

,TOWN OF KILLINGWORTH

Public Health Agency

323 Route 81

Killingworth, CT 06419

MINUTES

January 8, 2014

Members Present: Chair Natalie Ortolì Drew, Betty Dennis, Trish Hatin, Sue Nesci, Daniel Ott, Ernest Pizzuto, RS and Health Director Maura Esposito

Members Absent: Martha Hogan, Laurie Kumnick, Barbara Klein and First Selectman Catherine Iino

Chair Natalie Ortolì Drew called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

Minutes

MOTION: Trish Hatin moved and Betty Dennis seconded acceptance of the October 9th minutes. Voting in favor: Natalie Ortolì Drew, Betty Dennis, Trish Hatin, Sue Nesci, Ernest Pizzuto, RS; ;Opposed: 0 Abstentions: Daniel Ott .The motion carried:5:0:1.

Meeting Dates

Maura Esposito distributed meeting dates for 2014 and January 2015. The committee will continue to meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm at Town Hall.

MOTION: Dan Ott moved and Betty Dennis seconded approval of the meeting schedule for 2014 and January 2015. Voting in favor: Natalie Ortolì Drew, Betty Dennis, Trish Hatin, Sue Nesci, Daniel Ott, and Ernest Pizzuto, RS; Opposed: 0 Abstentions:0. The motion carried: 6:0:0.

Nominations

Natalie Drew explained that since the committee did not meet in November and December, nomination for two positions for 2014 were needed.

MOTION: Sue Nesci moved and Betty Dennis seconded the nomination of Natalie Ortolì Drew as Chair. Voting in favor: Betty Dennis, Trish Hatin, Sue Nesci, Daniel Ott, and Ernest Pizzuto, RS; Opposed: 0 Abstentions:0. The motion carried: 5:0:0.

MOTION: Betty Dennis moved and Trish Hatin seconded the nomination of Sue Nesci as Secretary. Natalie Ortolì Drew, Betty Dennis, Trish Hatin, Daniel Ott, and Ernest Pizzuto, RS; Opposed: 0 Abstentions:0. The motion carried: 5:0:0.

Health Director Update

Maura Esposito's report provided the following updates:

Monitor health status- The committee reviewed the monthly reportable disease report. Maura noted that 2 cases of influenza have been reported. There have been two deaths reported in the state. The flu strain is H1N1. Hand washing and flu vaccination should be encouraged.

Lyme disease continues to be the most common reportable disease. Maura said that CDC reported three deaths from Lyme carditis. Deaths from Lyme carditis are unusual. The committee recommended that the Public Health Agency undertake an educational exhibit on Lyme prevention at the St. Lawrence Strawberry Festival in June. Natalie Drew suggested the initiative be part of the CERT exhibit. Sue Nesci offered to help with resources on Lyme prevention and tick recognition from the Arthritis Foundation.

Mobilize community partnerships- The VNA's October 17 flu clinic at the Congregational Church served 35 people. In 2012, the program only served 10 people.

The Chatham Health District has completed an extensive community health needs assessment. Teen smoking was identified as an issue in Killingworth. This may be an issue that the health department can partner with area youth agencies and schools to address. The committee discussed recommending that smoking be prohibited in parks.

Maura is working on testing wells for arsenic and uranium with the State Health Department during the last week in January. Twenty residents have already been recruited. Test results should be available in March. January is national Radon Month. Radon testing kits will be available at the health department.

With the extreme cold temperatures, Maura is preparing information for the PATCH and Killingworth Today on avoiding hyperthermia.

State Health Commissioner Jewel Mullen, MD, MPH will visit the Killingworth Health Department to review operations. Maura reported that Killingworth is one of 24 part-time health departments in the state and one of the two most active.

Enforce laws/regulations to protect public health- Maura reviewed the following statistics: 3 septic repairs with soil testing and 6 repair reviews; 4 new lots reviews; 4 final septic inspections; soil testing for 5 B100 and 8 B100 reviews; 4 well permits (2 new homes); 117 pump-out permits; 1 housing complaint resolved; 3 temporary food events.

Maura reported sending out 17 restaurant license applications (9 are still outstanding). She noted that restaurant inspections are running behind schedule because there has been so much building-related activity. For the 2014 budget, she is recommending hiring a part-time restaurant inspector to keep restaurant inspections on schedule.

Insure access to health services- There was a good response from a number of community groups to the first closed Emergency Preparedness POD (Point of Distribution) meeting for mass dispensing at the Firehouse. A follow-up meeting is being scheduled for February 4th at the Firehouse, if it is available. A regional drill to pick up forms for mass dispensing is planned for April. Bringing a POD to Killingworth for mass dispensing should insure that residents can access mass dispensing services in town in an emergency rather than having to travel by bus to Old Saybrook High School.

Maura reported follow up information on the committee's recommendation to offer a class on first aid for pets. Total costs would be \$600. Cost per participant would be \$10.

Evaluation effectiveness of health services- At the committee's request, Maura presented a comparison of Killingworth's fees for various health department services in comparison with other towns. She noted that fees are comparable to surrounding towns,

except for the CT River Valley Health District whose fee schedule is much higher. The fee schedule is close to that of the Chatham Health District.

The health department's proposed budget increases from \$46,600 to \$52,000. The increase comes from costs for water testing for Sheldon and Parmalee and a part-time restaurant inspector.

Maura has graduated from the national Survive and Thrive program for city and county health officials. She has also completed a two day soil testing seminar.

MOTION-Ernest Pizzuto moved and Betty Dennis seconded a motion to adjourn. Voting in favor: Natalie Ortolini Drew, Betty Dennis, Trish Hatin, Sue Nesci, Daniel Ott, and Ernest Pizzuto, RS; Opposed: 0 Abstentions:0. The motion carried: 6:0:0.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

The next meeting will be February 12th.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Nesci

Susan Nesci
Secretary