

Public Health Agency
323 Route 81
Killingworth, CT 06419

March 14, 2018
MINUTES

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

Members Absent: Martha Hogan

Chair Natalie Ortoli Drew called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Minutes- The committee reviewed the minutes from the February 14th meeting. The following corrections (*italicized*) were made to the minutes:

- Members Absent: add *Martha Hogan*
- Next meeting date change date to February 14

MOTION: Betty Dennis moved and Ernest Pizzuto seconded acceptance of the February 14th minutes, as amended. Voting in favor: Natalie Ortoli Drew, Betty Dennis, Robin Duffield, Cathy lino, Sue Nesci, Ernest Pizzuto, and Mike Stehney; Opposed: 0; Abstentions: Cheryl Fine. The motion carried 7:0:1.

First Selectman Update - Cathy lino and Paul Hutcheon provided the following updates:

Developing policies and plans that support health efforts: Cathy reported that the town had battled three Nor'easters --one rain and two snow storms--in two weeks. The storm on March 7-8th posed the most issues. At one point, 100 percent of the town without power. She noted that the area's electric supplier, Eversource, did better this time than in prior large storms, but that there were still communication issues. One issue was conflicting information on the date(s) and time for power restoration.

Natalie Drew added that another storm issue was that emergency notifications from the town don't go to cell phones. Robin Duffield suggested using Constant Contact, where people can sign up for how they want to receive emergency notifications. Paul reported that notices went out to restaurants with guidelines for food safety during storms.

Cheryl Fine asked how seniors with trees down on driveways or blocking house exits could be prioritized for immediate electric restoration or tree removal. She added that most tree services are contracted with Eversource in a storm. Cathy explained that Eversource prioritizes Route 81 for restoration since the emergency shelter at the middle school, town offices, businesses needed during the storm, and Jensen's senior community are all on the route. Then, they try to restore power to the most densely populated areas. Certain high-risk customers, such as those who need electricity for oxygen, can register with Eversource for priority power restoration. If an ambulance needs to reach a house in an emergency, a town crew will plow and clear trees. Mike Stehney, MD added that homebound people with VNA services are required to have an emergency plan.

Connecting Community to Health Services-VNA Blood Pressure Clinics- Cathy and Mike Stehney, MD reported on their March 4 meeting with the Senior Club to discuss concerns about

town funding for provision of wellness services provided by the VNA to the group. Mike explained that the group values the VNA services. The services go beyond blood pressure screening to include medication reviews and guidance on health care. The Senior Club identified social interaction provided by the meetings as a valued benefit. The group pays the Congregation Church for use of the meeting space. Cathy offered free meeting space at the town Emergency Operations Center. Robin Duffield suggested free meeting space at the library. The group would like to expand participation. Cathy will promote the group in her biweekly column in the *Source*. She also noted that the group identified transportation (by bus) to activities and food for meetings as issues.

Investigating and Diagnosing Health Problems & Hazards- Herbicide- Discussion continued in response to an issue raised at the July 2017 meeting on the safety of herbicide containing glyphosates. The town sprays the herbicide to control weeds under guard rails on town roads. Cathy reported that to date her research on human safety has turned up a mixture of opinions. Sue Nesci asked about reminding residents when spraying starts. Cathy will include that information in her biweekly *Source* column in the month the spraying starts. She noted that the spray the town uses breaks down quickly and is safe for water. She will explore the feasibility of town crew putting red flags in areas they have just sprayed. Natalie Drew and Ernest Pizzuto recommended making the MSDS sheet available at town hall.

Health Director Update Paul Hutcheon provided the following additional updates:

Monitoring of Health Status- Flu-There have been no flu cases reported to date for the town. He contacted area providers for a list of where flu shots were available.

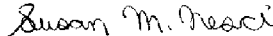
Informing, Educating, and Empowering -Uranium/Radon - Paul sent out a reminder to those who have not yet returned their radon test kits for analysis. The state health department lab has analyzed to date 28 of the 50 kits distributed. Results showed 9 homes greater than the actionable level of 4 with the highest at 26 pCi/L. Six homes were between 2 and 4. He provided residents with a list of approved radon mitigation companies for radon readings greater than or equal to 2pCi/L. Cathy added that March is "Test Your Well" month.

Assuring a public health and personal care workforce- FDA Food Code - Paul has completed all 36 modules for the FDA food code training. He also attended a required FDA Food Code training class provided by the state health department.

Subsurface Sewage Disposal- Paul attended another state health department class on new 2018 standards for subsurface sewage disposal.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm. The next meeting will be April 11, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Nesci, Secretary