

Edward A. Chow, M.D.
President

David Pating, M.D.
Vice President

Dan Bernal
Commissioner

Cecilia Chung
Commissioner

Judith Karshmer, Ph.D., PMHCNS-BC.
Commissioner

James Loyce, Jr., M.S.
Commissioner

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

**HEALTH COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO**

**Edwin M. Lee, Mayor
Department of Public Health**



Barbara A. Garcia, M.P.A.
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MINUTES

HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, May 2, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

101 Grove Street, Room 300 or Room 302

San Francisco, CA 94102

1) CALL TO ORDER

Present: Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D., President
Commissioner Cecilia Chung
Commissioner Dan Bernal
Commissioner James Loyce, Jr., M.S.
Commissioner David Pating, M.D.
Commissioner David J. Sanchez Jr., Ph.D.

Excused: Commissioner Judith Karshmer, Ph.D, PMHCNS-BC

The meeting was called to order at 4:03pm. Commissioner Chow congratulated Commissioners Karshmer and Sanchez for their reappointments to the Health Commission.

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETINGS OF APRIL 18, 2017

Mr. Morewitz noted that Commissioner Pating requested the following edit in his comments for item 5 (Community and Public Health Committee report back) in the minutes:

“He noted that there are no known cases of new Zika cases transmission in California.”

Action Taken: The minutes, with the revision noted above, were unanimously approved.

3) DIRECTORS REPORT

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

Update on Efforts to Repeal and Replace the Affordable Care Act

Lacking the votes for passage, House majority leadership last week again delayed a vote on the American Health Care Act (AHCA), which would repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The AHCA received the support of the 30-member conservative House Freedom Caucus, which originally opposed it, after the bill was amended to allow states to waive existing ACA provisions, such as essential health benefits and cost-sharing limitations on coverage for people with pre-existing conditions. However, these changes, together

called the MacArthur-Meadows Amendment, were not amenable to more moderate Republicans who then withheld their support for the bill. The bill requires a simple majority vote (216 votes) for passage and with the Republican majority in the House of Representatives (holding 238 seats), no Democratic votes are needed for passage. House majority leadership has indicated that it is continuing to work towards the plan to repeal and replace the ACA and hopes to be able to call for a vote this week.

U.S. District Court Issues Injunction against Executive Order Targeting Sanctuary Cities

San Francisco was the first city in the United States to sue President Trump over his executive order that threatens to cut off federal funding from sanctuary jurisdictions. On April 25th, 2017 U.S. District Judge William Orrick issued a preliminary injunction in two lawsuits brought by San Francisco and Santa Clara County, that prohibits the federal administration from enforcing President Trump's January 25th Executive Order targeting sanctuary cities. Judge Orrick said that President Trump was exceeding his constitutional authority by punishing local governments that refuse to cooperate with his immigration policies and said that the order was "potentially placing hundreds of millions of dollars of the counties' federal grants at risk. The order's uncertainty interferes with the counties' ability to budget, plan for the future, and properly serve their residents." The injunction will remain in place while the lawsuits work their way through court. San Francisco remains committed to defending the rights of San Francisco residents and families, regardless of their immigration status.

DPH Response to City Power Outage

On April 21st San Francisco experienced a significant power outage affecting over 85,000 customers. Given the large scale power outage, DPH along with multiple city agencies, activated our emergency response to ensure that medical and public health activities continued despite the loss of power. As part of this response staff from the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (PHEPR) branch deployed to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and also set up a virtual Department Operating Center (DOC) to monitor the situation and communicate information. Response actions included getting a rapid assessment of DPH facilities to see if the power outage affected staff and clients and communicating with the healthcare system to ensure that healthcare services were not interrupted. While several hospitals were impacted by the power outage, all were able to maintain their acute care capabilities by either normal or back up power systems. Identification of community members that were dependent on power for their medical equipment needs was assessed through current information systems and a plan to check on these community members was developed in conjunction with the EOC. Within SFDPH the ambulatory care branch was able to quickly assess clinic status and determined that one clinic, Maxine Hall, was impacted which led to redeployment of staff to other service areas. The Communications Office published food safety messages for the public. PHEPR maintained response activities until power was restored. This event provided an excellent opportunity to practice communication and coordination, and to ensure that San Francisco health systems were able to continue critical services despite the power disruption.

