MINUTES
HEALTH COMMISSION
COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
Tuesday, August 18, 2015  2:00 p.m.
101 Grove, Room 300, San Francisco, CA  94102

1) CALL TO ORDER
Present:    Commissioner David Pating, MD, Chair
Commissioner Cecilia Chung, Member (arrived at 2:35pm)
Commissioner Belle Taylor-McGhee, Member (arrived at 3pm)

The meeting was called to order at 2:35pm.

2) APPROVAL OF JULY 21, 2015 COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES

Action Taken: The Committee unanimously approved the July 21, 2015 meeting minutes.

3) UPDATE ON PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE
Naveena Bobba MD, Director of Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response, gave the presentation.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:
Commissioner Pating asked if the City has adequate storage for supplies. Dr. Bobba stated that Emergency Medical Services controls the storage of emergency medical supplies. The City has an MOU with a vendor to provide emergency medicine for disasters; this prevents the need for the City to store, rotate and dispose of medicines.

Commissioner Pating asked how the SFDPH assesses its preparedness for dealing effectively with emergencies. Dr. Bobba stated that the National Association of Community Health Professionals has developed an objective tool to assist with this assessment.

Commissioner Pating requested a scorecard to show data indicating general system readiness.
Commissioner Taylor-McGhee asked if telecommunications will be available during a disaster. Dr. Bobba stated that radios are the most reliable systems to use in a disaster; IT and cell phone systems may be impacted by the emergency.

Commissioner Chung asked if health records will be available during disasters. Dr. Bobba stated that because IT systems may not be accessible, some health records may not be immediately available during a disaster.

Commissioner Pating asked if the SFDPH has plans to enable a clinic to close and transfer patients if necessary. Leslie Dubbin stated that the SFDPH uses a form to assess if a clinic is physically safe to operate.

4) UPDATE ON AMBULATORY CARE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE
Leslie Dubbin, PhD, MS, RN, Chief Program Integration Officer, Ambulatory Care, gave the presentation.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:
Commissioner Pating asked if the San Francisco Health Network (SFHN) has an emergency command center. Ms. Dubbin stated that the SFHN does have a command center used for emergencies; she noted that the SFHN will participate in preparedness exercises to assess its readiness.

Commissioner Chung asked if patients will be part of these emergency preparedness exercises. Ms. Dubbin stated that patients will be recruited to participate in the SFHN emergency preparedness drills.

Commissioner Pating asked the procedure to care for patients with chronic illnesses during disasters. Ms. Dubbin stated that the priority is to first care for patients who are present in a clinic then reach out to patients with chronic illnesses.

Commissioner Pating asked how the SFHN can know it is prepared for emergencies. Ms. Dubbins stated that participating in drills helps the SFHN identify its strengths and weaknesses.

Commissioner Pating asked if Ebola triggered a city-wide disaster. Dr. Bobba stated that because no Ebola cases were found in San Francisco, the activity was focused on preparedness.

5) EMERGING ISSUES
Commissioner Taylor-McGhee suggested looking at the model effectively used by the HIV impacted communities to help lower the disparities among African Americans in San Francisco. Commissioner Chung stated that there may be lessons to learn from the models used by the HIV-impacted communities but cautioned that there are many complexities in the model that may not transfer.

6) PUBLIC COMMENT
There was no public comment.

7) ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 3:36pm.