

MINUTES

BOARD OF HEALTH-TOWN OF FAIRFIELD

April 12, 2010

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FAIRFIELD, CT

The Board of Health of the Town of Fairfield held a meeting on Monday, April 12, 2010 in the First Floor conference room of Sullivan Independence Hall, 725 Old Post Road, Fairfield.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lynda Bluestein, Ron Blumenfeld, Doug DeFauw, Beth Garrell, and Jacob Hen.

ALSO PRESENT: Sands Cleary, Director of Health, Joanne Ryan, Nursing Supervisor and Diane Hughes, Secretary. Also present were Mark Barnhart, Director of Community & Economic Development, Diane Byrne, Market Master of Brick Walk Promenade Farmers' Market, Analiese Paik for Fairfield Green Food Guide, Jane Hendrick and Marie Collins from Fairfield University, John Barricelli from Sono Baking Company, Andy Brophy from Fairfield Patch, Patti Jonker from Amore Baking Company and Gary Jeanfaivre from the Fairfield Citizen.

I. CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN

Lynda Bluestein, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

Ms. Bluestein requested a change in the regular meeting agenda to allow for discussion on the proposed Farmers' Market Policy, which was agreed to by the Board. After an introduction of the Board Members, Mr. Cleary stated that he wanted the attendees to know that in light of the concerns raised in letters, e-mails and subsequent phone conversation, the vote on the proposed Farmers' Market Policy would be tabled until next month. He discussed the different types of permits and associated fees and the need to be consistent with permits issued to vendors; the difference between farm and non-farm vendors and the need for inspections to be in compliance with health codes and State of Connecticut safety regulations as well as assuring food safety. When discussing the new fee structure, he explained about the real costs associated with inspections of the non-farm vendors and that the new fee structure was designed to be a budget neutral way of covering overtime for the inspections. After reading into the record a letter from Trish Swain, Market Master of the Greenfield Hills Farmers' Market, Mr. Cleary opened the floor to questions and comments. When the discussions ended, Mr. Cleary stated that he would be setting up a meeting with the Market Masters, market vendors and one or two Board members to discuss the proposed policy. As the summer Farmers' Market season would be starting in June, Ms. Bluestein requested that the policy be ready for review and vote at the May meeting. At 8:23 p.m. the regular meeting agenda resumed.

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Beth Garrell moved and Jacob Hen seconded approval of the March 8, 2010 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

II. REPORTS

A. Director of Health

1. **Prosecutor Summons:** Mr. Cleary reported that the issue with the rental home with no heat has been resolved through the eviction of the tenants by the owner. As there is no longer a tenant residing in the home, this has now become a matter for the Courts/owner to resolve.
2. **Mercury Vapor Testing:** Mr. Cleary reported the Stratfield School Committee has requested a summary of the testing that has been completed at the school. Mr. Cleary stated he has started working on the summary report.
3. **Fairfield Beach Road:** Mr. Cleary reported that they have been able to resolve two of the three overcrowding complaints they have received. They have been unable to resolve the third complaint, as they cannot gain access to inspect the property to corroborate the number of people living in the house.
4. **Staff Meeting:** Mr. Cleary reported the first ever Health Department wide staff meeting will be held on April 22nd. Group and individual photos will be taken. These photos will be used within the Health Department.
5. **Staffing:** Mr. Cleary reported that the newest staff member would be starting on April 19th, which will bring the Environmental Health Program back to full staff.
6. **H1N1:** Mr. Cleary reported that they are wrapping up the H1N1 efforts and all unused vaccine will be sent back to the State.

B. Public Health Nursing Supervisor

1. **TB Cases:** Ms. Ryan reported that there were two active TB cases in town and DOT is being completed.
2. **Summer School:** Ms. Ryan reported that preparations for summer school have started.
3. **Head Lice Presentation:** Ms. Ryan reported that the head lice presentation was given at Stratfield School, which was well received.

IV COMMUNICATIONS

The letters and e-mail correspondence received on the new Farmers' Market Policy was addressed at the beginning of the meeting.

V OLD BUSINESS

1. **Farmers' Market Policy:** At 8:55 p.m. a motion was made to go into Executive Session to discuss the proposed policy. Dr. Blumenfeld moved and Doug DeFauw seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Realizing there was not sufficient justification to go into Executive Session, the Board voted to go back into the public meeting, which resumed at 8:57 p.m.

After a lengthy discussion on the proposed fees, need for inspections, licensing consistency for temporary events, liability issues and budget constraints, it was decided that the Board of Health's position on the proposed policy would be that all non-farm vendors must be inspected and the budget for these inspections must be covered.

VI NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,