

**New York State Department of Health**  
**Minority Health Council**  
**September 9, 2022 - Meeting Minutes**

<b>Attendees</b>	<p><b>Council Members:</b> Helen Arteaga-Landaverde, Daniel Carrion, Rev. Diane Holt, Louis (Freddy) Molano</p> <p><b>Partial Attendance:</b> LaRay Brown, Mill Etienne, Ngozi Moses, Dr. Vasquez, Lenora Reid-Rose, Ngozi Moses</p> <p><b>Council Members with an excused absence:</b> Antonio Pagan, Guillermo Chacon, Tandra LaGrone</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> N / A</p> <p><b>NYSDOH OMH-HDP Staff:</b> Wilma Alvarado-Little, Abby Waldow</p> <p><b>NYSDOH Staff:</b> Jamie Spina (Legal Counsel), Jason Rieger (Legal Counsel)</p> <p><b>Other NYSDOH Staff:</b> Johanne Morne</p>
<b>Topics</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>Helen Arteaga-Landaverde Presiding Chair</b>  <b>Call to Order &amp; Introductions</b>	<p><b>The meeting was convened at 10:00 A.M.</b></p> <p>Ms. Arteaga-Landaverde introduced herself and asked the Council to introduce themselves. Ms. Arteaga-Landaverde welcomed Ms. Alvarado-Little and Ms. Abby Waldow from the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities Prevention. Johanne Morne, Deputy Commissioner for Health Equity and Human Rights, was welcomed along with the public participants present, 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>Presiding Chair Updates</b>	<p>Ms. Arteaga-Landaverde provided updates an overview of the few major changes in environment in Public Health. The following updates were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COVID Rates, New York - FDA authorize the new COVID-19 booster shots and the high levels in New York State as pertaining to COVID (affects a lot of urban areas)</li> <li>• Rode V. Wade – The Supreme Court on June 24 decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health marked the end of a woman’s constitutional right to an abortion. A 5-4 vote overturned the landmark 1973 Roe V</li> <li>• Monkey Pox – The Biden administration shipped enough monkeypox vaccine to deliver the first of two doses to the group at highest risk of infection. The administration expects the second doses to be shipped by the end of the next month. Monkeypox cases has been in men who have sex with men, but officials have stressed that anyone can catch the virus.</li> </ul>
<b>Council Member Updates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Etienne shared that the New York Medical College has an annual magazine for alumni, faculty, staff in which he was featured on the cover of the magazine for the Office of Diversity Inclusion. He outlined all the work that the department has been working on in which Dr. Etienne reiterated about the patching the holes in the pipelines. Dr. Etienne has also been exploring ways to pull young people in early into the field of medicine. The New York Medical College launch a new program to reach students after finishing college and to help them with their next steps in the degree stage.</li> <li>• Ms. Arteaga-Landaverde mention that the hospital addressed some of the maternal death in which the hospital has a sim center dedicated to ob/gyn in which they have an African American mannequin that can deliver a bi-racial baby.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Louis (Freddy) Molano referenced a recent report regarding infant mortality and pregnancy outcomes were bad and over the last five years the outcomes have been decreasing in the black and brown community. New York State has done a great job improving clinical outcomes within maternal care.</li> <li>Rev. Holt had a third-year medical student from University of Buffalo of color and who is not a medical person speak to doctors, nurses, students at grand rounds Jacobs School of Medicine. She also gave a PowerPoint presentation which featured T-Rex walking across the screen. She referenced how most people talk about the pink elephant in the room. Here, she references how T-Rex is devouring the black and brown people who walk into (your) offices and hospitals.</li> <li>Ngozi Moses stated that in June the commission in Brooklyn had a forum on black maternal health and the historical factors. Ngozi received an invitation after the forum to join as a representative organization voice, HBCU, the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Alliance Team for Maternal Child and Family Health Equity Initiative which engages the ten black colleges to build maternal and child health program capacity and to train medical and other students.</li> <li>LaRay Brown celebrated a story of the discharge of an African American baby at the Brookdale Hospital Center who had been there in the neonatal unit for six months, born at 375 grams and was discharged weighing 7lbs.LaRay referenced this is the hard work of the physicians, neonatologist, nurses and all the team members in saving this baby and the family.</li> </ul>
<b>Discussion &amp; Vote</b>	<p>Voting  Since there was a quorum, the Council voting on the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised Health Equity Council By-Laws</li> <li>Open Meeting Law Resolution</li> <li>Survey Report</li> <li>Meeting minutes – March 2022, June 2022</li> </ul> <p>Bylaw Update discussion – recommended changes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Article 1, Section 1 – Recommend to update the wording from “may advise” to “advises”.  Counsel recommended to keep the original language “may advise” since is included in the legislation.  ( Minority Health Council shall, at the request of the commissioner, consider any matter relating to the preservation and improvement of minority health and <b>may advise</b> the commissioner thereon).</li> <li>Update the document to be inclusive, incorporate pronouns (i.e., change he to read he/she, him/her/their etc.)</li> <li>Because the number of standing council members can fluctuate, when voting, update the language to reflect that the actual standing number of council members for a quorum to read <i>the majority of standing council members</i>.</li> <li>Add a vice chair to the Council. The Vice-chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>will support the Chair with general supervision of the work</li> <li>represent the Council in the Chair’s stead</li> <li>preside over meetings during the Chair’s absence</li> <li>If the Chair’s position has been vacated, the Vice-chair will serve as presiding Chair</li> </ul> </li> <li>All members of the Council are eligible to serve as Vice-chair; the nominated member must receive 50 percent or more positive votes from the members present at an official meeting of the Council where quorum has been established.</li> </ul>

