



Eddie D. Melton
Mayor, City of Gary

Dr. Janet Seabrook, MD, MBA
Health Commissioner

CITY OF GARY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Ellis Dumas III
Chief of Staff

Veronica Collins Ellis, MPA
Executive Director

GARY HEALTH DEPARTMENT BOARD MEETING
APRIL 8, 2025
4:00PM

In attendance

Dr. Linda Gunn, PHD, CHPRM, ACC, President, Board Member

Dr. Janet Seabrook- MD, MBA, Health Commissioner

Veronica Collins-Ellis, MPA, Executive Director

Dr. Steve Simpson, M.D.

Dr. Eugene Boone, D.D.S.

Celona Hayes- Assistant City Attorney II

Will Miller- MBA, OWDS, Vice Chairperson Gary Republican Party, Professor/Teacher, Board Member

Albert Gay- Managing Partner, Chief of Development, and a Master Trainer for SheRay's & Associates, LLC & TTJ Group, Board Member **(On Phone)**

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Dr. Gunn, at 4:08pm.

The Board reviewed minutes from the previous meeting in March. There was a correction to change "Board Secretary" to "Recording Secretary" as that is the proper term for those who record minutes. Dr. Gunn called for a motion to accept minutes with the one correction. Dr. Simpson made the motion. Dr. Boone 2nd. Motion was carried. Old business regarding the Final review of the By- Laws were discussed. In Article III, Number 5 a sentence was added that the appointing party (the Mayor) will notify those who have been removed from the Board.

The Board reiterated key information in Article III, Number 2 about compensation. The Board will not be compensated, but can be pre-approved for any expenses if participating in any trainings, seminars, etc. Dr. Gunn called for a motion to accept the Final By-Law review with the edit. Dr. Simpson carried the motion. Mr. Miller 2nd. Motion was carried. Ms. Hayes presented to the Board a potential Board Member. This is a recommendation from Ms. Carla Morgan representing the Corporate Council. The Board was pleased in reviewing Dr. Matthew Tipton's C.V. and Bio and anticipates him joining the Board. Dr. Gunn called for a motion to send forward Dr. Tipton's information to be a part of the Board.

Dr. Simpson carried. Dr. Boone 2nd. Motion was carried. Mrs. Collins-Ellis, Dr. Seabrook, and ChaKara Gunn have been working with the Opioid Grant Awardees. The Mayor wants more foundations to be awarded with the Opioid dollars. Mayor Melton's endeavor is to also receive dates on when to do a press release to congratulate and showcase awardees.

In addition, to the Opioid Dollars the other main focus is the Mental Health Initiative. The GHD will be hosting a Community Baby Shower at the Marquette Pavilion, April 17th, 2025. The Narcan Machines are making progress one has been installed at the Metro Center, and constituents are taking the Narcan to help others in need. Rico's Pizza denied the Narcan installation offer, because the owner was trying to avoid bad business. IUN has peaked interest in a machine ChaKara Gunn is staying in communication to find out where should the machine be placed. Miller K Market is another establishment that will have a machine installed. ChaKara Gunn is currently looking into Pilot Travel Center as well.

As of April 15th, 2025, birth and death certificates can now be ordered online. A company will be coming in to assist with transitioning the birth and death records to a digital platform. The STI program now have access to a portal where they can obtain client's medical records. It is called IHIE. IHIE will help the STI Department with their case management. Lastly, the GHD lost a \$300,000 Immunization grant. Unfortunately, two employees had to be let go due to the loss of funds. Immunization services are able to continue with the remaining HFI Funding.

Meeting adjourned @5:09pm

Submitted by:
Karynton Holliday
Recording Secretary