

**New York State Department of Health  
Minority Health Council  
September 11, 2020 - Meeting Minutes**

<b>Attendees</b>	<p><b>Council Members:</b> Nilda Soto, Antonio Pagan, Dr. Daniel Carrion, Guillermo Chacon, Freddy Molano, LaRay Brown, Mecca Mitchell, Helen Arteaga Landaverde, Rev. Diann Holt and Tandra LaGrone</p> <p><b>Partial Attendance:</b> Ngozi Moses</p> <p><b>NYSDOH OMH-HDP Staff:</b> Wilma Alvarado-Little and Elizabeth Girolami</p> <p><b>NYSDOH Staff:</b> Jackie Sheltry, Legal Counsel, Claire Simon, AIDS Institute</p> <p><b>Other NYSDOH Staff:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Public Participants:</b> Anita Parker and Joey Lopez</p>
<b>Topics</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<p><b>Nilda Soto, MS, Ed, Chair</b></p> <p><b>Call to Order &amp; Introductions</b></p>	<p><b>The meeting was convened at 9:30 AM.</b></p> <p>Ms. Soto introduced herself and asked the Council to introduce themselves before speaking. Ms. Soto welcomed Ms. Alvarado-Little and Ms. Girolami, from the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities Prevention. Ms. Soto welcomed the public participants present via Zoom, thanking them for their participation and asking that any suggestions, remarks or information they wish to share, be held until the public comment period of the agenda.</p>
<b>Council Business</b>	<p>Ms. Soto welcomed the new Council members and gave an overview of the agenda. Since there was a quorum, the Council voted on the following meeting minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• November 9, 2016 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Chacon made the first motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Pagan made the second motion to approve.</li> <li>○ Opposed- No member(s)</li> <li>○ Approve- Mr. Pagan, Dr. Carrion, Mr. Chacon and Ms. Moses</li> <li>○ Abstain- Mr. Molano, Ms. Brown, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Arteaga Landaverde, Rev. Diann Holt and Ms. LaGrone</li> </ul> </li> <li>• March 10, 2017 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Pagan made the first motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Chacon made the second motion to approve.</li> <li>○ Opposed- No member(s)</li> <li>○ Approve- Mr. Pagan, Dr. Carrion, Mr. Chacon and Ms. Moses</li> <li>○ Abstain- Mr. Molano, Ms. Brown, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Arteaga Landaverde, Rev. Diann Holt and Ms. LaGrone</li> </ul> </li> <li>• October 27, 2017 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Pagan made the first motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Chacon made the second motion to approve.</li> <li>○ Opposed- No member(s)</li> <li>○ Approve- Mr. Pagan, Dr. Carrion, Mr. Chacon and Ms. Moses</li> <li>○ Abstain- Mr. Molano, Ms. Brown, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Arteaga Landaverde, Rev. Diann Holt and Ms. LaGrone</li> </ul> </li> <li>• April 13, 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Chacon made the first motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Pagan made the second motion to approve.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Opposed- No member(s)</li> <li>○ Approve- Mr. Pagan, Dr. Carrion, Mr. Chacon and Ms. Moses</li> <li>○ Abstain- Mr. Molano, Ms. Brown, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Arteaga Landaverde, Rev. Diann Holt and Ms. LaGrone</li> <li>● September 14, 2018       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Pagan made the first motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Chacon made the second motion to approve.</li> <li>○ Opposed- No member(s)</li> <li>○ Approve- Mr. Pagan, Dr. Carrion, Mr. Chacon and Ms. Moses</li> <li>○ Abstain- Mr. Molano, Ms. Brown, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Arteaga Landaverde, Rev. Diann Holt and Ms. LaGrone</li> </ul> </li> <li>● November 30, 2018       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Chacon made the first motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Pagan made the second motion to approve.</li> <li>○ Opposed- No member(s)</li> <li>○ Approve- Mr. Pagan, Dr. Carrion, Mr. Chacon and Ms. Moses</li> <li>○ Abstain- Mr. Molano, Ms. Brown, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Arteaga Landaverde, Rev. Diann Holt and Ms. LaGrone</li> </ul> </li> <li>● February 22, 2019       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Chacon made the first motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Pagan made the second motion to approve.</li> <li>○ Opposed- No member(s)</li> <li>○ Approve- Mr. Pagan, Dr. Carrion, Mr. Chacon and Ms. Moses</li> <li>○ Abstain- Mr. Molano, Ms. Brown, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Arteaga Landaverde, Rev. Diann Holt and Ms. LaGrone</li> </ul> </li> <li>● September 13, 2019       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Pagan made the first motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Chacon made the second motion to approve.</li> <li>○ Opposed- No member(s)</li> <li>○ Approve- Mr. Pagan, Dr. Carrion, Mr. Chacon and Ms. Moses</li> <li>○ Abstain- Mr. Molano, Ms. Brown, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Arteaga Landaverde, Rev. Diann Holt and Ms. LaGrone</li> </ul> </li> <li>● December 13, 2019       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Chacon made the first motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Pagan made the second motion to approve.</li> <li>○ Opposed- No member(s)</li> <li>○ Approve- Mr. Pagan, Dr. Carrion, Mr. Chacon and Ms. Moses</li> <li>○ Abstain- Mr. Molano, Ms. Brown, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Arteaga Landaverde, Rev. Diann Holt and Ms. LaGrone</li> </ul> </li> <li>● July 10, 2020       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Chacon made the first motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Pagan made the second motion to approve.</li> <li>○ Opposed- No member(s)</li> <li>○ Approve- Mr. Pagan, Dr. Carrion, Mr. Chacon and Ms. Moses</li> <li>○ Abstain- Mr. Molano, Ms. Brown, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Arteaga Landaverde, Rev. Diann Holt and Ms. LaGrone</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Survey Report          Content and Format          Discussion</b></p>	<p>Ms. Soto and members reviewed and discussed the survey results analysis as presented by: Question 1-Mr. Chacon, Question 2- Mr. Pagan, Question 3-Dr. Carrion and Question 4- Ms. Soto. Mr. Pagan volunteered to complete Question 5’s analysis. Mr. Molano, Ms. Arteaga Landaverde and Ms. Brown have volunteered to assist with the Survey Report Project. Members discussed that this survey is an important first step in obtaining information on best practices as well as evidence-based practices in addressing health equity in large and small community agencies.</p>

