

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

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2020  
MILLER FAMILY HEALTH EDUCATION  
CENTER  
3820 CHERRY AVENUE, 7:45 AM**

Milton Smith, Chair  
Christopher Robson, Vice Chair  
Sylvia Betancourt, Member  
Ralph Brooks, RN, Member  
Reena Curtis, PharmD, Member  
Manorama Gupta, MD, 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 MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 8:05 a.m. the meeting was called to order. Chair Smith presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners** Ralph Brooks, Manorama Gupta, Jody Rawles, Barbara

**Present:** Schwerin, Silene St Bernard, Nasir Tejani, Lydia Vaias and  
Milton Smith

**Commissioners** Sylvia Betancourt, Reena Curtis, Troy Ha, Miles McNeeley,

**Excused:** Susan Temple and Christopher Robson

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. [20-009BH](#) Recommendation to approve the minutes of the Board of Health and Human Services meetings held Friday, January 10, 2020.

**A motion was made by Member Tejani, seconded by Member St Bernard, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 8 - Ralph Brooks, Manorama Gupta, Jody Rawles, Barbara Schwerin, Silene St Bernard, Nasir Tejani, Lydia Vaia and Milton Smith

**Excused:** 6 - Sylvia Betancourt, Reena Curtis, Troy Ha, Miles McNeeley, Susan Temple and Christopher Robson

**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.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **2. [20-010BH](#)**

Recommendation to receive, discuss and file a report from the Director of Health and Human Services.

Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services, provided the board with an update on the following items:

- Youth Strategic Plan Forums are currently in progress. Three meetings have been held to date, and the next meeting is scheduled for March 7th. Approximately 20 youth, between the age of 11 to 20 years, have attended each of these meetings to speak on issues affecting them, and what they need to succeed. Trained Youth Ambassadors facilitate the conversations and collect the data. A Youth Survey is also being prepared and will be released in the near future. It is anticipated that the Youth Strategic Plan will be sent to the City Council around the beginning of June.
- Numerous conversations at the State level regarding Communicable Disease Control Funding. The Governor is proposing a nicotine-based tax. There is a push to utilize that potential funding and carve in a strong infrastructure piece of that funding dedicated to public health.
- The City is starting the 2021 Budget process. It is expected to be a tight budget year.

- The Health Department is working on the hiring of several vacant positions including the positions of Environmental Health Bureau Manager, Homeless Services Officer, and Older Adults Coordinator.

**This BH-Agenda Item was received and filed.**

**3. [20-011BH](#)**

Recommendation to receive, discuss and file a report from the City Health Officer on Communicable Disease Control activities.

Anissa Davis, MD, City Health Officer, provided the board with an update on the following items:

- Coronavirus - The Health Department's Communicable Disease Control Program is currently monitoring this outbreak. Currently there have been 60,000 cases of the virus with 1,300 deaths, mostly located in China. 15 cases have been identified in the United States. There have been no cases in Long Beach. The virus was officially named "COVID-19".
- Hepatitis A - The Communicable Disease Program is also currently investigating an outbreak of Hepatitis A related to a local restaurant. The investigation identified that all cases were related to individuals who ate at the 555 East American Steakhouse on, or around, December 24th. Currently there are 10 confirmed cases, with an additional 10 probable cases. 200 customers ate at that establishment on that particular day. The restaurant has been cooperating fully with the investigation, and there is no current danger to patrons of that establishment.
- Flu activity is ongoing. Influenza B seems to be the dominant strain this year. To date there have been six deaths in Long Beach.

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

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**4. [20-012BH](#)**

Recommendation to conduct the annual nominations and election of officers.

Chair Smith nominated Boardmember St. Bernard to the position of Chair. It was decided that due to the number of Boardmembers absent from this meeting, that an email would be sent out to all Boardmembers asking for nominations to be

sent to the Board coordinator. Actions on this item will be held over until the March 13, 2020 Boardmeeting.

**This BH-Agenda Item was laid over.**

5. [20-013BH](#) Recommendation to discuss Board goals and infrastructure.

Boardmember St. Bernard provided an update from the Interagency Communications Subcommittee and the Board discussed the subcommittee's Interagency Communications Plan. The plan currently covers regular communications with the Mayor's Office, each of the nine Council offices, the Commissions on Youth and Families; Parks and Recreation; and Human Relations. Each Board member will be assigned to be the point of contact for each of the offices or commissions listed above and will maintain regular, at least monthly, contact with these offices. Details on these conversations will be brought back monthly to share with the Board.

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

6. [20-014BH](#) Recommendation to discuss the Board of Health and Human Services Annual Report.

The Board reviewed the final draft of the 2019 Annual Report. There were no additional edits; therefore, the report was finalized and approved for release.

**This BH-Agenda Item was received and filed.**

## **ONGOING BUSINESS**

7. [20-015BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file an update from the Toxic Tour Subcommittee.

There was no new information to report on this item.

**This BH-Agenda Item was laid over.**

8. [20-016BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file an update on the status of the City's implementation of the legalization of cannabis.

There was no new information to provide on this item.

**This BH-Agenda Item was laid over.**

9. [20-017BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file an update on Community Hospital.

Progress is ongoing. Community Hospital operators indicate that they intend to license one of the buildings for and offer psychiatric beds. Further details will be available as they become available.

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Save the Date: Public Health Week 2020 will be celebrated the week of April 6 -10.
- Public Health Week Conference, April 9th, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Long Beach Marriott Hotel.
- February 27th Black History Month Celebration at the Health Department. Details will be forthcoming.
- February 27th, 9th District Pop-up Event

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:17 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 Assistar in the Health and Human Services Department, 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).