

MINUTES
Board of Health Meeting
February 25, 2019

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

Absent: Julia Chiappetta

Staff: Caroline Baisley, Director of Health; Deborah Travers, APRN, FNP-BC, Director of Family Health; Robin Clark-Smith, Director of Special Clinical Services

Guest Speakers: Dennis Bludnicki and Holly Robinson, Youth Counselors, Liberation Programs' Youth and Family Services

Mr. Carangelo called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

Minutes

The minutes of the January 24, 2019 meeting were approved.

(Motion: Bronin / Second: Cahn / Vote: 5 in favor –1 abstention)

Presentation on Vaping

Mr. Bludnicki and Ms. Robinson informed the Board that vaping is a very serious problem among middle and high school age children and as youth counselors they are both very familiar with this issue. In Greenwich High School, students caught vaping are assigned in-school suspension followed by a meeting with parents and counselors. Two vaping detectors were installed in the Greenwich High school for both detection and deterrence. The presenters played the board a very informative video on JUUL and showed the members of the Board examples of different types of E-cigarettes. They stated that some of those devices may be used to inhale Marihuana and all are hard to detect when they are being used. Discussion ensued on the problem of vaping. The counselor concluded their presentation by showing an educational video on addiction.

Chairman thanked Mr. Bludnicki and Ms. Robinson for their informative presentation.

Special Clinical Services Update

The Director of special Clinical Services Offered the following:

- Education programs continue for the 8th and 10th grades in Greenwich public schools and one private school schools.

- Bloodborne pathogen programs are continuing. There was one incident that required a corrective action plan, which was handled correctly and in timely manner.
- The clinic was inspected by the CT Department of Public Health with no violation found.
- The State lab acquired new equipment which allows for testing of specimens.
- The Division has a specimen courier available three times a week as opposed to previous one day a week, due to a new HIV test requiring 24-hour turn around.

Update on the Department's 2019-2020 Proposed Budget

The Director was pleased with this year's BET Budget Committee's proposed budget review process. She commended the Department's staff for answering the BET's questions and explaining their programs in more detail during the review.

The Director was also pleased that the BET Human Resources committee approved the supplemental funds for the much needed Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator's position, which is funded partially by a federal grant.

Dr. Cahn inquired if there was any new information on the measles outbreaks. Ms. Travers, the Director of Family Health, stated that new State legislation is being considered regarding vaccination exemptions. Dr. Bronin pointed out that unvaccinated children pose a true public health threat, especially to children who are too young to be vaccinated.

Other Business

Chairman stated that Director of Health is working with GEMS to collect all necessary documents for GEMS contract, which expires at the end of June, 2019. He explained that there are no substantive changes in the contract language and the process should be straightforward. He moved approve resolution supporting GEMS to Continue Provide Advance Life Support Emergency Medical Services for the Town of Greenwich for the period of July, 2019 through June 30, 2029.

(Motion: Bronin/ Second: O'Keefe / Vote: 6 in favor – 0 opposed)

There being no further business, Mr. Chairman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM.

(Motion: Ramos/ Second: O'Keefe/Vote: Unanimous – 6 in favor - 0 opposed)

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew Bronin, M.D.