

TOWN OF KILLINGWORTH

Public Health Agency

323 Routes 81

Killingworth, CT 06419

MINUTES

October 14, 2015

Members Present: Chair Natalie Ortolini Drew, Betty Dennis, Robin Duffield, Cheryl Fine, Martha Hogan, Michelle Kelvey-Albert, Sue Nesci, Ernest Pizzuto, and Health Director Paul Hutcheon.

Members Absent: Cathy lino, Barbara Klein,

Chair Natalie Ortolini Drew called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. Michelle Kelvey-Albert introduced Dylan, an Eagle Scout who was attending the meeting to meet scouting requirements.

Minutes

Robin Duffield reported an error in the September 9th minutes noting that a no smoking sign is posted at the high school field and not Killingworth Recreational Park. She recommended that the minutes be amended by striking the sentence incorrectly reporting the location of the sign.

MOTION: Betty Dennis moved and Robin Duffield seconded acceptance of the amended September 9th minutes. Voting in favor: Natalie Ortolini Drew, Betty Dennis, Robin Duffield, Martha Hogan, Michelle Kelvey-Albert, Sue Nesci, and Ernest Pizzuto, Opposed: 0; Abstentions: Cheryl Fine. The motion carried 7:0:1.

First Selectman Update

Paul Hutcheon reported the following for the First Selectman Cathy lino:

- Red Cross with the fire department has distributed 78 smoking detectors, starting with the Jensen's Community. The smoke detectors have a ten year battery life.
- The Killingworth Women's Organization conducted a workshop on domestic violence on October 8th.

Health Director Update Paul provided the following updates on some of the ten essential local health department services.

Conduct Assessment Activities- The state health department approved the town's application for a \$2,500 lead grant for programs and services that focus on prevention and reduction of lead paint in homes built prior to 1978. Letters will be sent to 1) contractors working in Killingworth in the past, and 2) contractors taking out permits. The letters will explain the requirements of a 2010 federal law requiring training and certification. The Connecticut River Valley Health District will check to see if the contractors are already RP/EPA trained and certified. The grant will pay for training classes for contractors applying for permits who are not yet certified.

Inform & Educate about Public Health- Paul is sending out a press release encouraging people with backyard poultry flocks to register their flocks with the State Agriculture Department because of the risk of avian influenza. Registration will allow the

State Agriculture Department to notify owners on how to protect their flocks if there is a risk for avian flu in their area. Paul explained that migrating birds can pose a risk for spreading avian flu.

Paul asked for volunteers from the committee to work on a fall prevention program for seniors and a program for caregivers on driving safety for seniors.

Develop Public Health Policies and Plans – Paul will be sending letters to builders advising them to test for uranium in well water. He is also considering adding testing for radon since the state code permits requiring radon testing if it's an issue in the area.

A representative from a group called Environment & Human Health Inc. visited Paul with information on the health effects of wood smoke. The group is seeking town ordinances banning outdoor wood furnaces or boilers. A group representative will be contacting the First Selectman to discuss the initiative. Robin Duffield noted that a similar initiative was not approved at a past town meeting. She recommended that any future proposal consider grandfathering existing units because of conversion costs for other heating systems to the homeowner. Paul noted that zoning regulations restrict proximity and chimney height of outdoor wood furnaces. He added that it is not possible from current electronic building records to tell how many outdoor wood boilers there are in town. He reported that the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is offering \$3,000 to owners to remove older outdoor boilers, or \$6,000 to owners who replace older units with newer, cleaners and more efficient units. The committee recommended that Paul follow up with the First Selectman and request that the Public Health Agency be consulted if an ordinance is brought for consideration to the Board of Selectmen.

Sue Nesci reviewed recommendations from the state health department on smoking/tobacco prevention in parks. The committee has been considering recommendations to the Parks and Recreation committee for signs discouraging smoking/tobacco use at town recreational fields and parks. Sue noted that the state recommends using no tobacco use on signs rather than no smoking because it is the approach commonly used in school policies. Robin Duffield recommended checking with the school District 17 for the wording of their policy. Sue will check with the school district and check on possible funding for signs with the First Selectman. She has emailed the chair of Parks & Recreation to ask about the number of signs needed.

Enforce Public Health Laws and Regulations- Paul distributed guidelines to food service establishments on food safety during a power outage. Food service establishments are required to close if they do not have a generator that powers the entire establishment. The letter included charts for refrigerated and heated food temperatures to use/discard when power is restored.

2016 Meeting Dates

Paul distributed a list of meeting dates for 2016.

MOTION: Martha Hogan moved and Betty Dennis seconded acceptance of the dates as presented for 2016 meetings of the Public Health Agency. Voting in favor: Natalie Ortolini, Betty Dennis, Robin Duffield, Cheryl Fine, Martha Hogan, Michelle Kelvey-Albert, Sue Nesci, and Ernest Pizzuto; Opposed:0; Abstentions:0. The motion carried: 8:0:0.

MOTION- Cathy Iino moved and Betty Dennis seconded a motion to adjourn. Voting in favor: Natalie Ortolini Drew, Betty Dennis, Robin Duffield, Cheryl Fine, Martha Hogan, Michelle Kelvey-Albert, Sue Nesci, and Ernest Pizzuto ; Opposed: 0; Abstentions: 0. The motion carried: 8:0:0.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm. The next meeting will be November 4th.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Nesci
Susan Nesci, Secretary