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	<p>Members also asked for clarification on whether an outside drive or Google doc can be used in the writing and editing of the report. Ms. Girolami will work with the Division of Legal Affairs about the use of a drive. Members agreed to meet before December’s meeting to continue to work on the survey report writing.</p>
<p><b>COVID-19 Updates</b></p>	<p>MHC members have to share community concerns regarding COVID-19 in order to identify outreach efforts to Black and Latino/a communities especially affected by the worldwide pandemic. Before today’s meeting, Council members had discussed COVID-19 concerns in an effort to compile a list of recommendation. During the meeting members reviewed the list and made edits. Ms. Alvarado-Little and Ms. Girolami will update the list to incorporate the edits.</p>
<p><b>Agenda Development for Upcoming Meetings</b></p>	<p>Members discussed the following as potential agenda items for December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting and future meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss Surveys Report Outcomes and Recommendation</li> <li>• Discuss and Review COVID-19 Recommendation for the Commissioner</li> <li>• Discuss 2021 DOH’s Priorities and the Council’s Priorities</li> <li>• Discuss the need to build trust in minority communities</li> </ul> <p>Considering the current health crisis, OMH-HDP will inform the Council if the December meeting will be an in-person meeting in NYC, as previously proposed, or a virtually held meeting.</p>
<p><b>Meeting Recap, Feedback, Action Items and Next Steps</b></p>	<p>Some action items identified were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair and Liaison to schedule an internal MHC meeting to discuss the Survey Result and Analysis before December’s meeting.</li> <li>• The last meeting in 2020 for the MHC will be December 11, 2020. Members were requested to bring calendars to the meeting to schedule 2021 dates.</li> <li>• Mr. Pagan will analyze question 5 of the Survey.</li> <li>• Ms. Girolami will work with the Division of Legal Affairs on whether an outside drive or Google doc can be used in the writing and editing of the report.</li> <li>• Ms. Alvarado-Little and Ms. Girolami will update the COVID-19 Concerns and Recommendation list to incorporate the edits.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Adjournment</b></p>	<p>Ms. Soto opened the floor to any public participants in attendance via telecast. Ms. Girolami received the comments and read the out loud as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Anita Parker expressed concerns about people who have recovery from COVID-19 and are experiencing memory loss. What type of follow up is being done from a neurology perspective with COVID-19? Are people who vape a higher number of patients with COVID-19?</li> <li>• Mr. Joey Lopez expressed that the term to be used to address someone who is both African American and Latino/x is Afro-Latino/x. He also thanked the Council for all their work.</li> <li>• Ms. Claire Simon from the AIDS Institute stated that it was nice to see the new members and is available to support the Council in any way she can.</li> </ul>

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	<p>The Chair thanked the Council members for engaging in the conversations. The Chair asked for a motion of adjournment. Ms. Moses made the first motion and Ms. LaGrone made the second.</p> <p><b>The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.</b></p>
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**Next Meeting Date**

**December 11, 2020**

**Time**

**9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Location**

**To Be Determined: Virtually or Tentatively, Metropolitan Regional Office,  
90 Church Street, NY, NY**