

DRAFT - Subject to Board of Health Approval

BOARD OF HEALTH
Greenwich, Connecticut 06830



MINUTES

Board of Health Meeting

February 24, 2020

Present: Robert Carangelo, Dr. Andrew Bronin; Esq.; Vick Sandhu, Esq., Dr. Marilyn Ross Cahn; Lauren O'Keefe, APRN, FNP-BC; PA-C Maryann Ramos;

Staff: Caroline Baisley, Director of Health; Robin Clark-Smith; Director, Special Clinical Services; David Fraszka, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator; Joanna Lipson, Operations Administration

Absent: Julia Chiappetta

Mr. Carangelo called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM.

Minutes

The minutes of the January 30, 2020 meeting were approved.

(Motion: Ramos / Second: O'Keefe / Vote: 5 in favor – 0 opposed)

Update on Special Clinical Services

Ms. Clark, the Director of Special Clinical Services offered the following updates:

- The HIV/STD educational programs continue for 6th, 8th and 10th graders in the Greenwich Public Schools and one private school. Ms. Clark worked with the middle school teachers to make changes to the program to meet the needs of the schools. This year, there is a great group of peer educators who are in the process of recruiting new peer educators for next year.
- There were a few Bloodborne Pathogen Program incidents that needed attention and corrective action.
- Process changes within the State Laboratory have led to expedited test results, which are now received usually within 2-3 days.
- Medications used in the clinic are now coming from the State 340B pharmacy program.

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- All individuals with Hepatitis C positive test results are contacted to ensure they are receiving follow-up medical care and so far, all are receiving treatment.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness Update

David Fraszka, the Department's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator offered following updates:

- Medical countermeasure mass distribution planning continues to evolve at the federal, state, regional and local levels. During a mass vaccination event, supplies of vaccine will be delivered to a local health department distribution site; however, supplies of antibiotics and/or antivirals will be delivered to a regional distribution site and will need to be picked up by local health jurisdictions.
- Testing of the new, statewide Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteer management system "CT Responds!" is nearing completion. All MRC volunteers within the State will be required to register in this system which will be used for notifications.
- A new statewide training plan for the MRC volunteers is being developed and will be available to local health department MRC units in the near future. This will allow for more consistent training for all volunteers across the State.
- The Department's emergency preparedness and response planning for vulnerable populations recently included:
 - Participation in the Regional access and functional needs workshop.
 - Participation in the First Selectmen's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities.
 - Presentation made to the Boys and Girls Club of Greenwich.
 - Social Media Campaign messages.

Update on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Director of Health offered the following information regarding the new coronavirus COVID-19:

- New respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China.
- Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals, including camels, cats and bats.
- COVID – 19 most likely originally emerged from an animal source, but now seems to be spreading from person-to-person.
- Genetic analyses suggest this virus emerged from a virus related to SARS.
- There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19 infection. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus.
- In the U.S., travelers coming from Wuhan City, Heubei Province, China and other areas of China are interviewed/assessed by the CDC and travelers are assigned a risk category (High, Medium, Low and No Risk) depending on where in China they are coming from and their health.

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- Those individuals coming from Wuhan City, where the virus outbreak occurred will be assessed and dealt with accordingly. Symptomatic individuals will not go on to their final destinations and will be placed in a medical facility for treatment. Those who are asymptomatic will not go on to their final destinations and will be placed in a facility for observation for 14 days. Those individuals coming from other areas of China will either go to a medical facility, if they are symptomatic, or go on to their final destination, if they are asymptomatic, State health officials will refer these individuals to local health authorities for a 14-day monitoring period. The Director of Health noted that this situation is evolving rapidly, and changes will be made by the CDC/State as needed.

Other Business

As a result of a woodburning smoke complaint, a Notice of Violation was issued.

The Director of Health issued a direct Order to close Greenwich Point to all dogs until further notice, due to positive testing results for Distemper in the raccoon population.

There being no further business, Mr. Chairman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM.

(Motion: Ramos/ Second: Cahn Vote: 5 in favor - 0 opposed)

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Bronin, M.D.