

MINUTES

BOARD OF HEALTH-TOWN OF FAIRFIELD

February 8, 2010

The Board of Health of the Town of Fairfield held a meeting on Monday, February 8, 2010 in the 2nd Floor conference room of The Old Town Hall, 611 Old Post Road, Fairfield.

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

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

I. CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN

Lynda Bluestein, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

MINUTES – BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING – January 11, 2010

Under Director of Health Report, Section 2, “cluttering issue” should be replaced with “residential sanitation issue.” Beth Garrell moved and Ellen Marks seconded approval of the January 11, 2010 minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

II. REPORTS

A. Director of Health

1. **Order Letters:** Mr. Cleary reported that they issued 6 order letters in the last few weeks. One overcrowding issue at Fairfield Beach was largely resolved by working with the property owner to relocate two of the six students. The owner group that previously received 5 order letters is now in compliance as the applications and appropriate fees for all the properties have been submitted. A lead paint order was issued for a painting job done at a rental property where proper precautions were not taken to contain the dust, resulting in dust contamination in the house. Anytime the Health Department is made aware of a lead paint in a defective condition in a residential property where a child under 6 resides, an order must be issued. Adequate cleaning of the property has been conducted but some additional encapsulation work still needs to be

performed but requires temperatures above 50F. Once this is completed final clearance testing will be conducted.

2. **Residential Sanitation Issue:** Mr. Cleary reported that the residential sanitation issue reported at the January meeting has been resolved.
3. **Prosecutor Summons:** Mr. Cleary reported that a Prosecutor Summons was issued for a rental property where letters and phone calls to the owner were ignored. An order letter was issued some months back due to complaints by tenant of the lack of hot water. A second Prosecutor Summons will be issued this week for a property on the Blight agenda. Orders had been issued previously for an above-ground pool with stagnant water. They tried to resolve the issue over the last few months, but as there is no further progress being made, the Summons will be issued to have the issue resolved.
4. **Staffing:** Mr. Cleary reported that all interviews have been conducted, offers made and accepted and three of the four staff members have started. The new secretary started on February 2nd, a part-time data entry position opened when the employee moved to a full time position and has been filled with the employee who was originally hired under H1N1 funding. One new Sanitarian started today and the second has accepted the position and plans to start April 19th.
5. **Influenza Activity:** Mr. Cleary reported that the Regional Influenza Mass Dispensing Exercise was held at Sacred Heart University on January 14th, with 372 shots being given over the 4 hour period. Five towns collaborated, with each manning a vaccination station and while the clinic was smoothly run, they would have liked to have seen more people to really challenge the through-put numbers.

Flu activity and the demand for the H1N1 vaccine have dropped significantly, with no activity for the seasonal flu. The H1N1 vaccine is being made available to residents, by appointment, each Wednesday and Friday. The Department still has between 1200 and 1500 doses on hand. They will transferring some doses to a local physician and are expecting to receive 400 doses from Sacred Heart University.

6. **Putting on Airs Program:** Mr. Cleary stated that the Stratford Health Department, as the lead for the region, received funding, through a Regional Grant, to implement Putting on AIRS - a program that assesses home environmental risk for people with asthma. It is designed to improve environmental conditions for asthmatic children and adults to reduce the frequency of asthma-related adverse events. Sarah Levy will be attending the one day training to learn how to do home assessments, which would allow her to do education for a family with a child who has asthma, assess the home and give tips on how to reduce asthma triggers. Once Ms. Levy is trained, the program will be made available to residents.

7. **Governor's Council on Public Health Regionalization:** Mr. Cleary stated that as reported at the last meeting, he and Ms. Ryan have been reviewing the proposed Local Standards and Measures, looking at the ten different domains and each sub-domain. They are looking at the types of things that need to be accomplished prior to dividing up the various domains among the senior staff,. Before presenting this to the senior staff, Mr. Cleary wants to talk with the Accreditation Board about the beta testing questions and how others are complying.

8. **Farmers Market:** Mr. Cleary stated he wanted to bring to the attention of the Board, possible issues dealing with the licensure related to the Farmers Markets. Since farmers are exempt from licensure but the food product being sold still have to comply with particular regulations, currently the department issues one license for the event which covers all the true CT farmers (those listed with the Department of Agriculture) for the entire season. The source of discontent is from those vendors who are non-farmers and are required to be licensed as a 14 day temporary food services permit to sell their products at the Farmers Market. Mr. Cleary reviewed in detail, how this is the only licensure category they fall under and the other challenging issues facing the Health Department related to these events. In addition, some discontent has been expressed by local licensed food service facilities in town who feel these temporary events, with many out-of-town vendors, are impacting their businesses and they are held to a different regulatory standard. A discussion followed. Ms. Bluestein asked Mr. Cleary if it would be possible to have a "frequently asked questions" sheet on Farmers Market's for the next meeting.

B. Public Health Nursing Supervisor

1. **Students from Haiti:** Ms. Ryan reported that she received some direction from the State regarding students coming from Haiti and the possibility they may fall under the federal McKinney Vento Act the same way Hurricane Katrina students did. The Act allows students to enroll without health and immunization information [pertains to children who must have immediate access to school and the requirement for vaccinations and physicals waived]. Currently there is one student attending Fairfield Prep and another who will be attending Notre Dame High School. The State has asked that local Health Department's contact their district's local education liaison person for homeless students. Ms. Ryan will call the State for the name of our district liaison so she can discuss this further.
2. **Summer School:** Ms. Ryan reported that meetings have been held to make plans for summer school
3. **One-on-One Nursing:** Ms. Ryan reported that she had been notified about the possibility of a child, who would require one-on-one nursing, entering the school system in September. When asked how this would be handled, Ms. Ryan was able to respond that they already had a protocol in place. Ms. Ryan has since learned that the child would not be attending school in Fairfield.

IV COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Cleary reported that the application for membership with the National Association of Local Boards of Health has been processed.

V OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

VI NEW BUSINESS

1. **2010-2011 Budget:** Mr. Cleary reported that he was submitting to the Board for their consideration and approval, the 2010-2011 budget as submitted to the First Selectman. The budget contains no capital or supplemental requests. Mr. Cleary stated he had several meetings and/or discussions with Mr. Flatto and although there were some suggested reductions, he was able to present reasons and documentation showing the impact of those reductions and they were not implemented. Mr. Cleary reviewed the budget with the Board, indicating those increases in line items that were necessitated by contractual salary and step increases. He also explained that he and Ms. Ryan did a thorough review of all line items, which shifted monies to increase some line items and reduce others. They feel all expenditures are now under the correct line item. A motion was made that the Board is in agreement with the changes made and to accept the proposed budget. Jacob Hen moved and Ron Blumfeld seconded approval of the proposed budget. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,