



Town Of Fairfield

Minutes of the Board of Health of the Town of Fairfield meeting held on September 9th, 2013 in the First Floor Conference Room of Sullivan Independence Hall, 725 Old Post Road, Fairfield, Connecticut.

1. Call to Order at 7:30pm by Chairperson: Dr. Hen

Members Present: Dr. Hen, Carolyn Shea, Sue Brand, Dr. Thomas Braun and Dr. Ron Blumenfeld.

Members Absent: Kevin Lennon. Denise Walsh.

Also Present: Sands Cleary Director of Health. Joanne Ryan, Nursing Supervisor.

2. Minutes- Board of Health Meeting – July 8th, 2013

Dr. Braun motioned seconded by Dr. Blumenfeld to approve the July 8th with corrections as noted. Motion carried.

3. Reports:

a) Director of Health – Sands Cleary

Community Health Assessment and Health Improvement Plan:

Sands provided the board copies of the Regional Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and shared that there was a public presentation at the Discovery Museum on August 13th. The Primary Care Action Group had contracted with Health Resources in Action (HRiA), a nonprofit public health consulting organization to provide strategic guidance and facilitation of the CHA-CHIP process, to collect and analyze data, and develop the report deliverables.

Based on the results of the Community Health Assessment the CHIP outlines the four priorities for action planning at the regional level. They are working on a regional resource list making people aware of healthy resources in the area. Sands did request a quote from HRiA to develop a Fairfield Specific version plan but the cost was too prohibitive.

Sands shared that he will look into other ways to produce a Fairfield specific version perhaps by reviewing the raw data. Dr. Ron Blumenfeld asked Sands what he thought that we would find out about Fairfield that would be unique to Fairfield that would not be around the 4 key health priorities. Sands felt that the priorities would still be the primary findings but that there was some data that indicated that “issues related to aging” was something that was unique to Fairfield. Sands shared that the way some of the data was presented had combined Fairfield and Easton and that he was seeking to separate some of that data.

Dr. Blumenfeld then asked if, after this, would every town now individually work to address the priorities or if there was some effort to work together.

Sands said the plan is to collaborate through PCAG and Get Healthy CT on the top 4 key health issues; in addition towns can, if they want to, work on supplemental issues. Dr. Blumenfeld asked about the resources available to work on the top 4 key issues. Sands explained that through working with the above entities there have already been some grant funds awarded and that the groups will continue looking for funding through grants and other sources.

Osborne Hill Update:

Sands said the 2 issues that were previously discussed were odor and mold. They did have the State Dept. of Public Health come down over the summer to do VOC testing in the 2 rooms. After intense searching no one can find the source of the odor which is described as an intermittent earthy odor. VOC testing came back negative and mold testing came back less than outside air. They have installed 2 air conditioning units to condition the air, dehumidifiers to keep the humidity in check and have conducted testing to rule out risks to health. The school did the quarterly PCB testing. 2 samples out of 12 air samples came back slightly elevated in the media center and a custodial closet near the media center. The approach now will be to keep the gym area under negative pressure.

Fairfield Beach Road Association/Town Officials/ University Meeting:

Sands attended the annual meeting held between town and University Officials and the Fairfield Beach Road Association. He shared that the Health Dept. investigated and issued 2 orders for overcrowding situations in the beach area. Sands explained they take the lead against overcrowding as the department issues the Certificates of Rental Occupancies but that there are a lot of other departments/codes involved also. Sands has been asked to speak at the Fairfield Beach Road Association Annual Meeting on the 11th of October.

Medical Reserve Corps:

Sands reported they acquired a new online volunteer management data- base for the MRC. An online application process will be available and volunteers now will be able to access and maintain their own contact information. Emails will be sent out to notify the MRC volunteers. Sands and staff are still working on the structure and content of the website, and will work with the company to get ready to fully launch. Sands asked the board if they had any comments or suggestions regarding the MRC training plan that he went over last month to let him know as he is trying to finalize it.

Condemnation Board:

3 additional structures in the beach area came down over the summer such that all beach area structures that were declared menaces to public safety have been demolished. There are still several houses that have outstanding repairs and still a few other issues in the beach area. There were 2 additional structures outside the beach area that were demolished.

The Environmental Staff are working on Public Health code changes. Any changes will be emailed to the board for review prior to next month's meeting. Sands will talk to Town Clerk Betsy Brown regarding the Public Meeting notice.

b) Public Health Nursing Supervisor: Joanne Ryan

Joanne reported the new nursing database is up and running and that the nurses are working hard to make it work. Joanne discussed Education Legislation and Homebound Legislation and will be consulting further with Dr. McDonald regarding more communications between personal physicians and nursing staff. The Flu clinics will be held Oct 2nd and Oct 3rd.

Communications: Dr. Hen reported there is a Physician in town interested in serving on the board. Dr. Ron Blumenfeld's and Sue Brand's terms are up this year. Assignments are made by the First Selectman.

5. Old Business: No report.

6. New Business:

a)BOE policy for administration of emergency medication by school personnel.

The board reviewed the BOE policy. Dr. Hen motioned to approve the BOE policy as presented, seconded by Carolyn Shea. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business Dr. Ron Blumenfeld motioned to adjourn, seconded by Carolyn Shea at 9.05pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jude Fitzgerald
Secretary