

Chicago Board of Health Meeting Summary:
January 15th, 2020
Department of Public Health, DePaul Center Boardroom
333 S. State Suite 200 Chicago, IL 60604

Roll Call

Board Members Present

Adele Joy Cobbs, M.D
Carolyn C. Lopez, M.D., President
Horace E. Smith, M.D.
Joseph B. Starshak
Juan M. Calderon
Steven K. Rothschild, M.D.
Victor M. Gonzalez

Board Members Absent

Caswell A. Evans, Jr., D.D.S., M.P.H.
Melanie Dreher, RN, PhD.

For the Department

Allison Arwady, M.D., Acting Commissioner

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Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:06 am by Board President, Dr. Carolyn Lopez.

Approval of Minutes: Deferred to next meeting.

Commissioner's Update: Dr. Allison Arwady - Acting Commissioner - addressed the Board briefly and indicated she was deferring her update to next month's meeting as she was needed to attend a City Council meeting for her mayoral appointment confirmation vote at City Hall.

Comments by the Board President: Dr. Lopez addressed the technical issue that caused the minutes to be deferred, and indicated they will be available at next month's meeting.

Public Comments: Representatives of Slaughter Free Chicago spoke about their advocacy group's efforts to make Chicago a slaughter free city, and urged CDPH and the Board of Health to help them ensure that all local rules are being enforced. The group presented a statement, and displayed a video demonstrating what they interpret to be food safety violations, and suggested the City open an investigation and to invite Slaughter Free Chicago to participate. Board President Lopez responded to the Slaughter Free Chicago group's director and reminded them - as was mentioned at the prior meeting - as an advisory body, the Board of Health may not be the best avenue for the group to address their concerns. Members of the Community Mental Health Advisory Board spoke, and requested that their group be included in the RFP process for the Mental Health Framework. The group also wanted to know more information about CDPH's inability to provide services for youth at City-run mental health centers. The group commented that they did not believe the Board of Health provided sufficient involvement over CDPH initiatives, and also suggested residents be allowed to vote on Board resolutions.

New Business: The Board reviewed a draft of new board policy and procedures, and deferred work on this until after the resolutions on climate change and mental health were completed.

Old Business: The Board continued their review of resolutions on climate change and mental health, and members provided additional feedback and revisions. After thorough discussion, Dr. Lopez offered to draft a substitute resolution on climate change by the next meeting to incorporate more supporting evidence. The Board also discussed the mental health resolution, and members provided additional edits to the language. The Board agreed to the having the revisions presented as amendments, and a motion to defer the final vote was made by Dr. Lopez.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 10:46 AM.