

Minutes

Board of Health Minutes

October 24, 2022 via ZOOM

Present: Joel Muhlbaum, Esq., Chair; Dr. Danielle Goodwin, DDS; Lauren O'Keefe, APRN, FNP-BC; Sarah Gamble, D.O.; Sarah Madden, Maryann Ramos, MPH, PA-C Emeritus; Ann Fountain

Staff: Robin Clark-Smith, Acting Director of Health; Debora Edwards, Operations Administrator; Dr. Stephanie Paulmeno, Public Health Promotion Specialist

Presenters: Dr. Stephanie Paulmeno, Public Health Promotion Specialist

The ZOOM Meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Joel Muhlbaum, Esq. at 6:33pm

Minutes

The minutes of the September 19, 2022 meeting were presented. One edit was requested. Motion to accept the minutes as submitted were approved and accepted. **(Motion: Goodwin / Second: Madden/ Vote: 5 in favor – 0 opposed -2 absentee)**

Monkeypox Presentation: Dr. Stephanie Paulmeno, Public Health Promotion Specialist:

- On August 4, 2022, President Biden declared Monkeypox a Public Health Emergency.
- Monkeypox is in the same virus family as smallpox but is a different disease.
- It is a rare disease and is rarely fatal.
- First human case was identified in 1970 and normally seen in West and Central Africa.
- Vaccines is advised for: Close contacts of someone with monkeypox, someone who has been exposed to monkeypox, and those with an increased risk of exposure.
- As of 10/21/22 confirmed cases in the USA is 27,884; State of Connecticut has 139 confirmed cases; and Fairfield County has 46 confirmed cases.
- Symptoms usually emerge within 3-weeks of exposure to the virus. A rash can break out on the hands or feet, on the chest, the face or mouth, as well as on any part of the male or female genitalia. The rash progresses through stages: pimples, blisters and scabs. The rash is extremely painful.
- Ways to lower risk of contacting Monkeypox include: Vaccination against monkeypox, alter risky behaviors, exchange contact info with new partners for potential follow-up, discuss monkeypox

symptoms with partners before intimacy/close physical contact, limit the number of contacts, avoid anonymous sex and use barrier protections.

Health Budget Overview Committee: Chair, Joel Muhlbaum, Esq.

Two members were volunteer to the Health Budget Overview Committee: Daniele Goodwin, DDS and Lauren O'Keefe, APRN, FNP-BC will be meeting with Caroline C. Baisley, Director of Health on Friday, November 11, 2022.

COVID-19 Update: Robin Clark-Smith, Acting Director of Health:

- From October 14, 2022 to October 20, 2022 there were 405 hospitalization during that time in Connecticut.
- Total number of cases to date is 908,015 in Connecticut, with 11,462 total number of deaths
- In Greenwich as of October 20, 2022 total number of cases 16,129 with 51 active cases the staff is working on.
- Currently there are about 10 cases a day of COVID-19 in Greenwich.
- Percentage of Connecticut full vaccinated that had a valid county residence was 98.3%. All age groups from 5 years and older indicate an over 80% vaccination rate.
- The CDC has listed all counties in Connecticut except New London in the yellow or medium community level transition.
- New COVID booster vaccine was received. The Department held two COVID booster vaccination clinics on October 11 and October 19, 2022 and were very successful.

Other Business:

- RSV (Respiratory syncytial virus) was questioned if only children are getting the virus. Dr. Gamble said that both children and adults are getting the virus.

Motion to adjourn requested at 7:22 pm by Chair Joel Muhlbaum, Esq. (Motion: O'Keefe / Second: Fountain) (7 in favor - 0 opposed)

Minutes prepared by, Debora Edwards. Operations Administrator 10/27/22

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Goodwin, Secretary 10/31/22