

Minutes

Board of Health Minutes

May 23, 2022 via ZOOM

Present: Robert Carangelo, Esq., Chairman; Anne Fountain; Dr. Danielle Goodwin, DDS; Dr. Sarah Gamble; Lauren O'Keefe, APRN, FNP-BC

Staff: Caroline Baisley, Director of Health; Debora Edwards, Operations Administrator; Deborah Traver, Director of Environmental Health, Linda Conti, Dental Hygienist; Jeannie Schnakenberg, Dental Hygienist

Presenters: Deborah Travers, Director of Family Services; Linda Conti and Jeannie Schnakenberg, Dental Hygienist; Caroline C. Baisley, Director of Health

The ZOOM Meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Robert Carangelo, Esq. at 6:30 pm

Division of Family Health Update:

Ms. Travers offered the following updates:

- Family Health Division was impacted in many of their programs due to the COVID pandemic. The pandemic caused Town Hall to close down for a while and daycares facilities not allowing guest into the facility to help keep their staff and students safer. A few programs that were affected due to COVID pandemic include, The Childhood Program, Passport program, and vaccine clinics.
- The Lead Program will be having more of an impact since the legation change the level when it has to be reported. They lowered the level to 3.5 to trigger a follow up on children.
- The Community Assessment was done this year, which is performed every three years. This year Yale made the survey only available online.
- Shortage of formula has become a big issue. The WIC Program sent a blast email to parents informing them if they could not find the formula for their children to reach out to social services and they will help them find a different formula. Hopefully, the shortage of formula will

be getting better soon since the manufactures are ramping up to make more and there is more formula being flown into the U.S.

- Family Health Division’s nurses have been extremely busy with vaccine clinics and contact tracing. As of today, the Department has given 7100 doses of COVID vaccine and 120 of those shots were home visits.
- At this time the Senior Center is still closed. Chairman Carangelo requested Deborah find out when the Senior Center will be opening.

Dental Health Program Update:

Ms. Conti and Ms. Schnakenberg provided the following updates on the activities of Department’s Dental Program:

- The Dental Health Program strives to prevent oral disease in persons of all ages and identifies those who do not appear to have sufficient access to adequate, quality oral health care.
- The Program offers oral health screenings for early detection of dental health problems that includes coordination an appropriate referral mechanism for treatment.
- Ms. Conti and Ms. Schnakenberg provide age appropriate health education to Greenwich students that includes disease prevention, human growth and nutrition, good oral health habits, substance abuse, oral piercing, safety and accident prevention and tobacco use.
- This year both public health dental hygienists participated in “Every Smile Counts”, which is conducted every five years by the CT Department of Public Health. This program provides important information about the oral health of elementary children across the state. The state randomly picks the school. This year the two schools picked to participate was Old Greenwich and North Street. The results of the survey for the two schools were that 201 screenings were performed with 4 requiring dental treatment.
- The current school year 2021-2022, the dental health program serviced the schools with oral health lessons but unable to perform dental health screening on students due to the pandemic.
- The fluoride rinse program was not offered this school year of 2021-2022 to reduce the spread of germs in the COVID-19 pandemic. But in the upcoming school year they will introduce a fluoride varnish program for students in 1st grade through 5th grade. The varnish will be applied during the student’s dental screening.
- In the fiscal school year of 2021-2022 Greenwich Health Department is in collaboration with HUSKY and the Optimus Healthcare of Stamford to bring a mobile van for dental services to New Lebanon school in the fall. The students will be screened by the Public Health Dental Hygienist from Greenwich Health Department and then referred for treatment on the mobile van, which will treat the students at the school. This service will start in the beginning of the 2022/2023 school year and being offered to the students who qualify for free or reduced lunch and students that are on the Husky insurance.

- This current fiscal 2021-2022 the two hygienists have been actively involved in contact tracing but in the new fiscal year 2022-2023 school year they will be in full service in the schools with oral health screening, and education.

COVID-19 Update: Caroline Baisley, Director of Health:

- COVID-19 cases continue to rise in the United State along with hospitalizations and deaths.
- At this time there are 50 (fifty) to 60 (sixty) cases per week in Greenwich. Cases are increasing due to family transmission, employees, events etc.
- Currently there has been a surge in syphilis in Connecticut.
- New outbreak of Monkey Pox happening and is now in the U.S.

Motion to adjourn requested at 7:38 pm by Robert Carangelo, Esq. (Motion: O’Keefe / Second: Fountain)

Minutes prepared by, Debora Edwards, Operations Administrator