

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

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2022
TELECONFERENCE, 7:45 AM**

Silene St. Bernard, DVM, Chair
Sylvia Betancourt, Member
Ralph Brooks, RN, Member
Reena Curtis, PharmD, Member
Manorama Gupta, MD, Member
Troy Ha, DDS, Member



Miles McNeeley, Member
Christopher Robson, Member
Sabrina Sanders, Member
Barbara Schwerin, Member
Nasir Tejani, MD, FAAP, Member
Lydia Vaias, MD, Member

FINISHED AGENDA AND APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:48 a.m. the meeting was called to order. Chair St. Bernard presiding.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Sylvia Betancourt, Manorama Gupta, Troy Ha, Sabrina Sanders,

Present: Barbara Schwerin, Nasir Tejani, Lydia Vaias and Silene St Bernard

Commissioners Reena Curtis, Miles McNeeley and Christopher Robson

Excused:

Commissioners Ralph Brooks

Absent:

Also present: Kelly Colopy, Director of Health & Human Services and Dennis Keith, Executive Assistant

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [22-001BH](#) Recommendation to approve the minutes of the Board of Health and Human Services meeting held December 10, 2021.

A motion was made by Member Schwerin, seconded by Member Vaias, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Sylvia Betancourt, Manorama Gupta, Troy Ha, Sabrina Sanders, Barbara Schwerin, Nasir Tejani, Lydia Vaias and Silene St Bernard

Excused: 3 - Reena Curtis, Miles McNeeley and Christopher Robson

Absent: 1 - Ralph Brooks

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.

EXECUTIVE STAFF REPORTS

2. [22-002BH](#) Recommendation to receive, discuss and file a report from the Director of Health and Human Services.
- Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services reported the following information to the Board:
- The Department submitted its reaccreditation documents to the Public Health Accreditation Board on December 30, 2021.
 - The Department received approximately \$3.5 million in HUD lead grant funding for lead remediation of multi-family housing units.
 - The Department completed its report on the Mi Vida Cuenta COVID-19 Latino Health Initiative.
 - The Department completed the equity framework for the distribution of American Recovery Act and CDC funding to the community.
 - Due to the current Omicron outbreak, the Community Budget meetings have been rescheduled and redesigned to a virtual format. The new dates are January 25 and 27.

- The Department has hired a new Community Health Bureau Manager who will start with the Department on Monday, January 24.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

3. [22-003BH](#) Recommendation to receive, discuss and file a report from the City Health Officer on Communicable Disease Control activities.

There was no new information to provide on this item.

This BH-Agenda Item was laid over.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. [22-004BH](#) Recommendation to conduct the Annual Election of Officers.

Chair St. Bernard opened the floor to nominations for the Board's Chair and Vice Chair positions. The Board nominated Chair St. Bernard to continue on as Chair and nominated Board member Gupta to the position of Vice Chair. Board members St. Bernard and Gupta accepted the nominations. There were no other nominations.

A motion was made to close the elections and to confirm the appointment of Board member St. Bernard to the Chair Position, and Board member Gupta to the position of Vice Chair.

Yes: 8 - Sylvia Betancourt, Manorama Gupta, Troy Ha, Sabrina Sanders, Barbara Schwerin, Nasir Tejani, Lydia Vaias and Silene St Bernard

Excused: 3 - Reena Curtis, Miles McNeeley and Christopher Robson

Absent: 1 - Ralph Brooks

5. [22-005BH](#) Recommendation to discuss the Board's focus for 2022 including agenda planning and key focus areas.

The Board discussed the following focus items for 2022:

- Board member Betancourt confirmed her Environmental Justice presentation for the March 11, 2022 Board meeting.
- The Board briefly discussed their request for a future Health Equity presentation.
- Chair St. Bernard discussed the Boards continuing efforts to engage with City Council offices. A brief discussion ensued regarding the Board's ability to hold an in-person meeting with the Council offices at some point in the future after elections, and upon determination that it is safe to hold in-person meetings again.
- The Board discussed the possibility of reaching out and speaking with other City Departments.
- The Board discussed the feasibility of attending and speaking at any Mayoral or Councilmember candidate debates or town hall meetings.
- A discussion ensued regarding the feasibility of changing the Director's and City Health Officer's reports to a written format. The Board determined that these reports should continue to be provided verbally.
- The Board discussed whether or not to continue including standing, ongoing business items on the agenda when there is no new information to provide. The Board determined that standing items should currently include:
 - The continuation of verbal updates from the Director and City Health Officer
 - Updates from Board members on their interactions and communications with their respective Council offices.
 - Discussion and updates on the City efforts to increase Behavioral Health services in the City.
- The Board expressed a desire to discuss ways on how to be more proactive.
- A brief discussion ensued regarding the Board's ongoing recruitment efforts.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

6. [22-006BH](#)

Recommendation to discuss the current status of COVID-19 in the City.

There was no new information to provide on this item.

This BH-Agenda Item was laid over.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:42 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 by email at dennis.keith@longbeach.gov.