



MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION (MHC) REGULAR MEETING

“Advocacy, Accountability and Oversight in Action”

Michael Molina, Chair, Fourth District, Presiding

Regular Meeting and Retreat Minutes

Date: Thursday, December 14, 2023
Time: 11:00 am
Location: 510 S Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90020
Attachments: [Meeting Recording](#) / [Public Comment Transcript](#)

MEETING TYPE:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Special
MINUTES TYPE:	<input type="checkbox"/> Proposed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved

Minutes Approved: February 22, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER

a. The meeting was called to order at 11:04 am

2. ROLL CALL/WELCOME

MHC Member Attendance:

Commissioner Root (A), Commissioner Padilla-Frausto (A), Commissioner Friedman (P), Commissioner Stevens (P), Commissioner Austria (P), Commissioner Dalglish (P), Commissioner Banko (P), Commissioner Peng Xu (A), Commissioner Molina (P), Commissioner Sanabria (P), Commissioner Manalo (P), Commissioner Cooperberg (P), Commissioner Weissman (P), Commissioner Schallert (P), Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Represented by Anders Corey (P)- QUORUM PRESENT
Absent (A); Present (P)

3. PUBLIC COMMENT- Opportunity for members of the public to address the Mental Health Commission.

Obsee Sangeste, Jim “The Hat,” Jean Harris, Anonymous Person, Pastor Christian Pucciano, Pastor Nah, Mark Guardado, Yvonne Sandoval, Jessie Davidson, Michael Calhoun, Reba Stevens, Regina Brandon, and Bernice Mascher addressed the Commission either in person or by phone.

Attachments: [Public Comment Transcript](#) and [Recording](#)

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda items approval: Motion by Commissioner Dalglish, second by Commissioner Sanabria, unanimous approval.



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- a. Approval of minutes of the October 26, 2023, meeting. *Minutes approved unanimously, December 14, 2023.*
- b. Approval of minutes of the November 16, 2023, meeting. *Minutes approved with Commissioner Dalgleish stating she will follow up with staff for a few edits.*
- c. Follow up on constituents' concerns/issues - Concerns and issues gathered from constituent comments will be issued to MHC.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. MHC Retreat 2023 – Facilitator: Kevin Acebo. Mr. Acebo introduced himself and announced the real work is self-reflection. Come together to prioritize your priorities.
 - i. *Find specific manageable outcome -- pathways to inspire commissioners to work together more effectively throughout 2024.*
 - ii. *Collectively embrace a 2024 agenda with objectives that provide a community voice for DMH and mental health issues, challenges, and conditions.*
 - iii. *Provide consistent communication with your appointing powers and the board of supervisors.*
- b. Retreat Activity: Commissioners formed into five groups to discuss recommendations and objectives. **List of objectives** commissioners found to be of most importance:
 - i. ADMINISTRATIVE:**
 1. *In the presumed aftermath of Proposition 1, the Commission is to gain a better understanding of fiscal impacts to our local contract providers and identify the providers that would take the biggest hit.*
 2. *Identify alternative funding sources to address the Proposition 1 shortfall including drawing down federal funds.*
 3. *Dialogue with the Board of Supervisors relative to potential Proposition 1 shortfall.*
 4. *Better understanding of what Cal-AIM to our current providers*
 5. *Commissioners to seek clarification on budget formulation and reimbursement processes. How do we reduce red tape on releasing SALT funds?*



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ii. OUTREACH

1. *Improve the overall communication between DMH-MHC-Board of Supervisors. Commissioners work to have regular meetings with their Supervisorial deputies.*
 2. *Facilitate regular meetings between Lisa Wong, DMH Director, and the MHC.*
 3. *Develop active participation between the MHC with SALTs, USCCs, MHSA Community Planning Team.*
 4. *Discuss holding occasional evening meetings so the public could participate.*
 5. *Develop and email list from each district.*
 6. *Commissioners should actively participate in local SALTs and health neighborhoods.*
- c. **Notable Speaker:** DMH Director Dr. Lisa Wong – Prop 1. For highlights see video.

Attachment: [Video](#)

i. Commissioners' questions:

1. *Commissioner Friedman: Dr. Wong, can you tell us what we can do in the next year or two to be an important part of what needs to be done?*
 - a. *Dr. Wong response: One of the things you can do is to really be the voice of the community and the communicator to the Board and our Electees. It is such a political issue that we really need the Commission's support to get the word out to the community, Board and electees and preserve mental health funding and enhance it to be able to serve people. You have a really important role to be the voice of consumers and the community.*
2. *Commissioner Dagleish – Going by the fiscal outlook, which is clearly a cliff some of the ways that they recommended solving this problem, one way is to clawback one-time funds, are you at risk of any of that to be clawback? And then the other is cost shifting. Where they are going to shift expenses from the state level to*



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the local level which would acerbate the situation even more?

- a. *Dr. Wong response: I think that is a really big challenge. It is a very bad combination. We are going to try to combat that as much as possible, but I think in terms of clawing back the one-time dollars. Right now, what they are agreeing to is old money old rules and new your money new rules and after prop one is on the ballot in March if it passes it will implement January 2025. After January 2025 dollars that are unallocated and unencumber and had unspent will go over the to 30 percent rule. The team and I you are working on allocating everything now and getting things at least tied so that we don't lose that 30 percent. Okay. We are going to take; this is a big important stuff.*

6. ADJOURNMENT - Time: 2:33p.m.