

David Mulligan, Chair called the Meeting to order at 4:07 PM.

**Board vote to approve March & April minutes:**

David Mulligan, Chair, made a motion to accept the March and April minutes and Jack Cradock motioned to second. Both minutes for March and April were approved.

**Chairman's Comments**

David Mulligan asked for any discussion on the vote to approve Dr. Ferrer. David Mulligan said he is pleased to have Dr. Ferrer come on board and that she had been a wonderful Deputy to John Auerbach. The Chair commented that John Auerbach and Dr. Norman have done a spectacular job and that Dr. Ferrer and Dr. Nancy Norman as well as the rest of the staff will continue to do a great job.

**Board vote to approve Dr. Barbara Ferrer as Executive Director:**

John Townsend, General Counsel, presented vote to the Board to appoint Dr. Barbara Ferrer as Executive Director.

- Chair motioned
- Seconded
- Approved

Yeas 5                      No's 0                      Absent 2

**Interim Executive Director's Report**

Dr. Norman reported that the Mayor announced Boston ROCKS (Recreational Opportunity for City Kids this Summer) and that the goal was to get every kid in the City involved. There will be a number of super sites within the community that will have a community center such as pools and parks. The different departments within the City are focusing in on specific programmatic entities. Dr. Norman said the super sites are throughout the different communities, mostly within Dorchester, Roxbury and Mattapan which have been areas that have experienced high numbers of violent crime. The goal is to hopefully see a decrease in violent crimes by mainly offering kids different opportunities throughout the summer. Boston ROCKS is connected to a small grant opportunity where they are encouraging community partners to apply for anywhere from \$4500-\$7500 to offer programs with the super sites or the community centers. Dr. Norman said hopefully we would see an even higher decrease in violent crimes compared to what we say last summer.

David Mulligan said there are always jobs for kid's programs and asked where we stand compared with other years with the development of jobs. Dr. Norman said the jobs piece is a part of it and that Boston ROCKS is a little different in that the ROCKS Program is at least trying to give kids an opportunity to do something different that is recreational. The goal is to reach every kid especially in the 13-15 age range. Numbers will be reported at the end of the summer.

Dr. Hortensia Amaro asked what the role of Universities is and whether or not they are making facilities available. Dr. Norman said most activities are centered around community centers.

**Summer Program Update – Maia Brodyfield and Peter Holtgrave**

Maia Brodyfield, Policy Analyst and Peter Holtgrave, Director of the Boston Area Health Education, gave a brief update regarding Boston Public Health Commission's summer youth programs and showed a short version of a slide show video.

David Mulligan asked how many people have been murdered in Boston this year to date. Peter Holtgrave said he didn't have the total number but for the under the age of 25 group, there have been between 16 or 17 murders.

Dr. Hortensia Amaro asked if families have to pay weekly fees for the summer programs. Peter Holtgrave informed everyone that the programs are actually paid by the City through the Boston Youth Fund for the internship experiences.

**Management and Leadership Institute – Sarah Almer, Maddie Ribble & Valerie Bassett**

Sarah Almer, Consultant for Intergovernmental Relations and Public Health Advocacy, gave a brief update regarding the management and leadership institute. Maddie Ribble, Coordinator of Public Health Advocacy, gave a brief update regarding the Chronic Disease Bill. Dr. Amaro asked for an e-mail reminder regarding the management and leadership institute graduation.

Valerie Bassett, Director of Intergovernmental Relations and Public Health Advocacy, and Nicole Sharon, a BPHC Summer Intern, spoke about the design, evaluation and demographics of the program.

Dr. Paula Johnson asked whether the last session will include written skills as well as verbal skills. Valerie said that it was still in the design stage and that they were open to ideas. Dr. Amaro asked about the coaching piece and what it involved. Valerie introduced Jan Quiram who is the Associate Bureau Director for the Substance Abuse Program. Jan Quiram spoke regarding the structure of the program and what it involves. Celia Wcislo expressed concern about getting people's expectations up and opening their minds only to have them be told that they may not be able to change anything because their supervisors or organization didn't buy into the change.

