

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

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT TRAINING FACILITY  
3861 WORSHAM AVENUE, 8:00 AM**

Sabrina Sanders, Chair  
Barbara Schwerin, Vice Chair  
Silene St. Bernard, DVM, Member  
Sylvia Betancourt, Member  
Reena Curtis, PharmD, Member  
Abraam Girgis, DDS, Member  
Manorama Gupta, Member



Beth Lesen, Member  
Miles McNeeley, LCSW, Member  
Alexander Red Eagle, MD, Member  
Nasir Tejani, MD, FAAP, Member  
Lydia Vaias, MD, Member  
Lauren Walton, MD, Member  
Paula Clark, CRNA, Member  
Rose Van Meeveren, RN, Member

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**FINISHED AGENDA AND APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

**SPECIAL MEETING - STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT**

**ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners** Sylvia Betancourt, Paula Clark, Abraam Girgis, Manorama

**Present:** Gupta, Beth Lesen, Miles McNeeley, Silene St Bernard, Nasir  
Tejani, Lydia Vaias, Lauren Walton, Barbara Schwerin and  
Sabrina Sanders

**Commissioners** Reena Curtis, Alexander Red Eagle and Rose Van Meeveren

**Excused:**

Also present: Dr. Jessica Schumer - Deputy Director, Dennis Keith - Executive Assistant;  
and Nicole Barnes-Hinkson, People Can Talk, Counseling, Coaching & Team Interventions

**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 participation.

## REGULAR AGENDA

1. [23-040BH](#) Recommendation to conduct a strategic planning retreat to define the Board's Mission Statement and process for increased involvement within the scope of its City Charter.

### WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- Welcome from Chair Sanders
- Welcome from Dr. Jessica Schumer, Deputy Director. Brief update on the departure of the Health Department's Director, Kelly Colopy, and the next steps in the process.
- Board member Lauren Walton introduced Nicole Barnes-Hinkson, the group facilitator for the day's retreat.

### MEETING OBJECTIVES

- Ms. Barnes Hinkson discussed the meeting's objectives and conducted a brief group activity to identify Board member strengths and their bandwidth to take on additional workload.

### CHARTER REVIEW

- The Board discussed the City Municipal Code related to the City's expectations of the Board of Health.
- The Board discussed what they would like the Board to be.
- The Board discussed establishing a defined vision and mission statement for the Board of Health to help direct current and future goals of the Board.
- Discussed the need for increased communication and feedback from the Mayor and Council districts. Increased participation from the Council offices.
- Discussed creating connections with other Boards and Commissions. Opportunities for cross connection on various subject areas.
- Discussed establishing new member orientation to bring new members up to speed on the Board's goals and vision.
- Discussed utilization of the Board's expertise. Significant subject matter experts in various Public Health, Healthcare, Mental Health, Oral Health, etc. fields. Need the City to bring items to their attention for review and input.
- Dr. Schumer briefly discussed how the Department could best help the Board and how the Board could better participate with the Department in the development of the Department's Strategic Plan, Community Health Assessment, Community Health Improvement Plan, among others.
- Board member St. Bernard shared notes and thoughts from her prior meeting with the Director of Health and Human Services on how the Board could best assist the Department and City.

- Dr. Schumer briefly discussed the Health and Human Services perspective and the City's 2030 Vision, and how Public Health is a core piece of many of the major focus areas identified in the 2030 Vision.

#### **CONNECTIONS & OPPORTUNITIES**

- Ms. Barnes-Hinkson conducted a group activity to help identify all the various connections Board members have to other organizations and community groups, within the city, County, State and Nationally. These groups could also be utilized as resources for the Board to draw from.

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

- The Board performed an activity to help define their primary areas of focus.
- The Board viewed a short video to help them understand the steps involved with creating a good mission statement and then worked with Ms. Barnes-Hinkson to craft the Board's mission statement. The Board developed a mission statement as follows: "Our mission is to use our broad-based multi-specialty expertise and resources to champion health and wellness so the Long Beach community can thrive."

Chair Sanders briefly discussed the next steps and discussion items for the October 13, 2023 meeting.

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

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 12:00 p.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, no less than 48 hours prior to the meeting at (562) 570-4014, or by email at [dennis.keith@longbeach.gov](mailto:dennis.keith@longbeach.gov).