

**James M. Illig**  
President

**Sonia E. Melara**  
Vice President

**Edward A. Chow, M.D.**  
Commissioner

**Margine A. Sako**  
Commissioner

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

**Steven Tierney, Ed.D.**  
Commissioner

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

## HEALTH COMMISSION

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
**Gavin C. Newsom, Mayor**

**Department of Public Health**



**Mitchell H. Katz, M.D.**  
Director of Health

**Mark Morewitz, MSW**  
Executive Secretary

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### MINUTES

#### HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

At

4:00 p.m.

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

#### 1) CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Illig called the meeting to order at 4:04pm

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

#### 2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF NOVEMBER 3, 2009

The minutes of the November 3, 2009 Health Commission meeting were approved without changes.

#### 3) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

##### **Environmental Health Assessment for Fire Stations**

DPH air quality experts were recently able to provide some much needed support to the Fire Department in the planning for a new Fire Station 1 in the South of Market (SOMA) neighborhood.

Environmental Health staff, who have developed considerable expertise in air quality assessment through the implementation of residential health code requirements, reviewed and modeled air quality at a number of alternative SOMA locations. The process allowed them to identify sites that would limit poor air quality exposure.

### **Sustainable Industries Publication Takes Close Look at Health Impact Assessment**

The November issue of *Sustainable Industries*, a national business publication focusing on sustainable business practices, featured a story showing how community groups, city officials and project developers in the Bay Area are pioneering the use of the Health Impact Assessment as a way to calculate the health effects of land-use decisions.

### **Infect Me Not Wins Davey Awards**

The Infect Me Not campaign has won a Silver Award in the International Davey Awards competition. The Davey Awards honors the creative excellence of small projects and agencies that traditionally operate on shoestring budgets but seek and produce big ideas and outcomes.

### **Mayor Forms Hepatitis C Task Force**

The first meeting of the Mayor's Hepatitis C Task Force was held on November 9. The purpose of the Task Force is to bring together medical and social service providers, public health officials, hepatitis C advocates, people living with hepatitis C, experts and others who have an interest in hepatitis to develop a comprehensive set of recommendations to address the hepatitis C epidemic in San Francisco.

### **Assistance Available for Retaining Selected Mental Health Professions**

One of the objectives of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) is to strengthen California's public mental health system. To fulfill this objective, the Mental Health Loan Assumption Program provides up to \$2.5 million annually to individuals employed in the state's s hard-to-fill-or-retain mental health professions. We are currently investigating the opportunities that this program may present for our own staff as well as those who work for community based organizations.

### **WIC Program Offers New Food Package for Better Health**

Beginning October 1, many low-income families in San Francisco have been able to access healthier foods such as fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains and soy products with their new Women Infants & Children (WIC) checks. Furthermore, the new WIC changes support breastfeeding babies by offering appropriate infant-food fruits, vegetables and meats to babies at six months. More varieties and quantities of food are being offered to mothers up to one year after delivery.

### **AIDS Research Institute Award Goes to Susan Buchbinder, MD**

The AIDS Research Institute at UCSF has announced that Susan Buchbinder, MD, Director, HIV Research Section, has been awarded the 2009 ARI Award for Outstanding Mentoring. This annual award was established by the ARI in 2007 to recognize and honor a member of the campus community who has performed extraordinary service in mentoring others at UCSF involved in HIV/AIDS research and clinical care.

### **CBHS Plans Consumer and Family-Oriented Workshop**

For the last two years, Community Behavioral Health Services (CBHS) has sponsored a consumer and family-oriented workshop offering key strategies to address issues related to recovery. This year's workshop theme, "In One Voice, We Unite," is scheduled for Friday, December 11 at St. Mary's Conference Center.

Part of the workshop will focus on how to develop and maintain the Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP). Additionally, the Children Youth and Family section of CBHS will showcase some of their digital stories that have allowed San Francisco youth and caregivers to share their own personal experience in dealing with mental illness, substance abuse, and trauma.

COMMUNITY HEALTH NETWORK  
SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL HOSPITAL & TRAUMA CENTER

November 2009

**Health Commission - Director of Health Report**

(11/09/09 MEC)

	11/09	07/09 to 06/10
<b>New Appointments</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>102</b>
Reinstatements		<b>1</b>
<b>Reappointments</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>178</b>
Delinquencies:	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Reappointment Denials:	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Resigned/Retired:</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>86</b>
Disciplinary Actions	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Restriction/Limitation-Privileges</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Deceased</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Changes in Privileges</b>		
Additions	<b>7</b>	<b>24</b>
Voluntary Relinquishments	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>
Proctorship Completed	<b>4</b>	<b>61</b>
Proctorship Extension	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>Current Statistics – as of 10/21/2009</b>	
Active Staff	<b>515</b>
Courtesy Staff	<b>586</b>
Affiliate Professionals (non-physicians)	<b>243</b>
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS</b>	<b>1344</b>

Applications In Process	<b>13</b>
<b>Applications Withdrawn Month of Nov 2009</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>SFGH Reappointments in Process 12/2009 to 02/2010</b>	<b>175</b>

Dr. Katz reported that the Controller's Office is expecting a \$45 million shortfall in the 2009-10 budget with DPH expected to cut \$13.2 million. The Controller's Office will not approve supplemental funding requests from the Board of Supervisors for the remainder of the year. The Department's mid-year reduction decisions must reach the Mayor's Office by December 4th. Commissioner Illig asked Dr. Katz to provide the Commission with an updated report on the proposed reductions at the December 1 Health Commission meeting.

