

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

**FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2022
TELECONFERENCE, 7:45 AM**

Silene St. Bernard, DVM, Chair
Sylvia Betancourt, Member
Ralph Brooks, RN, Member
Reena Curtis, PharmD, Member
Abraam Girgis, 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
Lauren Walton, Member

FINISHED AGENDA AND DRAFT 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, Ralph Brooks, Manorama Gupta, Troy Ha,

Present: Miles McNeeley, Christopher Robson, Sabrina Sanders, Barbara Schwerin, Nasir Tejani, Lydia Vaias and Silene St Bernard

Commissioners Abraam Girgis and Lauren Walton

Excused:

Commissioners Reena Curtis

Absent:

Also present: Kelly Colopy - Director of Health & Human Services; Dennis Keith - Executive Assistant.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. 22-021BH Recommendation to approve the minutes of the Board of Health and Human Services meeting held March 11, 2022.

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

Yes: 11 - Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Manorama Gupta, Troy Ha, Miles McNeeley, Christopher Robson, Sabrina Sanders, Barbara Schwerin, Nasir Tejani, Lydia Vaias and Silene St Bernard

Excused: 2 - Abraam Girgis and Lauren Walton

Absent: 1 - Reena Curtis

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.

EXECUTIVE STAFF REPORTS

2. 22-022BH Recommendation to receive and file a report from the Director of Health and Human Services.

Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services, provided the Board with the following information:

- The grand opening of the Ronald R. Arias Health Equity Center was held on Monday, April 4th.
- The Department held its annual Hill Challenge and the Housing Authority held an open house event on Wednesday, April 6th.

- The Department held an All Manager's retreat on Thursday, April 7th.
- The first Alternative Crisis Response (ACR) meeting was held, and participants helped to identify a set of calls where ACR teams would be able to respond to instead of the police.
- The first Mental Health Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 4th.
- Kelly briefly discussed the Department's space needs and mentioned that the Department has submitted a \$20 million State legislative ask for infrastructure improvements.

This BH-Agenda Item was received and filed.

3. 22-023BH Recommendation to receive and file a report from the City Health Officer on Communicable Disease Control activities.

Ms. Colopy briefly discussed that case rates have remained low and stable in Long Beach. Second booster shots are now available to qualifying individuals who obtained their first booster shot at least four months prior.

This BH-Agenda Item was received and filed.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. 22-024BH Recommendation to review and approve the Board of Health and Human Services 2021 Annual Report.

The Board reviewed the draft of the 2021 Annual Report and a few minor edits were made.

A motion was made to approve the report, as amended, for submission to the Mayor and City Council

Yes: 11 - Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Manorama Gupta, Troy Ha, Miles McNeeley, Christopher Robson, Sabrina Sanders, Barbara Schwerin, Nasir Tejani, Lydia Vaia and Silene St Bernard

Excused: 2 - Abraam Girgis and Lauren Walton

Absent: 1 - Reena Curtis

5. 22-025BH Recommendation to discuss the February 11, 2022 presentation on the Black Infant Health Program.

Chair St. Bernard followed up with the Board to determine if there were actions that the Board wanted to take or ways the Board could support the Black Infant Health (BIH) Program. Ms. Colopy indicated that the Department is supporting a response to the State on further BIH funding, and that there may be an opportunity to provide a letter of support from the Board.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

6. 22-026BH Recommendation to discuss the March 11, 2022 presentation from the Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma, East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice.

Chair St. Bernard followed up with the Board to determine if there were actions that the Board wanted to take or ways the Board could support environmental justice issues. Chair Smith encouraged Board members to take the environmental justice driving tour. Board member Betancourt spoke on a variety of environmental justice issues facing the City and asked that this item remain as an ongoing discussion item on future agendas. Board member Betancourt also discussed the potential of future environmental justice presentations. The Board discussed potential advocacy opportunities around the 710 freeway expansion project and the City's Green Port initiative.

Board member Tejani inquired if the City had any programs around gun violence. Ms. Colopy indicated that Department staff could present on that issue at a future meeting.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

7. 22-027BH Recommendation to discuss Board Goals and Infrastructure, including:
- Staff Reports on City Council communications
 - Focus areas for 2022
 - Recruitment efforts

The Board discussed compiling a comprehensive list of community groups and organizations.

The Board discussed the status of recruitment efforts. The Mayor's office recently appointment two new Board members who will be onboarded and ready to serve in time for the May 2022 meeting. The Board discussed reaching out to the Long Beach Unified School District in order to obtain a replacement LBUSD representative to fill the seat vacated by the previous representative, Susan Temple.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

8. 22-028BH 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 participation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:09 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.