

MINUTES

BOARD OF HEALTH-TOWN OF FAIRFIELD

February 14, 2011

The Board of Health of the Town of Fairfield held a meeting on Monday, February 14, 2011 in the Second Floor conference room of the Old Town Hall, 611 Old Post Road, Fairfield.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lynda Bluestein, Sue Brand, Tom Braun, Doug DeFauw 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

Lynda Bluestein, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

MINUTES – BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING – January 10, 2011

On page 3, in the second paragraph of Section 1, under New Business, “Dr. Scholan” should be replaced with “Dr. McDonald.” Doug DeFauw moved and Sue Brand seconded approval of the January 10, 2011 minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

II. REPORTS

A. Director of Health

1. **Bed Bugs:** Mr. Cleary reported that that the infestations at private housing complex have a few more items to be addressed before the bed bug issue can be considered resolved. They did have to issue an Order to the owner of the building to get compliance.
2. **Orders/Housing Issues:** Mr. Cleary reported that an order was issued for no heat at a residence. Heat has been restored and the matter resolved. Seven orders were issued to the landlord and tenants of the residence where, prior to the winter break the overcrowding issue had appeared to be resolved. When the students returned, there were again 6 students living there. They are now compliant as subsequent inspections found that the 6th student has moved out; and the inspector has spoken with the new landlord of the 6th tenant who confirms he is residing at his dwelling.

3. **Medical Reserve Corp:** At the January 20th MRC Training, four staff members and 10 MRC members participated in the Train the Trainer on Emergency Personal and Family Preparedness. This training that was developed by the Yale Center for Domestic Preparedness and Response. In March there is a psychological first aid training and on June 7-8, the annual education session. Tentative plans for this session include a two night mini-conference with full scale exercises, trainings and table-top exercises. One exercise would be a functional/special needs shelter for individuals who are unable to stay in a general shelter as their needs exceed the capacity/services offered by the American Red Cross at a typical shelter. There will be a key note speaker/training during the dinner hour and a mass dispensing exercise on the second night. More details will be provided as the date gets closer.
4. **LEAD Grant:** Mr. Cleary reported that the \$14,500 Lead Grant from the State of Connecticut was applied for and received. The EPA reissued renovation rules in the fall that require firms performing renovation, repair, and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in pre-1978 homes, be certified by EPA. Contractors must use certified renovators who have been trained by EPA-approved training providers and follow lead-safe work practices. Contractors have to provide the home owner with a pamphlet stating that this construction activity may involve working with lead paint and they are taking appropriate precautions. Homeowners will be required to initial the contract, stating they received the pamphlet. Copies of the pamphlet are available at the Building Department. Contractors are required to attend a training that teaches them how to do lead safe work practices. This is a newer program and there very few EPA certified trainers and the trainings tend to be very expensive. The Health Department will attempt to use monies from this grant to hire a trainer for a flat fee and offer a one day training course. The course would be open to contractors based in Fairfield, making it easier for them to comply with this new requirement. In May, we will have Inspectors go to local hardware stores, paint stores, Home Depot on weekends to hand out lead safe work kits to residents.
5. **Operational Audit:** Mr. Cleary advised that the final report issued and departmental responses are being submitted. A copy of the first draft submitted to the First Selectman, was distributed to the Board. Mr. Cleary reviewed his responses to the three recommendations, which were in line with discussions at previous meetings. He stated he would welcome any comments or input from the Board. Once all department responses have been reviewed, there will be a meeting to discuss what aspects, as a town body, do they agree with and want to move forward on.
6. **Diabetes Risk Reduction Program:** Mr. Cleary reported that they will be offering a Diabetes Risk Reduction Program, which is a free 16-week course for adults at high risk for diabetes who live or work in Fairfield. This new program will be replacing Lean and Lively. The evening program will begin on March 2nd and the day program will begin on March 4th.

7. **Flu Activity Status:** Mr. Cleary reported that the final flu clinic will be held this Wednesday, February 16th from 10-6 at the Nursing Offices. The level of flu activity in Town has been lighter that experienced in recent years. There was a slight peak in early January but has since leveled out.
8. **Town Web Site:** Mr. Cleary reported that there is now a Fairfield Health Department YouTube Channel. There is a video on bed bugs as well as a flu clinic video, both of which can be also accessed by going to the Department home page.

B. Public Health Nursing Supervisor

1. **Medication Regulations:** Ms. Ryan reported that her appointment to meet with the policy subcommittee was postponed due to the weather and she is waiting for a new meeting date. Sue Brand asked if there was a time issue in which the meeting had to be held and Ms. Ryan replied that any deadlines were for the Board of Education.
2. **Staffing:** Ms. Ryan reported that they have hired substitute nurses to replace nurses who left.

III COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Bluestein reported she received a letter from The Fairfield Police Department on how to handle disruptive or threatening behavior at Department meetings.

IV OLD BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

V NEW BUSINESS

1. **Draft Tanning Ordinance:** Mr. Cleary was asked by the Norwalk Director of Health (who is also a Fairfield resident) if Fairfield, and other towns, would be interested in reviewing and possibly implementing an ordinance for tanning facilities. There is a State Regulation that provides for enforcement of sanitary practices at tanning facilities and requires a waiver to be signed by parents be obtained for minors. The State Code is only a few lines and doesn't provide any sanitation guidelines to be enforced; just that Director's of Health may enforce this. Norwalk is taking the initiative to do something with tanning facilities so they came up with a draft ordinance that will allow for inspection, licensure, documentation requirements and sanitary requirements. A discussion on tanning facilities followed. Sue Brand will check to see if the health curriculum in high school covers tanning salons. At the end of the discussion, it was agreed that Mr.

Cleary would bring the educational materials on skin cancer provided by Norwalk and the Board will revisit this next month under old business.

2. **2011-2012 Budget:** Mr. Cleary presented the proposed budget, which reflects a total increase of 2.1%. This increase covers items related to step increases, health insurance increases and corresponding social security. There was no increase in any line item for the Health Department. Dr. Braun inquired about Health Department numbers separate from the Nursing related budget. A motion to approve the budget was made by Ellen Marks and seconded by Doug DeFauw. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Well Child Clinic Medical Policy Revisions:** The proposed changes to the Well Child Clinic Medical Policy are based on latest recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. The changes are due to the reduction in the intervals between the Td vaccines and administration of Tdap. They are also advising a booster for certain groups of the Meningococcal conjugate vaccine. A motion to approve the changes to the Well Child Clinic Medical Policy was made by Ellen Brand and seconded by Tom Braun. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,