Dr. Katz provided an update on the supply H1N1 vaccinations. He reported that DPH has not received additional H1N1 vaccination supplies. Dr. Katz explained that more H1N1 vaccines have been distributed on the east coast than the west coast. He reported that this might be the case because winter comes sooner on the East Coast, meaning people spend more time indoors where the flu is easily spread. Dr. Katz noted that the government has not issued an official explanation for the unequal distribution of H1N1 vaccines on the two coasts.

Commissioner Chow asked Dr. Katz what the routes of the H1N1 vaccine distribution are in San Francisco County. Dr. Katz responded that Francisco County received the vaccines from the State and DPH chose to distribute the vaccines to individuals without primary care providers. San Francisco does not have control over when vaccine shipments will arrive or how much of the vaccine it will receive.

Commissioner Chow asked if the distributor of the vaccine, McKesson, only delivers in California. Dr. Katz responded that McKesson distributes the H1N1 vaccine throughout the country.

Commissioner Illig mentioned that Britain's response to the H1N1 vaccinations has been remarkably efficient due to a national healthcare database that identified priority patients and scheduled individual appointments for vaccinations. He suggested that the United States could learn from their organized healthcare system.

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

None.

#### **5) CONSIDERATION OF THE ST. MARY'S MEDICAL CENTER INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLAN**

Anne Kronenberg, Deputy Director of Health, explained the process for DPH review of St. Mary's Institutional Master Plan, and introduced Patricia Bennett, the CEO of Resource Development Associates. Ms. Bennett presented the final analysis of the SMMC IMP.

Commissioner Illig praised the IMP analysis and the presentation.

Anna Cheung, CEO of SMMC, thanked RDA for their thorough analysis and the Health Commission for their feedback after the preliminary report was released in July. Ms. Cheung added that she welcomes any additional feedback from the Health Commission.

Commissioner Chow asked why increasing SMMC's service capacity in San Francisco is important. Ms. Cheung responded that the assessment found that there is a need for additional cancer services

in the community. SMMC provides many services to underserved communities as an integral part of their mission and the expansion of cancer and vascular services will increase access for underserved populations.

Commissioner Chow asked if the last line in the table on page 13 meant to say “Medicare” or “Medicaid.” Ms. Bennett responded that RDA will review the statement.

Anne Kronenberg noted that the stakeholders who were interviewed were speaking to the SMMC IMP as individuals rather than representatives of an institution or organization. Ms. Kronenberg pointed out that SMMC has demonstrated improved outreach to the community since the original IMP was presented in July.

Commissioner Sanchez praised the IMP analysis and SMMC’s commitment to adult day health services in the Excelsior neighborhood.

Action Taken:

The Commission (Illig, Chow, Tierney, Sanchez) accepted the SMMC IMP analysis for submission to the Planning Commission. Commissioner Melara and Commissioner Sako abstained from voting. Commissioner Chow requested that the minutes from this meeting and the presentation be forwarded to the Planning Commission.

6) **OTHER BUSINESS**

**JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

**COMMITTEE AGENDA SETTING**

None.

Commissioner Illig called a recess at 4:52pm.

7) **2010 HEALTH COMMISSION COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE PROCESS**

Commissioner Illig reconvened the meeting at 5:00pm.

The Health Commission thanked both Jim Soos and Grace Alderson for serving as Interim Health Commission Secretary and announced that Mark Morewitz has been hired for this position starting November 30th.

Commissioners discussed the current Committee structure and made suggestions to improve effectiveness:

- Reports and presentations should be vetted by a Committee prior to being discussed in a full Commission meeting. Committees should decide whether presentations need to go to the full Commission. Presentations should focus on results, problems and other issues in which the Health Commission can have impact.
- It should be the responsibility of the Secretary to insure that the Commission hears updates on issues discussed in the Committee and Commission meetings, and that follow-up requests are tracked.

- The full Commission should address broader policy issues rather than focusing on the details of reports.
- Communication with DPH staff should improve so that the Commissioners receive the appropriate background information before meetings.
- The Commission officers should meet with the Secretary to go over agenda items before the Director and deputies meet to discuss the agenda. This process will help the Commission avoid overloading the agendas.

Commissioners discussed proposals for Committee structure in 2010:

1. Finance and Planning Committee (FPC) – proposed by Commissioner Tierney  
This committee would have three goals:
  - 1) To develop and foster fiscal and health policies that support, encourage and monitor the stated priority goals of the Department;
  - 2) To build and enhance collaboration among the Department, private hospitals and community-based providers to support said goals (i.e. the health report card);
  - 3) To conduct the fiduciary responsibilities of the Commission (i.e. approve contracts, review quarterly budget reports, etc.).
2. Community and Public Health Committee (CPHC) – proposed by Commissioner Sako  
This committee would assure oversight and review of departmental programs and issues that are not addressed through the SFGH or LHH JCCs. This includes services provided through Community Programs, and public health and prevention activities of the Department.
3. The SFGH Joint Conference Committee should continue operating in its existing structure.
4. The Laguna Honda Joint Conference Committee should continue operating in its existing structure.

Commissioners identified other ways to improve the effectiveness of the Health Commission.

- The Commission will strive to assure consensus in decision-making and speak with one voice to staff. Commissioners should be clear about distinguishing individual opinions from collective decisions.
- Meeting materials should be delivered or posted online according to Commissioner preference, and available for review on a standard schedule before each meeting.
- The Commission should have an active role at public health-related events and functions. The Commission Secretary should coordinate Commission representation at important events and insure that Commissioners have a proper amount of advance notice.
- Commissioners should notify the Health Commission Secretary of any dates they will be unavailable for scheduled meetings or events.
- The Secretary will develop a more concise format of the meeting minutes including links to presentations and documents discussed at the meetings.
- Communications between the Department and other parts of city government should include the Health Commission, and actions by the Commission should be sent to the appropriate bodies with a formal letter.

## 8) **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20pm

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Mark Morewitz  
Health Commission Executive Secretary