

MINUTES

BOARD OF HEALTH-TOWN OF FAIRFIELD

September 13, 2010

The Board of Health of the Town of Fairfield held a meeting on Monday, September 13, 2010 in the 1st Floor Conference Room of Sullivan Independence Hall, 725 Old Post Road, Fairfield.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Blumenfeld, Sue Brand, Doug DeFauw, Beth Garrell, Jacob Hen and Ellen Marks.

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

I. CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN

Ron Blumenfeld, Co-Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES – BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING – August 9, 2010

In Section 5 on page 2, Scabees should read “Scabies.” The last paragraph of Section 7 on page 2, should read “for the marshes off Oldfield Road. They will be putting in ponds and regrading the area.” Section 11 on page 3, “Medical Reserve Core” should read “Medical Reserve Corps.” Jacob Hen moved and Ellen Marks seconded approval of the August 9, 2010 minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

II. REPORTS

A. Director of Health

1. **Operational Audit:** Mr. Cleary reported the Town has contracted with Matrix Consulting Group to perform an operational town audit on town departments and their functions. The Town has retained the independent firm to conduct a study of its operations and recommend actions that may improve the Town’s effectiveness and efficiency. Mr. Cleary reported that he and the Health Department staff have spent considerable time gathering the 18 different data sets requested by the Auditor. They have one remaining data set, dealing with the environmental program, which will be submitted this week.

2. **CT Department of Public Health Annual Report:** Mr. Cleary reported they are finalizing the data for Fairfield's Annual Report required to be submitted to the CT Department of Public Health.
3. **Medical Reserve Corps Grant:** Mr. Cleary reported that the final application for the \$5,000 Medical Reserve Grant from the Office of the Surgeon General's Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program will be submitted tomorrow.
4. **Mosquito Larvacide Treatments/West Nile:** Mr. Cleary reported that the State of CT notified the department that one pool of mosquitoes from a mosquito trap in the South Pine Creek Marsh tested positive for West Nile Virus. He met with the Conservation Department on approaches to treat the area.
5. **Eastern Equine Encephalitis:** Mr. Cleary reported that according to the State Department of Health, mosquitoes trapped in North Stonington have tested positive for eastern equine encephalitis virus, the first EEE-positive mosquitoes identified in the State this year.
6. **Overcrowding Issues:** Mr. Cleary reported that he attended the annual overcrowding meeting with representatives from Fairfield University, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield Beach Resident Association, Fairfield Police and Zoning, where the normal topics of overcrowding and police enforcement in the beach area were discussed. Mr. Cleary felt the meeting increased understanding of the issues. They have received overcrowding complaints and investigations have revealed possible issues with two residences.
7. **Achieve Initiative Program Grant:** Mr. Cleary reported they reviewed the requirements for the Achieve Grant. After an assessment of current projects and staffing resources, a decision was made not to pursue this Grant.
8. **Medical Advisor:** Mr. Cleary advised that Dr. McDonald has started as the School Medical Advisor and that Dr. Scholan is continuing as the Well Child Clinic Medical Advisor and Town Medical Advisor.

Mr. Cleary stated that he had discussed with the Assistant Town Attorney the need for backup for the School Medical Advisor, Well Clinic Medical Advisor and Town Medical Advisor. The Assistant Town Attorney advised Mr. Cleary that there was no clear language in the Charter and suggested that the Department draft up a proposed policy for her review.

Mr. Cleary distributed a copy of the Proposed Policy for Deputy School Medical Advisor, Well Child Clinic Medical Advisor and Town Medical Advisor. Once the Assistant Town Attorney has reviewed the policy, Mr. Cleary will bring the final policy to the Board for approval.

9. **Hurricane Readiness Meeting:** Mr. Cleary reported that he and other Department Heads participated in a meeting in preparation for the potential hurricane that was expected on 9/3-4.
10. **Closures:** Mr. Cleary reported that Lake Mohegan was closed due to the significant rainfall on August 22nd. Three different sets of samples collected that week from Lake Mohegan kept the swimming area closed for nine days, while the coastal swimming areas were closed for two days.
11. **Flu Clinics:** Mr. Cleary reported clinics are scheduled for September 29th from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and for September 30th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The clinic on September 30th will be run as a Medical Reserve Corp drill. They will set up in an inflatable tent for a few hours and use it as a field vaccination station. They have 2200 doses of the combined vaccine, which can be given to residents ages 4 and over.

B. Public Health Nursing Supervisor

1. **Nursing Staff:** Ms. Ryan reported that at the Opening Nursing Meeting they set goals to improve documentation skills. They will also be integrating emergency preparedness into their training, including a library of audio books to be loaned out to the staff. Ms. Ryan reported that, during the summer months, members of the nursing staff participated in an offer to receive a stipend for completing on line courses related to emergency preparedness.
2. **School Medical Advisor:** Ms. Ryan reported that she met with Dr. McDonald and has made him aware of all medical issues. He has signed all orders, approved crutch protocol and responded to request by the Board of Education to review the hand sanitizing product being used last year. The review was requested due to parent concerns about possible toxicity in the current product. Dr. McDonald's recommendations have been sent to the Board of Education, who will make a decision on how to proceed.
3. **One on One Protocol:** Ms. Ryan reported that this year they have a one on one nursing situation. The nursing staff will be using the One on One Protocol already in place. . The "one to one" protocol finalized in 4/09 was implemented successfully.

4. **In-Service Training:** Ms. Ryan reported that they completed their annual In-Service Training for bus drivers. Each year the Head of Transportation is given a list of all students with diabetes, seizures and food allergies. Ms. Ryan stated that while the drivers are provided a list for their route, she was not aware that the drivers were not given the names of the students. This information was shared with nursing staff so that they may provide correct information to parents regarding sharing of medical information. One suggestion was to have a statement in the parent handbook advising parents that information regarding their child's medical information should be shared directly by the parent to the bus driver. While First Student does have a protocol in place for medical emergencies, clarification is needed on the roles of the Board of Education in such a situation.

III COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Cleary distributed copies of the NALBOH News Brief to the Board.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

V. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other regular business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,