

**Sonia E. Melara, MSW**  
President

**Edward A. Chow, MD**  
Commissioner

**Belle Taylor-McGhee**  
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, March 20, 2012, 4:00 p.m.

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

#### 1) CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Sonia E. Melara, Acting President  
Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D.  
Commissioner Margine Sako  
Commissioner David J. Sanchez  
Commissioner Belle Taylor-McGhee  
Commissioner Catherine Waters

The meeting was called to order at 4:08pm.

Commissioner Melara stated that Commissioners Steven Tierney and Jim Illig were not reappointed by the Mayor and that their terms ended on March 15, 2012. She acknowledged that both had been President of the Health Commission and thanked them for their leadership and many important contributions during the time they served. She also welcomed Commissioner Taylor-McGhee who was sworn in as Health Commissioner on March 19, 2012.

#### 2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF MARCH 6, 2012.

Action Taken: The minutes of the February 212012 Health Commission 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>

#### **Staff Changes in HIV Prevention**

On Wednesday, March 14, the President Obama announced the appointment of Grant Colfax, MD, Director of HIV Prevention for San Francisco Department of Public Health, to lead the White House Office of National AIDS Policy (ONAP), effective immediately. Also effective immediately, Tracey Packer has been appointed as Acting

Director of HIV Prevention. Ms. Packer is well known to this Commission, having worked at the Department of Public Health in the field of HIV Prevention for the past 20 years, beginning as a health educator and, more recently as Deputy Director of HIV Prevention.

### **Seeking Public Comment on Proposed Bed Bug Regulations**

In 2006, DPH Environmental Health division staff worked with a number of agencies and individuals to develop *Director's Rules and Regulations on How to Control Bed Bug Infestation*. It was revised in 2008 to give specific directives on how to comply with the Department's mandates for investigating and controlling bed bugs in hotels and residential properties.

The Environmental Health staff is asking for public comment on the proposed regulations and has also scheduled a public hearing on the matter on March 22, 1:30-3:00 p.m., 101 Grove St., Room 300. The public can e-mail written comments to [Karen.Cohn@sfdph.org](mailto:Karen.Cohn@sfdph.org) or submit via US mail, Karen Cohn, Environmental Health, 1390 Market St., Suite 410, San Francisco, CA 94102, by March 22, 2012.

### **New TB Control Officer**

Please join me in welcoming Julie Higashi, MD, PhD, as the new Director of Tuberculosis Control Section. Dr. Higashi comes to us from Santa Clara County Public Health Department where she has recently served as a Deputy Health Officer and the tuberculosis (TB) controller for the Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program. Dr. Higashi's work has focused on strengthening communication between the TB program and community organizations and improving access to TB testing and new diagnostics. She currently serves as the President-Elect of the California TB Controller's Association.

### **Changes to Vital Records**

To better serve the public, we have made some changes to the Vital Records Office. Effective Monday, February 27, 2012, birth and death records more than three years old and dating back to 1906 are available at Office of the County Clerk, City Hall, Room 162, during normal business hours, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Recent birth and death records from the last three years (2010- 2012) will continue to be available at the Office of Vital Records, 101 Grove Street, Room 105.

### **Stockton Street Display Program—a Community Success**

Staff from Environmental Health was invited by Chinatown merchants to attend a dinner thanking Mayor Lee and City Departments for their role in piloting the Stockton Street Display Program. This program cordoned off street parking areas on Stockton St. for food displays for 10 days prior to and during Chinese New Year. The Stockton merchants said that the program was very successful and increased gross receipts by 10-20% during this period. Environmental Health Inspectors worked closely with the merchants, Department of Public Works, and the Police Department to ensure that public health and public safety requirements were met. Both the merchants and Mayor Lee indicated that they would like to repeat this program again next year.

