

## MINUTES

### Board of Health Meeting

February 27, 2017

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

**Absent:** Dr. Mark Armstrong, Kurt Schaffir

**Staff:** Robin Clark-Smith, Michael Long, Deborah Travers, Carol Dixon

Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM.

### MINUTES

The minutes of the January 26, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously.

**(Motion: Bronin / Second: Ross Cahn / Vote: 3 in favor - 0 opposed – 2 abstentions [Mr. Sandhu and Ms. Chiappetta were not at the meeting])**

### Social Media/Goals and Objectives HIV/STD Program

The clinic continues to use the fourth generation HIV test, and has added two new tests from the State of Connecticut for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea. Google had an incorrect telephone number listed for our clinic, which has now been corrected. The Department's STD Clinic page has been completely updated. Education programs continue for the eighth graders and tenth graders, and this year one of the Middle Schools requested a program for sixth graders. The Bloodborne Pathogens training now includes a timed interactive program that class participants take on their cell phones. The new format has been well received. Last year there was a request that we look at social media for the Department. Ms. Clark-Smith participated in a webinar which has led to assistance and guidance from the CDC. Research continues. Discussion ensued and the Chairman thanked Ms. Clark-Smith for her presentation.

### Local Contamination Issues/Goals and Objectives Environmental Services

Byram Beach Pool remediation is complete and is under construction. William Street ball field has been remediated as well. It has not yet been returned to original grade because of issues with the new school going in and the likelihood of the field being used as a construction staging area. Greenwich High School – Amy Siebert from DPW is awaiting DEP and EPA approvals to do the majority of the work under the

artificial fields. Monitoring of groundwater continues, with results being sent to DEP and EPA. In January the Board of Education received approval for more funding to finance the testing for PCB delineation at Western Middle School fields. Once the areas have been delineated, remediation can begin. Environmental staff are conducting hand wash surveys at the full food service establishments. The first round of surveys was done in the fourth quarter of last year, and another round is currently being done, so survey results should be available in June. The Departments of Health and Public Works are currently working together on a storm drain project at Byram Beach. There is a large storm drain that empties out between the marina and the beach. If it rains this spring, DPW will open some manholes so the Health Department can access the drain lines and take water samples. The purpose is to determine whether the storm drain is a major contributor to elevated bacteria at the beach. Discussion ensued. The Chairman thanked Mr. Long for his report.

### **Drought Update**

We are still in a drought, and our reservoirs are at about 75%, but we are still bringing water in from the Stamford line. The City of Stamford is hosting a drought update session on March 6 at UConn to plan for the spring and summer months. If we return to business as usual, we will be right back in the same drought situation by fall. There was much discussion regarding ways to educate the public and ways of limiting water usage, irrigation wells and irrigation systems and possible restrictions from the Board of Selectmen.

### **State Proposal to Integrate All Local Health Departments/Districts**

While there has been discussion regarding the State's proposal to regionalize health departments in Connecticut, there is now a raised bill before the State General Assembly to eliminate local departments and consolidate them into health districts. Ms. Baisley gave a comprehensive overview of current Connecticut health departments, mandated services, provided services, regional employees, finances and possible impacts of the State's proposal. Much discussion ensued. A letter will be sent to local State representatives from the Board of Health so that the views of the Board are on record. In addition, if chosen, Ms. Baisley will provide oral testimony at an upcoming hearing on the proposal.

### **Other Business**

There being no further regular business, Dr. Bronin moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:06 PM.  
(Motion: Bronin/ Second: Sandhu /Vote: Unanimous - 4 in favor - 0 opposed – Ms. Chiappetta left at 7:35PM)

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew Bronin, M.D.

Secretary