Dr. Johnson asked Valerie whether or not she got the sense that the participant's commitment to public health increased after completing the program. Dr. Johnson stated she thinks it is interesting that sometimes when you are in an organization like this, there is an assumption that you are committed to the broader mission. Dr. Johnson said that it's not always the right assumption. Some people are here for different reasons. Some look at it as just a job and there are others who are incredibly mission driven and still there are others who are not at all mission driven. As you think about the future, participating in a program like this can actually begin to shift your thinking about a long term career in public health.

Dr. Johnson said it was a fabulous piece of work and it took a huge amount of commitment and discipline. Dr. Johnson said leadership and training institutions need to be taken through some of these programs to open up their thinking around change, growth and thinking about opportunity.

Dr. Amaro raised the issue of long term follow-up. It would be interesting to follow up with people as to their progress. Are they performing at a higher level? Have they been moved up the ladder?

Celia Wcislo asked the five participants with a show of hands how many would tell others about the program. All five participants raised their hands.

Jack Cradock said he thought it was a great presentation and a great program. Jack Cradock said he hopes it is the beginning of something that will expand in terms of both people who are really interested in leadership and also staff at the Commission who are interested in growth.

Dr. Amaro said we always need to get the work out there to the community and the press about what public health is. Dr. Amaro said this is a plus in coming to work at the Commission and wondered whether there might be some kind of story that could be covered around the program, especially the graduation. Maybe some in-depth interviews with some of the participants would be helpful. Valerie Bassett said that it was a creative idea and she would speak to the program about it.

David Mulligan thanked Valerie Bassett for her presentation and stated that they did a very good job.

**Biological Laboratories Regulation – Anthony Gemmellaro**

Anthony Gemmellaro gave a brief follow-up on the Biological Laboratories Regulations.

Dr. Amaro asked how many labs applied for permits. Anthony responded that we have 7 labs and that he has had a chance to tour the facilities.

There was a general discussion amongst the Board members concerning the inspection criteria. The Board felt the use of a numeric evaluation system was not sufficient and could lead to insufficient oversights. Dr. Norman stated that the staff would review the evaluation procedure in light of the Board concerns.

The Board also suggested that the staffing level of the inspection team be re-evaluated and additional staff hired if necessary to properly enforce the regulations.

Dr. Amaro stated that the Board's responsibility is the protection of the public's safety. Dr. Amaro said she had an issue regarding the fines and asked whether the fines are per violation or just five hundred dollars (\$500.00). John Townsend said that it was per violation and the amount was set by statute, and that is a thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per violation.

Celia Wcislo asked whether we are allowed to release the inspection report. David Mulligan said that it is a public document once the document becomes final.

David Mulligan asked whether the fines are levied subsequent to the inspection report. John Townsend replied that the fine is actually a citation levied with the inspection report and that laboratories have the right to appeal if they disagree.

David Mulligan said there should be some sort of severity index and we need to sort it out.

Dr. Johnson asked for clarification on failure to comply with the corrective action plan.

Dr. Amaro asked about the closing of a facility and under what circumstances the closure would happen. Anthony Gemmellaro replied that when laboratories don't pay the fines it could lead to closure of the facility,

David Mulligan said we need to keep in mind that the laboratories are working towards the cure of illnesses but it has to be done safely.

David Mulligan thanked Anthony Gemmellaro for his presentation and proceeded to speak about the next 3 meetings. David Mulligan asked Dr. Norman if there was any possibility of integrating the Graduation into one of the next meetings. Dr. Norman said we could look at doing that.

Dr. Amaro asked if we could look at changing the dates of the board's meetings because she teaches on Tuesday nights. David Mulligan said we would wait until the September meeting when Dr. Ferrer comes on board to make that decision.

David Mulligan adjourned the meeting at 6:05 PM.