### **CROI Presentations**

As in the past, San Francisco Department of Public Health has distinguished itself at the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, (CROI) one of the major international HIV meetings of the year. Posters and oral presentations focused on pre-exposure prophylaxis, including an analysis about how much of the PrEP pill (Truvada) is needed to have high levels of protection, the effect of the pill on body fat, and the promise and perils of intermittent use of PrEP. Staff also presented an interesting analysis of whether serosorting (having only HIV negative partners, but having some unprotected sex with these partners) decreased or increased the risk of infection. Additional presentations are listed in the attached document.

### **LHH Site of Training Film**

Alzheimer's and dementia care specialists spent three days at Laguna Honda earlier this month making a training film featuring the hospital's nursing staff for use by other long term care facilities who also serve clients with memory loss. The film demonstrates best practices in Alzheimer's care.

The project is funded by a grant from the National Institute on Aging and is the second time Laguna Honda has participated in the making of the regularly updated film. The hospital served as the filming site in 2009 at the request of the National Alzheimer's Association.

### **2012 Walking Challenge Gets Underway**

**Shape Up San Francisco** has announced the **2012 Walking Challenge**. This annual physical activity event encourages residents from all over San Francisco to organize a team, put on their walking shoes, and take to the streets. Team members can track and log their physical activity on the Shape Up website. The goal is for each team's total miles to reach 1,016 within the 10-week Challenge—roughly the equivalent to the CA coastline. The 2012 Challenge will start during Public Health Week, running from April 2 to June 8.

### **Soccer Team Members Visit SFGH Pediatric Unit**

Young soccer fans in the SFGH pediatric unit got a treat when two players from San Jose Earthquakes Major League Soccer team visited on Tuesday, March 13th. Midfielder, Khari Stephenson and defender, Jason Hernandez autographed posters, gave out toy soccer balls and "hung out" with the kids. The team also made free tickets available to patients and families to see the Earthquakes take on the Houston Dynamo at the St. Patrick's Day double header on March 17th at AT&T Park. We very much appreciate the Earthquakes sending their players to visit our young patients at SFGH.

### Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chow asked whether there are plans to replace Dr. Colfax as Director of HIV Prevention. Director Garcia stated that she is considering options and will let the Commission know when decisions are made.

Commissioner Taylor-McGhee asked Director Garcia what role the DPH will play in the leadership of the International AIDS Conference since it will be in the United States for the first time in several years. Director Garcia stated that the DPH always plays a leadership role through presentations and the work it does in the HIV Prevention, Research, Epidemiology, and Health Service sections. Director Garcia stated that she will update the Commission on plans for the conference at a later date.

Commissioner Waters congratulated the LHH Nursing staff for being recognized for their important work.

### **4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no general public comment.

### **5) COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Margine Sako, Chair, stated that the Committee heard an update from Nathaniel Israel and Tom Bleeker of the Office of Quality Management for Community Programs. They presented data from the CANS and ANSA, assessment tools that collect data on client symptoms, functioning, and strengths.

### Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chow asked whether the ANSA and CANS are used in primary care settings. Director Garcia stated these are used by behavioralists in primary care clinics within DPH.

### **6) CONSENT CALENDAR**

There were no items on the consent calendar.

## **7) HEALTH COMMISSION ELECTIONS**

Commissioner Melara stated that in January, 2012 the Commission revised its Rules and Regulations so that Health Commission elections would be held during the second meeting in March of each year. However, because of the new appointment of Commissioner Taylor-McGhee and the vacant Commission seat, she suggested that the vote be delayed.

Commissioner Chow made a motion to table the elections until the first meeting at which the vacant Commission seat is filled or the second meeting in April, 2012.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously voted to table elections until the vacant Commission seat is filled or the second meeting in April, 2012.

## **8) DCYF CHILDREN'S SERVICES ALLOCATION DRAFT PLAN**

Maria Su PsyD, Director, gave the presentation which reviewed the DCYF Children's Services Allocation Draft Plan.

### Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chow commended Dr. Su on the Plan. He asked what tools were used to evaluate the programs and noted that very few programs were cut from the last Plan. Dr. Su stated that community input was consistent that mental health services are needed. DCYF used data from the Human Services Agency, Census data, and truancy/drop-out information to determine priority neighborhoods. DCYF staff then worked to determine which programs would be most effective in meeting the needs of the identified population.

