

County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health
OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
THURSDAY, February 26, 2015
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
DR. LARRY GASCO, CHAIRPERSON, FACILITATING

Approved – March 26, 2015

Presenter	Discussion	Motion	Recommendation/Action
Dr. Larry Gasco Chairman's Report	<p>Call to Order and Roll Call Motion to Approve the January 2015 minutes</p> <p>Acknowledge Commissioners Baron and Lubin</p> <p>Frank Baron shared parting comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very positive experience• Met friends who were intellectual, stimulating and informative.• Served nine years on the Commission• Hope some good was done as a Commissioner• Thanked Stella March for Commission nomination <p>Jerry Lubin shared parting comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thanked all for support• Specially thanked Terry Lewis for her abilities, insights, cooperation, and integrity.• Commended Dr. Southard for continuing the legacy of stakeholder groups from the predecessor• Offered good luck to new appointees <p>Well wishes and appreciation statements were shared from fellow Commissioners, Dr. Marvin Southard, and staff.</p>	<p>Motion to Approve the Minutes of January 2015 – Minutes approved unanimously</p>	<p>Absent Excused: Barry Perrou, Victoria Sofro, and Sharon Lyle Absent: Fred Leaf</p>

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	<p>Welcome New Commissioners</p> <p>Hector M. Ramirez</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Originally from Ventura Thousand Oaks • Attended CSUN • Moved from Lancaster to Canoga Park • Person with lived experience • Second year with Mental Health Services Oversight Commission • Wants to work with peers as a Commissioner • Mental health affects people, families and communities. Important to have a trifecta type of partnership. • Hispanic and Native American <p>Etelvina De La Torre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversee non-profit community health clinic in Montebello • Family advocate • Very passionate about the work of the Commission and making it readily available as a resource for people of color. • Plan to start breaking down barriers of stigma related to mental health <p>Cynthia Sanchez</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Director of Proyecto Pastoral at Dolores Mission, a community based organization that develops grassroots projects in education leadership service in the Pico Union community. • Long history of experience working with community members to build leadership 		

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	<p>and create change. Supports the whole person to build personal skills in their lives and the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking forward to working with Commission to look at strategies that support communities like Boyle Heights and other communities create change. <p>SAAC Chairs Meeting with Dr. Ghaly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Gave their concerns ➤ Very productive because people said what they needed to say. ➤ Important to realize that the SAACs and other organizations have some influence and power when it comes to making decisions that's going to impact you or family members. <p>Joint Commission Meeting with Dr. Ghaly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A significant number of both Commissions and members of the community attended the meeting ➤ Expressed their issues and concerns about the merger and the process of the integration. ➤ Dr. DeBose spoke on the Welfare and Institutions Code that pertains to the Commission's roles and responsibilities. He concluded that the concerns were not of the process but they did not include stakeholders, what's driving the merger, and what are the benefits. ➤ Commissioner Lue added, the Commission accomplished its goal with the support of the stakeholders to 		

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	<p>uphold the report deadline.</p> <p>SLT (System Leadership Team) Commissioner Lue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dr. Ghaly met with the SLT group. ➤ Q & A about why, why now, and why so quickly ➤ Hopes the issues reflected at the meeting are reflected in the report to board <p>Chairman Gasco thanked the Commissioners who were deeply involved over the past couple of weeks with the issues that were raised at the Joint Commission meeting.</p>		
Dr. Marvin J. Southard DMH Report	<p>DMH Update Integration of DHS, DMH, and DPH–</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commended staffs spending a lot of time and energy from the issues related to the integration. <p>Ongoing DMH Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversion – DMH is making progress developing a concept to convert diversion programs into a system. Negotiations began with AB 1483, a jail financing mechanism and funding source from DA Jackie Lacey to possibly fund the diversion system. • DOJ signed off on the mental health services at the juvenile justice facilities; no more monitoring. There is a plan to 		ACTION - None

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	<p>redesign camps into a LA model instead of an incarceration model.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DMH takes the lead in training mental health workers to deal with victims of sexual abuse. • Dr. Southard answered questions on the status of the urgent care centers, client access to DMH headquarters, and status of DA Lacey's report to board. • Dr. Southard announced that the urgent care facility in service area 5 previously closed will reopen. 		
Public Comments	There were 9 Public Comments. There were no unresolved issues.		
Commissioners' Reports	<p>Commissioner Ramirez</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announced dates for the Hope and Recovery conference and the African-American conference. • Involved with NAMI. Works closely to develop multicultural committees throughout LA County. • Shared passion in improving disparities <p>Commissioner Graham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported as a new Commissioner, missed the opportunity to work with Frank Baron and Jerry Lubin and hope they continue to be involved with the Commission. <p>Commissioner Cooperberg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gave update on the law enforcement mental health training in AV, 450 law 		

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	<p>enforcement has been trained. Santa Clarita Station has joined AV and is very active. Got funded again for another year and half of training from Supervisor Antonovich.</p> <p>Commissioner Gasco</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended a session at the Women’s Community Reintegration Program. Peers and alumni clients talked about their issues and concerns. The literacy class was well received and Chairman hopes that DMH continues the effort. <p>Commissioner DeBose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended Each Mind Matters Conference along with Commissioner Cooperberg. Very good conference. There was a presentation on the high rate of older men who commit suicide that Commissioner wants to share with fellow Commissioners. • Discussed an article in the LA Times, the Modern Society that address the issues of housing. Commissioner briefly discussed a White Paper on quality of DMH services from by Drs. Pfromm and Barbour. 		
SAAC 1 Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Report 		
SAAC 2 Report Barbara Wilson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAAC meeting was 100% focused on the proposed integration • Thanked Commissioner Cooperberg for contributing to the Santa Clarita Station joining the mental health trainings. • Service area has three court liaisons to 		

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	guide families locate or contact loved ones when they are released from custody.		
SAAC 3 Report William Leger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAAC meeting was interesting specifically about Asian Pacific Islanders. Gave geographic breakdown of the area. Need more Asian language translations in the clinics. Mostly have Spanish language interpretations. 		
SAAC 4 Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Report 		
SAAC 5 Report Celinda Jungheim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanked both Jerry Lubin and Frank Baron for the many years of service in SAAC 5. Service area has three supervisor districts in its area which makes it unique. Will send a letter to Dr. Ghaly regarding the integration and will provide a copy to the Commission. Plan to set up meetings with each board supervisor or mental health reps. Encouraging consumers, family members in the service area to speak up. Plans for May is Mental Health month will include three-hour training with Dr. Goodwin on asset management and building faith based communities. 		
SAAC 6 Report Dorothy Banks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanked Jerry Lubin and Frank Baron for the service and input which is still very valuable. 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialogue continues on the integration. • Presentation made on a partnership to work with 9th graders in Los Angeles schools on gang violence. • SAAC would like a Commissioner from the service area to regularly attend SAAC meetings. 		
SAAC 8 Report John Czernek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakout focus groups to discuss the merger; report was developed 		
Meeting adjourned	<p>Next Meeting – March 26, 2015 @ 11 am – 1:30 pm Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Room 739 500 W. Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012</p>		