



*Town Of Fairfield*

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

**~ M I N U T E S ~**

**May 14, 2012**

The Board of Health of the Town of Fairfield held a meeting on April 09, 2012 in the Second Floor Conference Room of Old Town Hall, 611 Old Post Road, Fairfield, Connecticut.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dr. Jacob Hen, Carolyn Shea, Dr. Thomas Braun, Sue Brand, Dr. Ronald Blumenfeld and Denise Walsh, PhD, RN.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Sands Cleary, Director of Health, Joanne Ryan, Nursing Supervisor, Dr. Henry Yoon, Maura Stokes and Terry Delmoor, Recording Secretaries.

**I. CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN**

Dr. Jacob Hen called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

**II. MINUTES – BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING – April 9, 2012**

Clerical Corrections: Page 2, Section III-A-1: MRC Annual Education, Meeting & Training: “it’s” should be “its”. Also Page 2, in last paragraph entitled “Lead Grant”, colon should be removed from “:win” in last sentence.

Dr. Ron Blumenfeld moved and Carolyn Shea seconded the motion to approve the Minutes of April 9, 2012 Minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. REPORTS**

**A. DIRECTOR OF HEALTH**

**1. COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, BOARDS & MEETINGS:**

\*Budget: Sands Cleary reported spending a week preparing cuts from the Health Department budget after the RTM proposed a 2% across-the-board budget cut. After attending two nightly meetings, he reported that the proposed 2% budget cut was not proposed; instead an \$850,000 cut to the contingency line item was approved instead. Sands reported that the full impact of this is yet to be determined but no staff would have to be let go.

\*Community Health Assessments: Sands has been participating in meetings with the Primary Care Action Group with two hospitals relating to community health assessments. The committee is trying to develop standardized community health assessments. He is also working on a state level with The CT Hospital Association & CADH on a data committee to try to implement standardized community health assessments throughout the State.

\*Regional Coordination Center: The State of CT has asked the Fairfield Health Department to participate in an exercise acting as the Regional Coordination Center, which works with other health departments to assess their needs and to arrange to meet those needs in an emergency for any department that is overwhelmed.

\*Commissioner's Semi-Annual Meeting: This meeting is coming up on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

\*Hoarding Conference: Sands attended a state conference on hoarding recently, where he picked up some tips on identifying hoarding situations.

## **2. HEALTH DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES**

\*Chemical/Steam Release: The Health Department responded to a request for assistance at 515 Commerce Drive on April 12th due to a release of steam from an internal release of gallium trichloride. A clogged exhaust line at the Five N Plus metals plant caused a bypass of steam into the atmosphere. The visible emissions were steam, but the area was evacuated and no one was injured. OSHA requested the Health Department work with the CT DPH to do clearance testing in the factory since the office areas were not cleared to re-open. Sands later attended a meeting in Bridgeport about the accident with company officials. It was also determined that OSHA should not be making such requests of local health departments in situations like this in the future.

\*Salmonella Outbreak: An e-mail was received from the FDA through DPH warning that a fish product involved in a recall due to salmonella contamination had been traced to a Fairfield establishment. Sands went out and embargoed 36 lbs. of the product (22lbs in an unopened case of the implicated product and 14 lbs of similar sealed product) from the establishment which was sent it to the State lab for testing. The test results came back positive for two strains of salmonella in the 22lbs of implicated product.

\*Lead Safety Grant: Sands reported that 70 people signed a lead-safety pledge at the Pb-Safe booth staffed by Health Department and MRC personnel at the recent McKinley carnival. Hats and tee shirts were given out, with hats proving to be the more popular item. Another booth for the campaign is planned for an upcoming carnival.

## **3. MRC - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

\*Training Exercise: The training exercise at Sherwood Island for mass-dispensing, which was originally scheduled for May 2nd has been postponed until June 26, 2012.

\*Call Down Exercise: On May 9<sup>th</sup> there was also a call-down exercise for all MRC members to respond to an e-mail in a one-day time period. The response rate was approximately 50%.

\*FEMA: Sands reported that the Town may be eligible to be reimbursed for the volunteer staffing at the emergency shelter during the hurricane last fall.

#### **4. CONDEMNATION**

Two structures have been demolished recently by the Town.

### ***B. PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SUPERVISOR:***

#### **1. MEDICATION REGULATIONS**

\*Medication Administration: Joanne Ryan reported that there is new legislation pending which allows the administration of glucagon, insulin and tube feedings by teachers, coaches and paraprofessionals. She stated that if the law is passed, it might bring up some issues because the administration of glucagon requires an assessment as well as a 2 step preparation process before administering.

\*Extracurricular School Trips: Joanne will be attending a meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup> with Attorney Michelle Laubin, Karen Parks, Gary Rosato and Andrea Leonardi to get the attorney's interpretation of the new regulation of dispensing medication during extracurricular school trips, and the definition of extracurricular trips as opposed to field trips. Currently, nurses cannot delegate the administration of medications to teachers during extracurricular trips.

#### **2. TRAINING**

\* DCF: The State of Connecticut has mandated that all school personnel must be trained in identifying and reporting suspected abuse in children. Joanne stated that most of the Fairfield nurses had already completed this training, but the new mandate will include all school personnel.

\* School Nurse Data Base: Joanne reported that training for the new computer data base will be completed on Election Day. The program will hopefully be piloted during the summer school session this year.

#### **3. NEW SCHOOL OPENING**

Joanne reported that Easter Seals is going to open a new school at the old Holy Family school for autistic children, ages 3-10. The school, which opens in the fall of 2012, will have between 20 and 100 students. The school has budgeted funds for their own full-time nurse, but the Nursing Dept. will be providing assistance when needed. There was a question about providing nursing support to private schools and Joanne stated that the State law mandates that the school district must provide nursing services to all schools that do not have a full-time nurse on staff.

### **IV. COMMUNICATIONS**

(None)

### **V. OLD BUSINESS**

(None)

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

(none)

Thomas Braun moved and Ronald Blumenfeld seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Recording Secretary