Commissioner Sanchez stated that the report is excellent. He asked about the Kinship programs that used to pair older adults with youth. Dr. Su stated that these programs are not formally being implemented but that some of the outcomes occur organically through other existing programs.

Commissioner Melara asked how the Plan addresses youth who have been impacted by domestic violence. Dr. Su stated that many children are exposed and traumatized by various kinds of violence. DCYF works with the Child Abuse Center to insure providers are trained in identifying relevant signs and symptoms. There are also programs designed to serve youth who have been directly impacted by adult perpetrators of violence.

Commissioner Sako asked how DCYF programs utilize CANS' data. Dr. Su stated that DCYF transfers clinical funds to the DPH to use for their behavioral health staff working with youth. DCYF utilize aggregate CANS data to work with DPH and other entities on policy.

Director Garcia stated that the DPH works closely with DCYF to maximize resources and funds to insure effective programs for youth.

## **9) DPH IT UPDATE**

Dave Counter, Chief Information Officer and Jenson Wong MD, Chief Medical Information Officer, gave the report on major IT projects within the DPH.

### Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Sako asked how the new electronic medical record systems will be used to assist in management of resources and whether these components have been included in the budget. Dr. Wong stated that, using assessment information entered, these systems trigger communications with clinical providers regarding decisions involving prescriptions of medication, treatment and equipment. These components offer a check and balance system but do not replace the clinical expertise or decision-making authority of clinicians.

Director Garcia stated that next year's budget includes funds to address the need for these systems and additional staff but that more work will need to be completed in the 5 Year Budget Subcommittee in regard to appropriately budgeting for the operation and maintenance of these systems. She also stated that the DPH is developing an IT Business Office which will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the rollout and maintenance of the new systems.

Commissioners Sako and Chow requested that more detail on the budget implications of the rollout of the meaningful use plan be discussed at the 5 Year Budget Subcommittee. Commissioner Chow specified the following issues to address:

1. As client-level databases are combined, insure that HIPPA compliance and confidentiality of patient-level information;
2. Identify redundancies and develop plans to effectively deal with them;
3. A thorough review of the Sierra System Report.

Commissioner Taylor-McGhee asked for clarification on incentives and penalties regarding the implementation of a meaningful use electronic medical record system. Mr. Counter stated that Medicare may penalize through lowering reimbursement rates in the following amounts for those entities that do not comply: 1% in 2015 and 2% in 2016.

Commissioner Sanchez stated that the LHH and SFGH JCCs will continue to hear details on the implementation plans for the electronic medical record systems. He also stated that he is concerned that the DPH does all it can to insure confidentiality of patient information.

Commissioner Waters stated that she is concerned that appropriate plans have been made for the cost and time commitment of training staff on the new systems. Mr. Counter stated that the proposed budget includes ample funds for training. Each clinic rollout plan includes a training module tailored for all staff involved; as part of the rollout, key clinical users will be identified at each site to insure that ongoing support is available for staff.

Director Garcia commended Mr. Counter and Dr. Wong's leadership and all the DPH staff working on these projects.

## **10) OTHER BUSINESS**

### **JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Chow, SFGH JCC Chair, stated that Sue Carlisle, MD is the recipient of the UCSF Dean's award which is a very prestigious honor. At the March 13, 2012 meeting, the Committee heard a report on patient survey results and a SFGH Rebuild Project update.

### **COMMITTEE AGENDA SETTING**

There was no discussion of this item.

## **11) 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

**LHH CREDENTIALS REPORT**

**PERSONNEL EVALUATIONS: DIRECTOR BARBARA GARCIA AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARK MOREWITZ**

- D) Reconvene in Open Session

Action Taken: The Commission approved the LHH Credentials Report and voted not to disclose other issues discussed in closed session.

**12) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17pm.