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	<p>Dr. Etienne led the discussion to update the bylaws to make them current with the times, to make the Council more efficient, make it easier to conduct business.</p> <p>Three main items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updating the pronouns in the bylaws (him/her/them in his/her/their wherever stated in the bylaws) Dr. Etienne moved to update<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ LaRay Brown moved to support the motion and Ngozi Moses made the second motion to approve</li><li>○ Approve – M. Etienne, D. Carrion, G. Chacon, D. Holt, T. LaGrone, H. Arteaga-Landaverde, R. Vazquez, L. Molano, N. Moses, L. Reid Rose, L. Brown</li><li>○ Oppose – None</li><li>○ Abstain – None</li></ul></li><li>• Defining the quorum – originally the quorum constituted 8 members of the current active members of 15. The Council had a concern that the numbers fluctuate. With the 15 in the quorum made it hard for the council to conduct business unless the Council had 8 members. The updated recommendation is that the majority of the current active members of the council will be a quorum. Also stated to make sure, that there is not just 2 people consider themselves as the quorum. It's indicated that at no time the quorum consists of less than 3 active members of the council. The motion is to amend the Constitution?, by bylaws to state that the quorum is the majority of the current active members of the council.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ LaRay Brown moved to support the motion and Rev. Holt made the second motion to approve</li><li>○ Approve – M. Etienne, D. Carrion, G. Chacon, D. Holt, T. LaGrone, H. Arteaga-Landaverde, R. Vazquez, L. Molano, N. Moses, L. Reid Rose, L. Brown</li><li>○ Oppose – None</li><li>○ Abstain – None</li></ul></li><li>• The next motion is that at no time shall a quorum consist of less than three active members.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ LaRay Brown moved to support the motion and Freddy Molano made the second motion to approve</li><li>○ Approve – M. Etienne, D. Carrion, G. Chacon, D. Holt, T. LaGrone, H. Arteaga-Landaverde, R. Vazquez, L. Molano, N. Moses, L. Reid Rose, L. Brown</li><li>○ Oppose – None</li><li>○ Abstain – None</li></ul></li></ul> <p>The Council voted on the March 4, 2022, meeting minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ LaRay Brown made the first motion to approve the minutes and Dr. Daniel Carrion made the second motion to approve.</li><li>○ Approve – M. Etienne, D. Carrion, G. Chacon, D. Holt, T. LaGrone, H. Arteaga-Landaverde, R. Vazquez, L. Molano, N. Moses, L. Reid Rose, L. Brown</li><li>○ Oppose - None</li><li>○ Abstain – None</li></ul> <p>• . The Council voted on the June 3, 2022, meeting minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Mill Etienne made the first motion to approve the minutes and Rev. Diane Holt made the second motion to approve.</li><li>○ Approve – M. Etienne, D. Carrion, G. Chacon, D. Holt, T. LaGrone, H. Arteaga-Landaverde, R. Vazquez, L. Molano, N. Moses, L. Reid Rose, L. Brown</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Oppose – None</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Abstain – None</li> </ul>
<b>Council Business</b>	<p>The Council <b>Resolution 6: Open Meeting Law (the use of video conferencing under extraordinary circumstances)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Open meeting law, Jason Rieger, Counsel – Council was discussing new terms under the open meeting law.</li> </ul> <p>Under the new open meeting law, video conferencing could occur essentially in any location, and it would not have to be open to the public. The caveat is that the individual members would only be able to attend via video conference under extraordinary circumstances. The Council would have to adopt a resolution authorizing its use. The Council would propose a resolution authorizing any Council member to use video conferencing under extraordinary circumstances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Louis (Freddy) Molano made the first motion to approve the minutes and Dr. Daniel Carrion made the second motion to approve.</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Approve – M. Etienne, D. Carrion, G. Chacon, D. Holt, T. LaGrone, H. Arteaga-Landaverde, R. Vazquez, L. Molano, N. Moses, L. Reid Rose, L. Brown</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Oppose – None</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Abstain – None</li> </ul>
<b>Meeting Recap, Feedback, Action Items and Next Steps</b>	<p>Recap, next steps and action items:</p> <p>Ms. Arteaga-Landaverde mentioned the next meeting will be in-person and via video on December 9, 2022.</p> <p>Next steps:</p> <p>Ms. Arteaga-Landaverde will make sure she has some statewide data items in which were mentioned in the meeting and some exploratory topics to review in the next meeting.</p>
<b>Public Comment and Adjournment</b>	<p>Ms. Arteaga-Landaverde opened the floor to public participants in attendance via telecast. There was comment from the public for Ngozi with a request for Ngozi to contact them about the survey.</p> <p><b>The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.</b></p>

**Next Meeting Date**  
**December 9, 2022**

**Time**  
**10:00 AM - 1:30 PM**

**Location**  
**TBD**