

MINUTES

BOARD OF HEALTH-TOWN OF FAIRFIELD

June 13, 2011

The Board of Health of the Town of Fairfield held a meeting on Monday, June 13, 2011 in the First Floor conference room of Sullivan Independence Hall, 725 Old Post Road, Fairfield.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jacob Hen, Ellen Marks, Ron Blumenfeld, Doug DeFauw, Carolyn Shea

ALSO PRESENT: Sands Cleary, Director of Health, Joanne Ryan, Nursing Supervisor and Maura Stokes, Secretary.

I. CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN

Jacob Hen, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES – BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING – May 09, 2011

Dr. Braun requested the following clerical corrections to the minutes of May 09, 2011: Page Two, Item 7, in the third paragraph first line “ESF*” should read “ESF8”; in the fourth line, the word “tol” should be corrected to “to”; Page Three, line one “provide” should be corrected to “provides”; Page Two Item 4 in the fourth line “School” should be corrected to “Schools”.

Ellen Marks moved and Doug DeFauw seconded approval of the May 09, 2011 minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

II. REPORTS

A. Director of Health

1. MRC Preparedness Drill: Mr. Cleary reported that on May 24, 2011 the staff participated in an unannounced Federal CDC Cities Readiness Initiative drill. The purpose of this drill was to test our ability to set up and staff a medical antibiotic dispensing POD unit (Point of Dispensing) within 12 hours of the initial notification and continue to operate the POD unit for 48 hours. On May 24, 2011, we received a mock notification of from the DPH that there was an Anthrax release in NYC and we were instructed to initiate the process of setting up our POD which included notifying the First Selectman for necessary permissions and to organize a press conference, contacting the Director of Operations at the Board of Education to organize use of the school building. Then notification went out to internal staff and then to the

MRC volunteers. The department staff set up a call center in the first floor conference room at Sullivan Independence Hall; survey scripts were prepared for both a phone broadcast notification as well as an email blast notification. Department staff assembled to receive the results of the survey. A total of 1022 voice broadcast calls through Premier Global, and 375 emails were sent out. We were required to respond to the DPH by 11:00 am with statistics regarding how many notifications were sent out; how many people responded; what manner did they respond; would we have sufficient volunteers to staff a POD; how long could we sustain staffing at a POD; how long did it take for the volunteers to respond to the notification. There were a few glitches in the system we used. The Zoomerang survey online system was having difficulties that morning. Overall we were able to overcome the difficulties and calculate the responses. We received 126 responses from volunteers who stated they could respond which is more than sufficient to staff a POD for this purpose. 56% of the responses were from medical personnel.

The rest of the afternoon was spent doing training exercises with the other regional groups. At the training, we learned that by far, Fairfield-Easton MRC had the most outstanding response. Bridgeport had 15, Stamford had 9 responses.

2. **MRC ANNUAL EDUCATION SESSION:** Mr. Cleary stated that the Fairfield-Easton MRC held their annual educational session on June 7, & June 8, 2011 at the Senior Center, 100 Mona Terrace, Fairfield, CT. There were three main classes offered: Personal & Family Preparedness; Worker Safety & Universal Precautions & Psychological First Aid & Psychological Exercises. All three classes were offered on both nights and were well attended and well received.

Dr. Blumenfeld stated that he felt the evenings were well run and very interesting. He attended the Psychological First aid module which offered very useful information. This program was a very good way for volunteers to organize their own thoughts when it comes to dealing with people who have been traumatized or are in an emotional state and how to approach them. Dr. Blumenfeld stated that he also got a great deal personally out of the Personal & Family Preparedness Module because like many people, had not given thought to the type of things one might need in the event of having to leave suddenly, such as a “go-bag” or to be prepared if you needed to be locked in for a period of three days without access to power or water with supplies that are current and supplies that are necessary.

Mr. DeFauw stated that he attended the Personal & Family Preparedness Module which he also took through CERT. It was a good refresher which offered solid information for people reminding them of the types of items they should keep on hand in the event of an emergency. He felt it was a well run program.

3. **LEAD GRANT:** Mr. Cleary stated that the staff is participating in an educational program paid for through the State of Connecticut Lead Grant program by offering EPA Certification for local contractors. Last month the grant paid for nine contractors to receive their EPA Certification at the approximate cost of \$300 each which

has to be done by an EPA certified instructor in an EPA certified and approved classroom. Additionally, the staff has been out on the weekends at local paint stores, hardware stores and The Home Depot handing out Lead “kits” which consist of literature, sponges, spray bottles, soaps, and pails. This lead program teaches contractors to inform the homeowners that they may be potentially disturbing lead paint in their remodeling process.

- 2 **Air Quality Issue:** Mr. Cleary stated that the issue is still proceeding. All key issues are still being looked at carefully

B. Public Health Nursing Supervisor

1. **Staffing:** Ms. Ryan reported that there were in fact two retirements. Both jobs posted internally. Both positions will be offered to two part-time nurses’ currently on staff and those two part-time positions will then be posted.

Staffing is being evaluated at all of the schools especially the middle schools and private schools. Ludlowe Middle School will be most closely looked at. We did attempt to send four nurses to Tools for Schools training but unfortunately the training was cancelled. The nurse at Sherman and a nurse from one of the high schools attended. The staff is busy with transition meetings and PPT’s.

IV COMMUNICATIONS

NALBOH Newsletters
Welcome Letters from Town Clerk & First Selectman to Carolyn Shea

V OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

VI NEW BUSINESS

Grants Application. Doug DeFauw made a motion to waive the reading of the resolutions for Grant Applications and to accept the Grants. Ron Blumenfeld seconded the motion and all three passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:38.m.

Respectfully submitted,