

**CITY OF LONG BEACH  
BOARD OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES MINUTES**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2019  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN  
SERVICES  
2525 GRAND AVENUE, ROOM 103, 7:45 AM**

Milton Smith, Chair  
Christopher Robson, Vice Chair  
Sylvia Betancourt, Member  
Ralph Brooks, RN, Member  
Menchie Caliboso, Member  
Reena Curtis, PharmD, Member  
Manorama Gupta, Member  
Troy Ha, DDS, Member



Miles McNeeley, Member  
Jody Rawles, MD, Member  
Silene St. Bernard, DVM, Member  
Barbara Schwerin, Member  
Nasir Tejani, MD, FAAP, Member  
Susan Temple, Member  
Lydia Vaias, MD, Member

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**FINISHED AGENDA AND APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 8:02 a.m. the meeting was called to order. Chair Smith presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners** Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Menchie Caliboso, Troy Ha,

**Present:** Miles McNeeley, Barbara Schwerin, Nasir Tejani, Susan Temple, Lydia Vaias, Christopher Robson and Milton Smith

**Commissioners** Reena Curtis, Manorama Gupta and Silene St Bernard

**Excused:**

**Commissioners** Jody Rawles

**Absent:**

Also present: Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services; Anissa Davis, MD, MPH, City Health Officer; Dennis Keith, Executive Assistant and Karla Estupinian, Office of 2nd District Councilwoman Jeannine Pearce.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. [19-095BH](#) Recommendation to approve the minutes of the Board of Health and Human Services meetings held Friday, November 8, 2019.

**A motion was made by Member Ha, seconded by Member Brooks, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 11 - Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Menchie Caliboso, Troy Ha, Miles McNeeley, Barbara Schwerin, Nasir Tejani, Susan Temple, Lydia Vaias, Christopher Robson and Milton Smith

**Excused:** 3 - Reena Curtis, Manorama Gupta and Silene St Bernard

**Absent:** 1 - Jody Rawles

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Members of the public are invited to address the Board on items of interest to the public within the Agency Board jurisdiction. Each speaker will be limited to two minutes unless that time is extended by the Chair.

There was no public comment.

Boardmember Tejani arrived at 8:05 a.m. Boardmember Vaias arrived at 8:09 a.m. and Boardmember Caliboso arrived at 8:22 a.m.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

2. [19-096BH](#) Recommendation to receive, discuss and file a report from the Director of Health and Human Services.
- Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services, spoke on the following items:
- Health Department has seen a 63% increase in individuals obtaining their annual flu vaccinations from the previous year. Also, the current years' vaccination formulation more closely matches the active flu strains this season.
  - The Department was honored by The California Endowment and Human Impact Partners at their 2019 Advancing Health Equity Awards event. The Department was recognized for its role in establishing a justice fund to provide immigrant defense, as well as providing language access across the City. The

as part of the award, the Department was provided with a one-time cash award of \$25,000.

- The Department was awarded \$100,000 from Carnival Cruises to assist the Healthy Market Partnership Program.
- Announced the resignation of Shannon Parker, Homeless Services Officer, at the end of December. The Department will be working to recruit a new Homeless Services Officer as soon as possible.
- The Department has hired a Public Health Physician for the Department's HIV Program. Dr. Cliff Okada will be replacing Dr. Torno who retired in November.
- The Youth Tobacco Education Group has requested to provide a presentation to the Board. The Group will be scheduled for an upcoming 2020 Board meeting date.
- The Department is already in the process of looking at the FY 2021 Department Budget.
- The Department is working on the re-accreditation process and are completing updates to the three necessary documents required for this process which include the Strategic Plan, Health Needs Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan. Ms. Colopy also announced that the City's new online data platform, My Sidewalk, which replaces the previous Live Well Long Beach platform, is now up and running.
- A Pilot Social Work Internship Program where the Long Beach Public Library is partnering with the Department to explore models of integrating social work into its existing services. With support from the Department's Trauma and Resiliency-Informed Long Beach (TRI-LB) initiative, the LBPL has two Master's in Social Work students from California State University Long Beach (CSULB) and the University of Southern California (USC) who are working as interns to connect LBPL patrons with social services including mental health care, legal support, food security benefits and housing resources. The social work interns are currently based at the Mark Twain Library and Billie Jean King Main Library. The pilot project is anticipated to end in May 2020. Upon completion of the pilot, project outcomes will be evaluated to determine the viability of a more comprehensive social work program at Long Beach Public Libraries.
- Announced a save the date for the 2020 Public Health Conference which will be held on April 9, 2020 at the Long Beach Marriott.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

3. [19-097BH](#) Recommendation to receive, discuss and file a report from the City Health Officer on Communicable Disease Control activities.

