

MINUTES
Board of Health Meeting
September 25, 2018

Present: Robert Carangelo, Esq.; Dr. Marilyn Ross Cahn; PA-C Maryann Ramos;
Dr. Mark Armstrong; Vick Sandhu, Esq.

Guests: Tracy Schietinger, GEMS Executive Director; Michael Niekamp, GEMS Director of Finance

Staff: Caroline Baisley, Deborah Travers; Joanna Lipson; Michael Long,

Absent: Dr. Andrew Bronin, Julia Chiappetta;

Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Minutes

The minutes of the July 2, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously.
(Motion: Ross Cahn / Second: Sandhu / Vote: 5 in favor – 0 opposed)

GEMS Quarterly Report

Michael Niekamp, GEMS new Director of Finance presented GEMS quarterly financial report.

Mr. Niekamp offered the following:

- Following suggestion of the Board of Health, GEMS opened an investment account with JP Morgan to earn better interest on the agency's operational funds. GEMS is in the process of developing an investment policy for the agency.
- Year to date emergency response calls as of April 2018 were over budget by 142. The budget was based on multiyear historical experience and being over budget in the first quarter of the fiscal year is consistent with prior years.
- For the quarter ending July 31, 2018 the change in operating net assets for the unrestricted fund was positive.
- Cash collections on patient receivables show a small decrease from the quarter ending July 31, 2017.
- Capital equipment is financed by fundraising contributions to GEMS.
- Operating expenses were under budget for the three months of the first quarter ending July 31, 2018, largely in the personnel, employee benefits, supplies and materials and repair and maintenance automotive expense lines.

Ms. Schietinger offered the following operational updates:

- Since the beginning of the summer beach season, GEMS Marine Medic responded to three calls, which included one transport and Bike Medic Team responded to many calls for minor injuries with no transports.

- GEMS staff delivered a public education session on Opioids at the Greenwich Library, which was organized collaboratively with the Department of Health.
- With the help of Friends of Greenwich Point and the fundraising effort by GEMS, the agency was able to purchase two AEDs and two outdoor cases, that allow the AEDs to be kept at the beach year-round.
- During the September 4th power outage GEMS staff were very busy, transporting four patients due to heat related issues, three of which were identified while doing door to door welfare checks at Agnes Morley housing complex.

Presentation: West Nile Virus (WNV) 2018

Michael Long presented the following:

- To date, the State reported that WNV was isolated from mosquitoes in 53 towns. There are trapping sites in 72 towns in the State.
- The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station has 91 mosquito trapping stations across the State - three of which are in Greenwich
- The number of mosquitos that tested positive for WNV so far this year throughout the State is well above average.
- There are 10 reported human cases positive for WNV in Connecticut for year 2018 to date, none in Greenwich.
- Mosquito Larvicide is applied to the catch basins in Town on a monthly basis from June through October in an effort to reduce adult mosquito populations. Parks and Receptions staff address catch basins on Town properties.
- Public information efforts by the Department of Health on WNV include press releases, WGCH public service announcements as well as brochures and flyers which are distributed throughout the community and are posted on the website.
- Environmental Services staff respond to resident complaints of standing water throughout the season to ensure removal of mosquito habitats and educate property owners on maintenance requirements.

Other Business

Chairman noted the following:

- The Ethics Disclosure form is available on Town's Website and needs to be filled out and submitted if and when a Board member or a member of their family conduct any business with the Town.
- The Board members are encouraged to notify the Chairman if they have discussion items or presentations they want to place on the Board's agenda.
- This year's Department's flu vaccination clinics will commence on October 4th.

There being no further business, Dr. Cahn moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM.

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

Respectfully submitted for Dr. Bronin,


Marilyn Ross Cahn, M.D.