

Public Health Agency
323 Route 81
Killingworth, CT 06419

December 13, 2017
MINUTES

Members Present: Chair Natalie Ortolí Drew, Betty Dennis, Robin Duffield, Cheryl Fine, Sue Nesci, Ernest Pizzuto, Mike Stehney, and Health Director Paul Hutcheon.

Members Absent: Cathy lino and Martha Hogan

Chair Natalie Ortolí Drew called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Minutes-

MOTION: Ernest Pizzuto moved and Mike Stehney seconded acceptance of the November 8th minutes. Voting in favor: Betty Dennis, Natalie Ortolí Drew, Cheryl Fine, Sue Nesci, Ernest Pizzuto. and Mike Stehney; Opposed: 0; Abstentions :Robin Duffield. The motion carried 6:0:1.

First Selectman Update - Paul Hutcheon noted that Cathy had no report.

Health Director Update Paul Hutcheon provided the following updates:

Investigating & Diagnosing Health Problems & Hazards- He investigated a report of total coliform in a public well serving a food service establishment. The establishment had to shut down food service while the well was chlorinated. A follow-up sample indicated the issue was resolved.

Lead grant- Funding for the childhood lead prevention grant that the health department has received in past years may not be available for next year.

Informing, Educating, and Empowering- Uranium/Radon - Radon kits are still available. There will be reminder in the January Krier.

Developing Policies & Plans- Part-time Health Departments- Cathy lino has sent a letter to the state health department in response to their request to list staff and hours. The letter listed the Health Director at 21 hours/week, the part-time restaurant sanitarian at 1.5 hours per week, and a shared administrative assistant with the Building Department at 12.5 hours for a total of 35 hours. Paul noted that the state health department's interpretation of statutes for a full-time equivalent (35 hours) for part-time health departments does not include administrative assistants. Another interpretation related to per capita funding (which was discontinued in 2009) does include them. He said we await the state health department's reply.

Legislative Agenda-CT Health Improvement Coalition- The CT Health Improvement Coalition has included the following proposal in its legislative agenda for the 2018 session: adoption of a property maintenance code; opiates; prohibiting smoking in outdoor patio areas at restaurants; motorcycle helmets; and requiring seat belt use for all positions (currently not required for adults in back seats).

Enforce Laws & Regulation- Paul advised a builder on proper disposal of backwash water from a whole house unit installed to reduce iron in the water. The CT Public Health Code requires that the discharge/backwash line from such units go into a separate leaching system and not the house septic system. The Building Department assisted in identifying the issue.

Evaluating Effectiveness, Accessibility, and Quality- VNA Blood Pressure Clinics- As part of a review of a draft budget, Robin Duffield questioned whether the town's support of three VNA blood pressure clinics for \$360 in 2018 was the best use of limited resources. She asked whether the town should be supporting a service(s) that reaches more people. She noted that the VNA report discussed at the November PHA meeting indicated that 55 people were served in eight monthly clinics for seniors. Paul Hutcheon noted that many local health departments offer a similar blood pressure monitoring service. He will follow up with Cathy on evaluation of current services.

Cheryl Fine requested that the department send a letter of support to the VNA for the Sitercise class grant from Yale.

FDA Food Code- Paul continued explaining the implications of the state's adoption of the FDA Food Code, which becomes fully effective in July 2018. He noted that he is still working on the pre-requisites for FDA certification. Sue Nesci asked if we have made sufficient plans to insure that food service establishments are aware of the new requirements for training, certification, and food handling in the FDA Food Code. Paul reviewed preparations to date, noting that information and updates are handed out during inspections. He added that he is waiting for the state to develop regulations and forms to implement the code.

Annual Budget- The committee reviewed a draft budget. Paul added that some re-classification of food service establishments in the FDA Food Code may affect fees for the coming year.

Public Health Agency (PHA) Re-appointments- Paul reappointed the following three members to the PHA: Robin Duffield, Cheryl Fine, and Sue Nesci .

Elections: Natalie Drew noted that the committee needs to elect a Chair and Secretary for 2018.

MOTION: Robin Duffield nominated Natalie Drew as Chair and Sue Nesci as Secretary. There were no other nominations. Robin Duffield moved and Betty Dennis seconded approving the nominations as presented: Voting in favor: Chair Natalie Ortoli Drew, Betty Dennis, Robin Duffield , Cheryl Fine, Sue Nesci, Ernest Pizzuto, and Mike Stehney; Opposed:0; Abstentions:0.. The motion carried: 7:0:0

Natalie Drew requested that the January 10th scheduled meeting be moved to January 17th because she was unavailable on the 10th.

MOTION: Betty Dennis moved and Robin Duffield seconded a motion to change the January meeting date to January 17th.: Voting in favor: Natalie Ortoli Drew, Betty Dennis, Robin Duffield, , Cheryl Fine, Sue Nesci, Ernest Pizzuto, and Mike Stehney; Opposed:0; Abstentions:0.. The motion carried: 7:0:0

MOTION: Ernest Pizzuto moved and Robin Duffield seconded a motion to adjourn. Voting in favor: Natalie Ortoli Drew, Betty Dennis, Robin Duffield , Cheryl Fine, Sue Nesci, Ernest Pizzuto, and Mike Stehney; Opposed:0; Abstentions:0 The motion carried 7:0:0.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm. The next meeting will be January 17, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Nesci
Susan Nesci, Secretary