

MINUTES

Board of Health Meeting

September 27, 2016

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

Guests: Charlee Tufts, Executive Director and John Strong, Financial Officer, GEMS; Danicl Warzoha, Emergency Management Director

Staff: Carol Dixon; Deborah Travers

Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM.

MINUTES

The minutes of the June 27, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously.

(Motion: Bronin / Second: Ross Cahn / Vote: 6 in favor - 0 opposed – 1 abstention [Mr. Schaffir was not at the meeting])

Chairman advised the Board that Charlee Tufts will be stepping down as Executive Director of GEMS in the first quarter of 2017. She has been at the helm of GEMS for 30 years, since its inception, and has built a top notch organization and has stayed on the cutting edge of emergency medicine. She will be missed.

GEMS QUARTERLY REPORT

John Strong offered a financial report:

- Fiscal Year end for GEMS is April 30
- Fundraising campaign for this year is just beginning
- Cash receipts for the first quarter of this year are up when compared to last year at the same time
- Accounts Payable is down somewhat, compared to last year at the same time

Charlee Tufts noted with interest that Dan Warzoha was present at tonight's meeting – he was an important part of the initial two-year development of GEMS and that the press conference to announce the birth of GEMS took place in the same room we are in tonight.

Ms. Tufts spoke about some newly established State protocols pertaining to patient care being rolled out. While initially there was enthusiasm for the idea of State protocols, it now seems that for progressive services with a high level of care, such as exists in Greenwich, the protocols may be detrimental to patient care. Ms. Tufts feels that sponsor hospitals and Medical Directors will be sending revised protocols to the State for consideration.

Ms. Tufts also spoke about Narcan, which has been in the news. It is not a new drug. It was approved by the FDA in 1971, and GEMS has carried it since they began, but it has been receiving a lot of attention recently. The paramedics can administer titrated doses to a patient, rather than the one measured nasal dose that first responders are able to administer. In Greenwich, not all first responders will carry the nasal Narcan; GEMS will provide the Narcotics Team of the Police Department with the nasal Narcan. In Greenwich, we have not seen the numbers of opioid overdosing that other communities have experienced.

Local Emergency Management Planning

Dan Warzoha spoke about a big project between fourteen Towns, which was recently held at Sherwood Island and involved Police, Fire and EMS. Greenwich was well represented in both manpower and equipment. The event was designed as a Field Day, which afforded the opportunity to include a communications exercise, hazmat exercise, helicopter demonstrations and dive equipment. Mr. Warzoha described how the regional unified command system operates in a large regional event and how mutual aid assets are shared, such as road barriers, traffic cones, winter salt supplies and variable message signs (such as the one recently borrowed from Bridgeport for the water shortage). If the event is widespread, assets can be allocated from the federal level. An example is during Hurricane Sandy when 50 people from Michigan were sent to Greenwich through the National Forest Service to cut trees and clear roads.

Mr. Warzoha advised the Board that Greenwich is scheduled for a visit by the State Grants Unit to audit our EMPG program. Until the audit is completed, the State will not issue the \$60,000.00 check owed for the 2013 and 2014 fiscal years. This is putting the local table top exercises on hold.

Appointment of 2017-2018 Budget Overview Committee

Chairman noted that the Department of Health budget is a very small portion of the total Town budget. Dr. Cahn and Dr. Bronin have agreed to serve with him on the Committee and they will discuss possible dates to begin that process.

Chairman pointed out that Flu Clinics have begun.

Chairman advised that Caroline Baisley, Director of Health and Michael Long, Director of Environmental Services, are at a meeting regarding Western Middle School soil contamination and will provide an update to the Board.

The October Board package will include the meeting dates for 2017.

Chairman introduced a Resolution honoring Ann Augustinc, Assistant to the Director of Health, who has retired after thirty four-years. She has been an incredible asset to the Town and has been very involved at the Board level. He felt it was appropriate for the Board to recognize her. The resolution was approved as written, will be appended to these minutes and a copy will be sent to Ann.

(Motion: Bronin / Second: Ross Cahn / Vote: Unanimous – 7 in favor – 0 opposed)

There being no further regular business, Dr. Bronin moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:38 PM.

(Motion: Carangelo / Second: Ross Cahn / Vote: Unanimous - 7 in favor - 0 opposed)

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew Bronin, M.D.

Secretary

Attachment: Resolution

BOARD OF HEALTH
GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT 06836



**TOWN OF GREENWICH
CONNECTICUT**

**RESOLUTIONS REGARDING ANN AUGUSTINE
SEPTEMBER 27, 2016**

WHEREAS, Ann Augustine, a member of the Greenwich Department of Health (the "Department") for thirty-four years, is retiring from service, effective September 30, 2016;

WHEREAS, Ann Augustine has been an integral member of the Greenwich Department of Health and has applied her knowledge and skill in support of the public health mission of providing for the public health needs of the community;

WHEREAS, Ann has worked exclusively for two Department of Health Directors and served nine Board of Health Chairmen in her tenure and, with high standards, managed the core operating functions of the Department of Health;

WHEREAS, Ann has consistently extended herself and shared her professionalism, thoughtfulness and cooperative spirit with anyone needing information, assistance or guidance and has always demonstrated a willingness and unique ability to take on whatever additional responsibilities necessary to accomplish public health goals for the betterment of the community;

WHEREAS, Ann's personal motivation was to help others, and with generosity she volunteered her time at Nathaniel Witherell;

WHEREAS, Ann is a wonderful, kind and thoughtful person who the staff of the Department respect and seek out for guidance and support; and

WHEREAS, Ann's exemplary work for thirty-four years in the Department is a major contribution to public health for the Town of Greenwich.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Department and the Board of Health, greatly appreciate and acknowledge Ann Augustine's outstanding and dedicated service that has touched the lives of so many, and with much gratitude, congratulate Ann and wish her all the best in retirement; and further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be set forth in the minutes of this meeting and that the Director of Health send a copy to Ann.

Approved unanimously at its September 27, 2016 meeting