Flavored Tobacco

On April 18, Supervisor Malia Cohen introduced landmark legislation that would prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products, including menthol cigarettes, in San Francisco. Dr. Tomás Aragón, participated in the press event on behalf of DPH, alongside Mayor Lee, Supervisor Safai and many others. Banning menthol and flavored tobacco products would have a significant impact on public health, especially for communities of color and young people. Flavored tobacco products, like cotton-candy flavored e-cigarettes, come in colorful wrappers and are sold at cheap price points --- all designed to attract youth and young adults. A presentation on the proposed legislation will be calendared for an upcoming Health Commission meeting.

Transgender Health presents at U.S. Professional Association on Transgender Health (USPATH)

The Transgender Health Services (THS) team, attended and presented at the Inaugural United States Professional Association on Transgender Health (USPATH) during the weekend of February 2nd-5th, 2017. This was the first conference where the entire THS staff was able to attend and present, representing the San

Francisco Department of Public Health. “Our team at USPATH attended a variety of presentations offered by international experts in all aspects of gender related care” said Julie Graham, Director of Transgender Health Services as well as the Curriculum Chair for the World Professional Association on Transgender Health (WPATH) the parent organization for USPATH. “Most of my focus was on attending the presentations on surgery that were open to non-surgeons. I participated with a group of surgeons to discuss how to better educate surgeons on the development of a model for standards of surgical care for transgender patients.”

Population Health holds Third Annual Division-Wide Event

The Population Health Division (PHD) is dedicated to building a culture of continuous improvement through staff engagement. On April 5, 2017, PHD held its third annual division wide event, attended by 278 staff with the theme, “We will be the best at getting better.” Staff presented examples of their work, featuring principles of continuous quality improvement and demonstrating their vision to be a community-centered leader in public health practice and innovation. This was the most well-received staff engagement event out of the three annual events held to date, with positive feedback from staff.

PHD staff also celebrated their recent national accreditation status from the Public Health Accreditation Board, issued on March 14, 2017. As part of the accreditation process, PHD “underwent a rigorous, multi-faceted, peer-reviewed assessment process to ensure it met or exceeded a set of public health quality standards and measures.”

Nurse Week May 6th-12th

Celebrations will be happening all across the SF Health Network in honor of National Nurse Week, May 6th-12th. ZSFG will be hosting a reception for their nurses on Thursday, May 4th and a special night shift breakfast on May 5th. They will be awarding their Ambulatory Care Nursing Leadership Award, the Dorothy Washington Scholarship award, the O’Connell Society Award, the ZSFG Friend of Nursing Award, the Mildred Crear and the Daisy Award. Laguna Honda will have celebrations for all shifts, a webinar on “A Nurse’s Guide to preventing Compassion Fatigue, Moral Distress and Burnout” a meet-and-greet in their neighborhoods, a wellness fair, and a symposium to round out the week featuring former ZSFG CEO Gene O’Connell.

Volunteer Appreciation Week April 23-29th, 2017

On April 27th, more than 120 Laguna Honda volunteers attended an appreciation luncheon as part of National Volunteer Week. Volunteer Coordinators Cherrylyn Fernandes and Jan Doyle honored volunteers with special pins recognizing them for years of service ranging from 5-35 years. Laguna Honda has over 400 active volunteers in departments that include Spiritual Care, Activity Therapy, Dietary, Wellness, Outpatient Clinic, Nursing, and in all neighborhoods as well as with our partner organization, Zen Hospice. Volunteers offer their time and talents to help Laguna Honda achieve our vision of building healthier lives in post-acute care. ZSFG has 960 active volunteers who support the hospital in over 60 different volunteer assignments. In 2016 alone, volunteers dedicated 63,707 hours of service at ZSFG. Our work would not be possible without the invaluable work of our volunteers. The ZSFG volunteer celebration will be held on Friday, May 19th, 2017. Thank you for all that you do!

