

City of Las Cruces[®]

MOUNTAINS OF OPPORTUNITY

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The following are summary minutes for the meeting of the **City of Las Cruces – Health Policy Review Committee/COVID 19 Vaccine Task Force** for June 2, 2021, at 3:00 p.m., via Zoom.

Members Present:

- Yvonne Flores, City Councillor, District 6
- Kasandra Gandara, City Councillor, District 1
- Tessa Abeyta-Stuve, City Councillor, District 2

Others Present:

- Eric Enriquez, Administration
- Phil Catanach, Parks & Recreation
- Sonya L. Delgado, Parks and Recreation
- Dawn Sanchez, Department of Health
- Lynn Gallagher, Quality of Life
- Audrey Barela, Parks & Recreation
- Jo Richards, City of Las Cruces
- Judy Cota
- Lauren Goldstein, NMSU
- Lenny Martinez, NMSU
- Louise Tracey Hosa
- Mandy Leatherwood Guss, City of Las Cruces
- Scott Rodgers, City of Las Cruces
- Stephen Lopez, Dona Ana County
- Alexandra Fraley
- Michael Amaral
- John Harris
- Karla Walton
- Melanie Goodman
- Nina Nunez
- Daniel Burke
- Jason Smith

1 **I. Call to order: Councilor Abeyta-Stuve**

2
3 This meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m. by Councilor Abeyta-Stuve.
4

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6 **II. Conflict of Interest**

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8 Councilor Abeyta-Stuve asked Councilors who are voting members to indicate
9 if there is any conflict of interest. Councilor Flores stated none. Councilor
10 Abeyta-Stuve stated none. Councilor Gandara stated none.
11

12 **III. Acceptance of Agenda**

13 Councilor Abeyta-Stuve asked for a motion to approve the Agenda.
14 Moved by Councilor Flores. Seconded by Councilor Gandara.
15

16 None opposed. All in favor. Motion carried.
17

18 **IV. Approval of Minutes**

19 Councilor Abeyta-Stuve asked for a motion to approve the minutes from meeting
20 held on May 19, 2021. Moved by Councilor Gandara. Seconded by Councilor
21 Flores.

22 None opposed. All in Favor. Motion Carried.
23

24 **V. Discussion Items**

25
26 A. COVID 19 Vaccination Task Force

27
28 Department of Health/Office of Emergency Management-Stephen Lopez

29
30 Mr. Stephen Lopez updated everyone on the current numbers for Dona Ana
31 County. Dona Ana County is still in turquoise. Currently at 53.9% being
32 vaccinated of the eligible population 16 years and older. 60% is the goal to get
33 rid of the color-coding system. Announced yesterday is the vax to the max
34 sweepstakes. You can register at vax2themaxnm.org to register. No new
35 updates to registration applications. There are free rides being offered to
36 vaccination sites May 24-July 4.
37

1 Onsite vaccinations are available. Walk in vaccinations at sites. Focusing on
2 more outreach, school located clinics, and office visits for kids. Focus on bring
3 on more PCP's as COVID providers. Younger children eligible late summer into
4 fall. Providers return to regular patient care and COVID vaccine as part of
5 clinics. Boosters/third shots are very likely and focusing of Vaccine equity.
6

7 Ms. Goodman asked what advice for the group is to get more interest from the
8 business industry? Mr. Lopez stated they are in a challenging position. They
9 would like to participate but are not in the position, particularly the service
10 industries as they do not have enough staff.
11

12 Area Hospitals Update

13
14 None.
15

16 City of Las Cruces Staff Update

17 Mr. Enriquez stated the city continues to partner up with the OEM and DOH.
18 The city is looking to partner with the Farmer's Market and putting some sites
19 downtown.
20

21 Chief Smith with the fire department stated it is continuing the homebound
22 vaccinations and helping with POD sites. Looking to transition the homebound
23 program and ending the efforts for that and have already decreased staff based
24 off the demand and people we are being able to get a hold of.
25

26 Community Messaging

27 Mr. Enriquez stated the tv ads on Telemundo on both radio on English and
28 Spanish and will continue to do so until the end of June and will continue to get
29 out any community messaging necessary.

30 Next Steps

31 There will be another meeting in the next two weeks, as mentioned before
32 meetings may move back to once a month.
33

34 B. Mental Health Update-Mayor Pro Tem Gandara

35 Councilor Gandara stated before Zach left he shared the DRAFT occupational
36 health survey which was very mental health heavy. We wanted to incorporate
37 some physical health concerns as well just given what we know from the recent
38 survey on occupational health done by the State of New Mexico. I have reached
39 out to Jo and asked if the consultant can send some information related to the

1 claims. Have also reached out to a couple of folks that do research and analysis
2 and seems to be interest in partnering to push forward and incorporate both the
3 mental health and physical health questions.

4 Ms. Richards stated she has reached out to the consultant and requested
5 additional information that might correlate with any other diagnosis for these
6 individuals that have these types of claims but have not received any reports
7 yet. There has been follow up with them but no confirmation if data can be
8 provided.

9 **VI. Future Meetings/Task Listing**

10
11 Councilor Abeyta-Stuve stated she has spoken with Mr. Pili and stated she
12 would like complete streets as an ordinance not just a resolution. Mahishita
13 from the American Health Association has offered to do a presentation at our
14 next meeting. Will reach out to him to set that up.

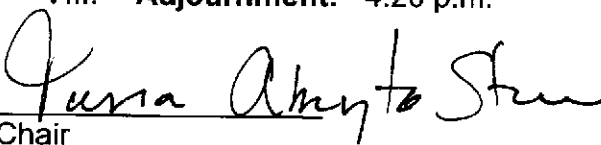
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16 Councilor Gandara stated she would like to have an update on the work the
17 Burrell College is doing alongside Mr. Pili and herself related to the Health Fairs
18 and leading to the larger clinics that can be held at least once a month.

19
20 Secondly, she was approached by Dr. Allen who is a retired physician in our
21 community. There is a group that is formed with big interest on trying to bring
22 in a nonprofit hospital into Las Cruces. A letter has been sent to Mr.
23 Miyagishima. Would like to hear a presentation about this.

24
25
26 **VII. Next Meeting Dates**

27 June 16, 2021 @ 3:30 pm (COVID 19 Vaccine Task Force)

28
29 **VIII. Adjournment:** 4:20 p.m.

30
31 
32
33 Chair

34
35 Approved: July 20, 2021