

MINUTES

BOARD OF HEALTH-TOWN OF FAIRFIELD

August 9, 2010

The Board of Health of the Town of Fairfield held a meeting on Monday, August 9, 2010 in the in the First Floor conference room of Sullivan Independence Hall, 725 Old Post Road, Fairfield.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Sands Cleary, Director of Health; Joanne Ryan, Nursing Supervisor and Diane Hughes.

I. CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN

Lynda Bluestein, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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Ron Blumenfeld moved and Doug DeFauw seconded approval of the June 14, 2010 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

II. REPORTS

A. Director of Health

1. **Acceptance of Grants:** Mr. Cleary reported that the various grants were approved by the RTM and funds transferred into the appropriate accounts.
2. **Deliverables:** Mr. Cleary reported that all the Public Health Preparedness Grant deliverables were completed and submitted on time.

Mr. Cleary reported they completed a technical assessment review of the Mass Dispensing Plans and took a lower score. He explained that the Plan has been redefined and provided some examples and how they were addressed.

3. **Investigations/Inspections:** Mr. Cleary reported that two food establishments voluntarily closed down during certain points in construction, eliminating the need for orders to be issued.

Two homes were investigated for unsanitary conditions. One complaint was unfounded and the other was resolved as the home was cleaned before the scheduled appointment. The home that went to probate is still declared unfit.

Mr. Cleary reported that during the June tornado, some businesses on Black Rock Turnpike lost power for about four hours. The owners did what was required and after inspections the next morning, were able to reopen for business.

Dr. Blumenfeld reported that he spent last Thursday observing three of the four town sanitarians and gave some hi-lights of his visit to an area hotel, a restaurant inspection, a private residence complaint and a septic system inspection. Mr. Cleary informed the Board that they are working on issues with the private residence complaint. Dr. Blumenfeld stated he found the experience very informative and commended Mr. Cleary on the professionalism of the team in handling these various matters.

5. **Scabees Complaint:** Mr. Cleary reported they were investigating a possible scabees complaint. There was no firm diagnosis, nor any further cases reported.
6. **Mercury Spill:** Mr. Cleary reported that the Department of Environmental Protection and the Health Department responded to a mercury spill at an area residence. The spill was from a leaky stopper in an older barometer that was inadvertently hung upside down. The spill was cleaned with mercury absorb pads, the home aired out and further sample testing revealed acceptable levels.
7. **Mosquito Larvacide Treatments/West Nile:** Mr. Cleary reported that they are continuing their mosquito control efforts. They have been treating stagnant water areas and catch basins. Mr. Cleary also advised that as they are at full staff, they have, upon request, resumed treatment at private homes.

Mr. Cleary reported that Bridgeport has had its first confirmed case of West Nile virus. There has been an increase in the number of dead bird reports and calls on mosquito activity.

This fall, with funds from the Department of Environmental Protection, they will begin a restoration program for the marshes off Oakfield Road. They will be putting in ponds, regrading the area and planting marsh grass.

8. **Achieve Initiative Program:** Mr. Cleary reported they submitted a Letter of Intent to the State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health for the Achieve Initiative Program, which is offering a program to reduce the incidence of cancer by addressing poor nutrition, physical inactivity, and obesity at the policy, systems, and environmental change level using the National Association for Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Action Communities for Health, Innovation and Environmental Change (ACHIEVE) initiative as a model. This is a 3-year program, which would provide \$50,000 each year. Mr. Cleary and Sarah Levy are reviewing the full proposal and will work on completing the application.

9. **Annual Report:** Mr. Cleary reported that they have filed all annual reports, some using the States on-line reporting system for entering data.
10. **Per Capita Funding Grant:** Mr. Cleary reported they applied for, submitted and received all funds for the Per Capita Funding Grant.
11. **Preparedness:** Mr. Cleary reported that they are working with the Region One Medical Reserve Core to place ads in all area newspapers to recruit members for the MRC.
12. **Inter-Office Challenge:** Mr. Cleary reported that he, Jon Oldham and Maura Stokes, along with other town employees, would be participating in a sprint triathlon to be held on September 25th. The event consists of a half-mile swim, a 10-mile bike ride and a 5K run.

B. Public Health Nursing Supervisor

1. **Revisions to School Health Program Medical Policies:** Ms. Ryan reviewed the proposed revisions to the Immunization Section of the School Health Program Medical Policies. Ron Blumenfeld made a motion to approve the revisions. Beth Garrell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2. Ms. Ryan reported:

Summer school is running smoothly.

Finishing up the annual FIT testing on all regular staff and will begin testing of substitute staff shortly. Nurses are using summer hours to complete the testing.

The process of putting both manuals on line is just about finished, allowing for the most up-to-date information to be available and reviewed in real time.

Beginning to prepare for the flu season and looking at dates for clinics.

III COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to discuss.

IV OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

V NEW BUSINESS

1. **School Medical Advisor:** Mr. Cleary reported that Dr. Scholan has asked to step down from his role as School Medical Advisor but plans to continue in his role as the Well Child Clinic Advisor for the Health Department and the Town Medical

Advisor for the Human Resources Department. Dr. Scholan suggested Dr. Bruce McDonald as his replacement. Mr. Cleary and Ms. Ryan have spoken with Dr. McDonald, who confirmed his interest in and availability for the position. After a short discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Hen to approve the appointment of Dr. McDonald as the School Medical Advisor. Dr. Blumenfeld seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2. Beth Garrell inquired about the installation of sidewalks in front of the Circle Diner and around town. Mr. Cleary wasn't sure if this was due to the efforts of the Fairfield Bike/Walk Coalition but would check with Alyssa Israel. Lynda Bluestein stated she would also try to find out some information on this.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,