May is Mental Health Month

There are a number of events planned for Mental Health Month starting with an outreach at the SF Public Library on Saturday, April 29 at 11am for youth that may have mental health or substance use issues. Open Mic night will take place on Monday, May 15 from 1-3pm at the SF Public Library. A screening of Pixar’s “UP” will take place at 25 Van Ness room 610 on Friday, May 19th at 5:30pm.

Donate Life Registry

More than 23,000 Californians are waiting for tissue and organ donations. Last month, SFDPH participated in the National Donate Life Month eCampaign, designed to provide an easy way to register as organ and tissue

donors through the Donate Life California Organ & Tissue Donor Registry. It's not too late to register at <http://donatelifecalifornia.org/sfdph>.

Public Comment:

Francisco Da Costa stated that the recent power outage impacted 90,000 San Francisco residents. He added that we are a City that knows to deal with safety issues. He also stated that constituents are pleased when the SFDPH explains its programs in the Health Commission meetings. He noted that the SFDPH and Health Commission should be proud of San Francisco for creating effective models for employment and service programs.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Chow commended Director Garcia and SFDPH staff for their work during the power outage and is glad that analysis of the episode will be conducted so that the SFDPH can learn from the experience in its preparations of other emergencies. Director Garcia reminded the Commission that ZSFG does not close, even when on diversion. She added that during the outage, she was concerned about food safety for restaurants without power.

4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Francisco Da Costa stated that he represents the Ohlone people, the first native people on this land. He will send a letter to the Director on what he plans to do on behalf of the Ohlone people. He added that this land was their home. He visited a camp of 10,000 Native Americans at a camp 1,000 miles away to give them supplies and find out what they need. He noted in the past, Native American families were intentionally separated. He also stated that Native American people are needed and that he appreciates the services to this population.

5) FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Commissioner Chung stated that the Committee reviewed and recommend that the Health Commission approve the May 2017 Contracts Report. She also noted that the Committee received an overview of the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program in preparation for several contract requests that will be coming to the Health Commission for approval in the next few months.

6) CONSENT CALENDAR

Mr. Morewitz noted that the agenda contains a clerical error and that the Consent Calendar only contains the May 2017 Contracts Report.

Action Taken: The following item was unanimously approved:

- MAY 2017 CONTRACTS REPORT REQUEST

7) GETTING TO ZERO UPDATE

Susan Buchbinder MD, Director Bridge HIV, and Tracey Packer MPH, Director Community Health Equity and Promotion, gave the [update](#).

Public Comment:

Mark Ryle, Project Open Hand, stated that the Getting to Zero (GTZ) initiative has funded a meal program at API Wellness Center and a pop-up food program at Instituto De La Familiar. He noted that both of these programs are innovative and designed to meet the needs of specific at-risk populations.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bernal asked for more information regarding barriers to testing. Ms. Packer stated that there is still stigma in many communities of color. She added that mobile testing has been shown to be effective. Dr. Buchbinder stated that more providers are conducting HIV testing in emergency departments and regular

medical appointments. She noted that educating providers about the current realities of being positive has also been important to change culture.

Commissioner Pating congratulated the SFDPH staff and community members on the impactful work of GTZ. He stated that he is curious about what groups are not being reached. He suggested that the group consider conducting a Markov analysis to model predictive behavior and cluster analysis to better understand the needs of the micro populations. He also stated that a recent VA study showed that it is cheaper to give patients a cell phone and replace it, then to pay for missed medical appointments. He also stated that he hopes the SFDPH can learn from the GTZ model and apply the lessons to other initiatives dealing with high-risk populations. Dr. Buchbinder stated that when the SFDPH presents its annual HIV Data report, it will include some analytics.

Commissioner Loyce noted that stigma is still very powerful in African American communities. He encouraged the GTZ group to continue efforts to work with African American communities that are not familiar with HIV and the HIV community.

Commissioner Chung asked if indicators have been developed to measure stigma reduction. Dr. Buchbinder stated that stigma baseline data has only been collected recently so there is no comparative data. She added that the SFDPH is studying people who have died of HIV to better understand the role of stigma in those situations.

