estimate for incidence was arrived at. Dr. Scheer stated that data indicating new infections from testing sites, vaccine trials and research studies are summarized and modeled by leaders in the AIDS Office who agree on the incidence estimate through a consensus process.

Dr. Scheer also stated that there is an HIV incidence surveillance system that estimates the number of new HIV infections at the population level by testing each blood sample of someone newly diagnosed with HIV to ascertain if it is a new infection or one that has been present for some time. In addition, the DPH analyzes testing data on these people who have recently tested HIV positive to ascertain how often and why they have tested in the past.

Commissioner Sanchez thanked Dr. Aragon and all the researchers who are doing groundbreaking work to the world. He encouraged the DPH to explore funding from foundations as government budgets continue to shrink.

Commissioner Tierney thanked all the presenters and the staff working in the AIDS Office for their effective and impactful work.

**8) OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no discussion of this item.

**JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Melara, Chair of the LHH JCC, stated that at the July 26<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Committee heard an update on the Gift Fund and approved its budget for the FY 2011-12. The Committee also heard an update on the LHH Replacement Project.

**COMMITTEE AGENDA SETTING**

As a follow up to the presentation from the HIV Health Services data on HIV and Aging, Commissioner Sako asked Mr. Morewitz to schedule a presentation in 2012 for the Community and Public Health Committee on the topic of HIV and aging in regard to primary care homes and health care reform.

**9) CLOSED SESSION**

- A) Public comments on all matters pertaining to the closed session
- B) Vote on whether to hold a closed session (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.11)
- C) Closed session pursuant to Evidence Code Sections 1157(a) and (b); 1157.7; Health and Safety Code Section 1461; and California Constitution, Article I, Section 1

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

- D) Reconvene in Open Session

Action Taken: The Commission voted not to disclose the discussion of items from the closed session.

**10) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:13pm in honor of Dr. Kevin Mack.