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CITY OF CHICAGO

ROSSANA RODRIGUEZ-SANCHEZ
ALDERPERSON, 33RD WARD

LATIN CAUCUS
(CAUCUS CHAIR)

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS
HEALTH AND HUMAN REALTIONS
(COMMITTEE CHAIR)

BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AND ENERGY

FINANCE

HOUSING AND REAL ESTATE

IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN RELATIONS RULE 45 REPORT: FEBRUARY 13 2024

Pursuant to the Rule 45 of City of Chicago Rules and Order, the Committee on Health and Human Relations submits the following monthly report for Feb. 13, 2024.

The Committee on Health and Human Relations held a meeting at City Hall in Council Chambers on Tuesday, February 13th, 2024.

The following committee members were present:

Chair Rodriguez-Sanchez (33)
Vice Chair Ramirez (12)
Ald. Sigcho-Lopez (25)
Ald. Manaa-Hoppenworth (48)
Ald. Lawson (44)
Ald. Cruz (30)
Ald. Yancy (5)
Ald. Lopez (15)
Ald. Gutierrez (14)

Remote Participation:

Ald. Ramirez-Rosa (35)
Ald. Robinson (4)

Non-members present:

Vice Mayor Burnett (27)

Members Absent:

Ald. Coleman (16)
Ald. Fuentes (26)
Ald. Hadden (49)

Chairperson Rodriguez-Sanchez called the committee meeting to order at approximately 11:09am. The Chair then proceeded to call for a roll call to establish quorum. After establishing a quorum, the Chairperson called for a vote to allow remote participation for Alders Harris, Ramirez-Rosa, Robinson, and Hadden. Vice Chair Ramirez moved to approve remote participation of these four alders, and was approved

by voice vote with no nays or abstentions The public comment period began with 3 minutes allotted to each speaker.

There were 3 public speakers that submitted pink slips and 2 written comments.

The committee heard public comment from the following speakers:

Jessica Jackson, George Blakemore and Natasha Gray.

Following public comments, the Chair called for the approval of the **Rule 45 Report** from the committee meeting held on December 18, 2023. So moved by Ald. Gutierrez, it passed.

The Chair then called for a Subject Matter Hearing for the “Introduction to the Chicago Department of Public Health Commissioner, Dr. Olusimbo Ige.”

Commissioner Ige introduced herself to the members of the Committee and presented her past experiences as a public health and medical professional and first Black woman serving as CDPH Commissioner in the City of Chicago. Dr. Ige proceeded to present her current work, vision and goals for CDPH which will focus on “centering people and places” to achieve health equity in the City.

Following Dr. Ige’s introduction, the multiple alders made comments and asked questions.

Chair Rodriguez-Sanchez welcomed Commissioner Ige and affirmed her commitment to working collaboratively to support the vision of health equity.

Ald. Raymond Lopez asked when will Council members confirm Commissioner Ige. Chair Rodriguez-Sanchez explained that the Commissioner appointment process changed in 2021 and is now a Mayoral appointment. All committee members received the Code prior to the meeting. A Law Department representative explained the changes and the Chairperson explained that based on the current interpretation of the Municipal code, confirmation for the Commissioner is not required.

Ald. Raymond Lopez thanked the Commissioner and her team and stressed the importance of the Latinx community in her mission. He also asked about the goals and plans for the Federal COVID-19 Recovery Funds.

Ald. Byron Sigcho-Lopez thanked the Commissioner for working collaboratively to address the health needs of people living in the Halsted new arrivals shelter. He talked about being concerned about state suspension of healthcare services for undocumented people and asked what is needed to address these gaps in services. Ald. Sigcho-Lopez also asked about collaboration between delegate agencies and city departments.

Commissioner Ige responded and talked about hiring challenges and delays due to departmental processes. She also spoke about how expanding Treatment Not Trauma requires this aforementioned collaboration.

Ald. Bennet Lawson spoke about LGBTQIA+ health, and specifically the topic of HIV.

Commissioner Ige responded about the work to connect people to treatment as one of the most important steps.

Ald. Lawson mentioned the opioid crisis and what work is being done to address the crisis. The Commissioner responded that it is important to understand the crisis first to identify best practices so as to address the correct root causes.

Chairperson Rodriguez-Sanchez talked about Overdose Prevention Sites in New York City and how Chicago can get there.

Commissioner Ige talked about successful harm reduction sites in New York that helped prevent overdose deaths and how substance use disorder can be treated.

Ald. Burnett asked for the Commissioner's phone contact and if she can explain CESSA. Commissioner Ige explained a bit more and Chair RODriguez-Sanchez further explained the link between CESSA and Treatment Not Trauma.

Ald. Manaa-Hoppenworth talked about the implementation of Treatment Not Trauma and its expansion.

Commissioner talked about the need for an increase of staffing to scale up crisis response teams and the challenges that come with that.

The Committee having no further business, on a motion made by Ald. Lawson, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RS' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Ald. Rossana Rodriguez-Sanchez (33)
Chairperson, Committee on Health and Human Relations