Present: Robert Carangelo, Esq., Dr. Marilyn Ross Cahn; Dr. Andrew Bronin; Julia Chiappetta; Kurt Schaffir; Caroline C. Baisley, Director

Absent: Dr. Robert Ailleo; Dr. Michael Franco

Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM at the Milbrook Club.

MINUTES

The minutes of the November 23, 2015 meeting were approved unanimously. 
(Motion: Bronin / Second: Ross Cahn / Vote: Unanimous – 5 in favor – 0 opposed)

2016-2017 REVISED DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FEE SCHEDULE

Chairman noted that the 2016-2017 Fee Schedule had been discussed at the November meeting and Director Baisley was asked to review the fees again and make revisions as necessary. Ms. Baisley stated that many fees have been increased 3 – 6% with most fees increased by 6.0% while some categories have remained the same. Brief discussion ensued and Mr. Schaffir moved to approve the 2016-2017 Revised Department of Health Fee Schedule as presented. 
(Motion: Schaffir / Second: Chiappetta / Vote: Unanimous – 5 in favor - 0 opposed)

2016 BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING SCHEDULE

Chairman noted that the 2016 Board meetings do not conflict with holidays or RTM meetings. Brief discussion ensued and the 2016 Meeting Schedule was approved as presented. [Copy is attached and made a part of these minutes]
(Motion: Bronin/ Second: Ross Cahn / Vote: Unanimous – 5 in favor - 0 opposed)

2016-2017 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OPERATIONAL PLAN

Ms. Baisley noted that the 2016-2017 Operational Plan addresses the Department’s mission by using a performance management system to set specific goals and objectives that are measurable and which, therefore, can be financially supported. The plan embraces the strategic planning process that allows the evaluation of making good choices for desired outcomes of these goals and objective and supports the basis for sound financial decisions. Director Baisley noted that the Operational Plan the Board was given is the more detailed version and the Town has a shorter version on the Town’s website. Discussion ensued about the change in public counter hours of Town departments that
include Planning and Zoning, Environmental Services, Inland Wetlands and Watercourses and Public Works Building Inspection. These departments serve many of the same clients that need permits and sign-offs and the new hours from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Monday through Friday will help. Current 2015-2016 goals and proposed goals for fiscal year 2016-2017 contained in the Operational Plan were discussed by Director Baisley. She noted that the Laboratory is experiencing difficulty with the radon in water testing. It is hoped that the Lab will rectify the problem and work with the State to get certification and offer the test to the public shortly.

Ms. Baisley noted that the most significant section of the Operational Plan is the Performance Measurements, which documents the work the Department has accomplished during the past year. Discussion ensued and Chairman requested that the Operational Plan be put up on the Department’s website and thanked Ms. Baisley for an excellent report.

OTHER BUSINESS

2016-2017 Department of Health Budget: Chairman noted that Director Baisley has been asked by the BET Budget Committee to attend a budget session as it relates to a capital project requested by GEMS. The project involves obtaining funds for a permanent structure for Station 4.

Zika Virus: Ms. Baisley noted that Zika is a mosquito borne virus, which has recently presented itself in Brazil and other countries in the Americas. Although transmission at this time may not include person-to-person, more research is being conducted on its spreading capacity. Here in the U.S., reported cases so far have been from individuals who have visited countries where the virus is spreading throughout the mosquito population. It is hazardous to pregnant women as it may affect their unborn children.

Burgers, Shakes and Fries: Chairman noted that the owner of Burgers, Shakes and Fries has requested a hearing before the Board to discuss her complaint about the establishment. The Department has addressed her complaints which cannot be substantiated; therefore, no action will be taken.

Green Our Children: Ms. Chiappetta spoke about her involvement with the Green Our Children group with whom she met to discuss their position about the dangers of pesticides and their effect on health. She supported their request to meet with the board since she believes pesticides cause cancer and other illness. She proposed that the Board allow the group to address the Board at the March 2016 meeting. Dr. Ross Cahn stated that if the group makes a presentation, it should be scientifically based. Discussion ensued about the laws about pesticide use on properties such as school grounds and Chairman stated the he would invite the organization, as well as Denise Savageau, Conservation Director, to the March or April meeting.

School Immunization Requirements: At Dr. Ross Cahn’s inquiry, Ms. Baisley stated that school immunization requirements are set by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health.
Nutrition for School Children: Dr. Ross Cahn referred to an article from the American Academy of Pediatrics that reported that lack of food or not enough food can affect children’s health. Brief discussion ensued about the need to inquire about how much food children are eating and Dr. Ross Cahn recommended that a representative from the Board of Education be invited to a future meeting to discuss this issue.

There being no further regular business, Dr. Bronin moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:15 PM. (Motion: Bronin / Second: Schaffir / Vote: Unanimous - 5 in favor - 0 opposed)

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Ross Cahn
Secretary Pro Tem
TOWN OF GREENWICH
CONNECTICUT

BOARD OF HEALTH
2016 MEETING SCHEDULE

Monday, February 29, 2016  Monday, August 22, 2016
Monday, March 28, 2016     Tuesday, September 27, 2016
Monday, April 25, 2016     Wednesday, October 26, 2016
Monday, May 23, 2016       Monday, November 21, 2016**
Monday, June 27, 2016      Monday, December 26, 2016

* Meeting will be held at 6:00 PM at the Milbrook Club, 61 Woodside Drive, Greenwich, followed by dinner for Board members

** Final Budget meeting

Meetings will commence at 6:30 PM in the Josephine C. Evaristo Conference Room, Third Floor, Town Hall.