Dr. Anissa Davis, City Health Officer, spoke briefly regarding her recent experience with seeing patients in the Department's HIV Clinic. Dr. Davis has been replacing Dr. Torno in the clinic until the new Public Health Physician starts. She discussed the number of barriers she has observed to patients receiving care. Among these barriers are homelessness, lack of transportation, and other social determinants of health. Another observation included high out of pocket costs for those who lack good health insurance.

Dr. Davis asked Boardmember Temple for an update on the Long Beach Unified School District's progress towards condom distribution in LBUSD Schools. Boardmember Temple informed the Board that the LBUSD has held several meetings, but they were still working out the details on how such a program can be accomplished. A brief discussion ensued regarding the LBUSD's efforts, and issues they had identified as part of the process. If this issue is treated as education, there becomes a need for an opt-out option for those parents who do not want their children to participate. There is also a need for student/participant anonymity that needs to be considered as well. The LBUSD continues to review the matter.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

4. [19-098BH](#) Recommendation to discuss Board goals and infrastructure.

Chair Smith spoke briefly on this item and requested an update from the two subcommittees.

- Boardmember Betancourt provided a brief update from the Interagency Communication Subcommittee. There was no new information to provide on this item. Boardmember Betancourt mentioned that two subcommittee members had quit the Board recently, and that there was a need for new volunteers.
- Vice Chair Robson provided a brief update from the Resource Subcommittee.

There was no new information to provide on this item.

Both subcommittees will attempt to schedule meetings in order to provide an update at the January meeting.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

5. [19-099BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file a report from the Vice Chair on community outreach efforts to Long Beach neighborhood associations.

This item was discussed as part of the previous agenda item 4.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

6. [19-100BH](#) Recommendation to review and approve a process to respond to public comment items.

The Board reviewed the draft public comment card and provided additional requested edits. It was also requested that the card be translated into appropriate alternate languages. If possible, the card should be made available online, as well as printed out and available to potential speakers at each meeting.

The Board made a motion to approve the public comment card as edited. Moved by Boardmember Temple, and seconded by Boardmember Vaia, the motion was approved unanimously.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

7. [19-101BH](#) Recommendation to discuss the Board of Health and Human Services Annual Report.

Chair Smith briefly discussed the Board's 2019 Annual Report and indicated that it is his hope that the Board will have a draft report for review by the Board for the January 2020 meeting, with the final report to come back to the Board for final review and approval at the February 2020 meeting. A subcommittee consisting of Boardmembers Smith, Robson, Temple, Betancourt and Ha will be working on the draft.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

## ONGOING BUSINESS

8. [19-102BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file an update from the Toxic Tour Subcommittee.

Boardmember Betancourt discussed changing the scope of the toxic tour in order to ensure compliance with Brown Act regulations. It was suggested that a subcommittee be created and that those subcommittee members participate in the physical tour. The subcommittee would then come back to provide a briefing to the entire Board. It was also discussed that a presentation would also be scheduled for the Board at that time.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

9. [19-103BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file an update on the status of the City's implementation of the legalization of cannabis.

Ms. Colopy indicated that the City was looking into the creation of an ordinance to allow large cannabis events to be held in the City. These events would potentially include consumption of cannabis products. Staff from the Department's Environmental Health Bureau were working with other City Departments on a draft Ordinance.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

10. [19-104BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file an update on Community Hospital.

Ms. Colopy indicated that inspections of the hospital were currently underway, and that the intent was to complete all inspections and finalize all necessary documents in order to reopen the facility in early 2020.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was announced that the Annual Board of Health and Human Services Meet and Greet would be taking place immediately after the conclusion of today's meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:23 a.m. the meeting was adjourned.

### **Note:**

A digital recording of this meeting will be available in the Health and Human Services Department. The City of Long Beach provides reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If a special accommodation is desired, or if an agenda is needed in an alternative format, please contact Dennis Keith, Executive Assistant, 48 hours prior to the meeting at (562) 570-4014 or (562) 570-6626 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or by email at [dennis.keith@longbeach.gov](mailto:dennis.keith@longbeach.gov).