Commissioner Sanchez thanked the presenters for an informative report and the GTZ for its great work. He noted that having programs in the community is a better way of reaching the target populations than requiring people to come to hospitals or medical centers.

Commissioner Chung asked for data on the number of people who received their HIV diagnosis in an emergency room. Dr. Buchbinder stated that she can follow-up through Mr. Morewitz with this information.

Commissioner Chow asked for clarification of the timeline to get to zero. Dr. Buchbinder stated that overall goal is to reduce new HIV diagnoses by 90% by 2020. She noted that not all populations are being reached effectively and therefore new innovations need to be developed to reach everyone in San Francisco. She also noted that there has not been a substantial decrease in HIV-related deaths. The SFDPH Applied Research Community Health Epidemiology and Surveillance unit will be providing deep analysis of deaths of those with HIV to better understand how to move forward.

Commissioner Chow noted that HIV rates for Asian Pacific Islander has not decreased at the same level as other populations. Dr. Buchbinder stated that the GTZ is aware of this disparity and hopes to develop effective programs for this population.

Commissioner Chung noted that San Francisco is part of an eligible metropolitan area (EMA) for HRSA Ryan White funding along with Marin and San Mateo. She asked how the other two counties are involved in the GTZ efforts. Ms. Packer stated that Marin and San Mateo participate in the HIV Planning Council and GTZ ideas and innovations are shared.

Commissioner Loyce noted that getting to zero has to involve the East Bay cities because of the transient nature of the Bay Area population. Dr. Buchbinder stated that GTZ is partnering with similar efforts in the East Bay. She added that there is a section of the HIV positive population that come to San Francisco from other cities or countries because they did not feel comfortable testing in their home location.

8) NEW APPROACHES IN STD PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN SAN FRANCISCO

This item was deferred to the May 16, 2017 meeting due to time constraints.

9) CHARITY CARE REPORT FY2015

Krishna Patel, Health Program Planner, presented the report.

Public Comment:

David Serrano Sewall, Hospital Council of Northern and Central California, stated that the report demonstrates the key roles that hospitals play. He noted that it is a good thing when the amount of charity care goes down because this means more people have health coverage. He thanked Director Garcia, Colleen Chawla, and Ms. Patel for their work and support during the year. He added that he believes the report is well-balanced and provides a helpful snapshot of data for San Francisco.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Chow stated that the report gives helpful context for the historical and current data. He noted that historically the report was developed to show the value of non-profit hospitals and their contributions to the community.

Commissioner Bernal thanked Ms. Patel for her work on the report. He supports the report's recommendations to not change the report's guidelines at this time.

Commissioner Sanchez thanked the SFFDPH for an exceptional report and helps track the importance of charity care.

Commissioner Pating thanked the Hospital Council for its ongoing work. He noted that the local healthcare industry is contributing to the community through provision of services. He added that a review of historical data shows that the hospitals have been committed to serving the safety net population.

Commissioner Loyce thanked the SFFDPH staff for the exemplary report. He added that a productive working relationship with the Hospital Council and local hospitals is vital to ensure that all San Franciscans are provided quality medical care.

Director Garcia thanked the Hospital Council and noted that the report requires data collection and work from all the participating hospitals.

10) OTHER BUSINESS:

This item was not discussed.

11) JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Chow stated that at the April 25, 2017 ZSFG JCC, the Committee, discussed the ZSFG plan to address its access and patient flow issues which will hopefully lower the diversion rate. In addition, the following standard reports were also reviewed and discussed: Regulatory Report, Hospital Administrator's Report, Patient Care Service Report, and ZSFG HR Report. The Committee approved the Dermatology Service Rules and Regulations. In closed session, the Committee approved the Credentials and Quality Reports.

12) COMMITTEE AGENDA SETTING

Commissioner Chow stated that the Health Commission will hold a community meeting on July 18, 2017 to focus on public health issues in Visitation Valley.

Commissioner Pating noted that the May 16, 2017 Community and Public Health Committee will begin its review of the Community Behavioral Health section.

13) ADJOURNMENT

The meet was adjourned at 5:55pm.