

Public Health Agency
323 Route 81
Killingworth, CT 06419

July 11, 2018
MINUTES

Members Present: Chair Natalie Ortolì Drew, Betty Dennis, Sue Nesci , Ernest Pizzuto, Mike Stehney, and Health Director Paul Hutcheon.

Members Absent: Robin Duffield, Cheryl Fine, and Cathy Iino

Chair Natalie Ortolì Drew called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Minutes- The committee reviewed the minutes from the June 13th meeting. The following corrections/additions were made to the minutes:

August meeting:

- Robin Duffield *moved* and Mike Stehney seconded a motion to cancel the August meeting. After discussion, the committee decided to delay a decision until the July 11th meeting.
- *Robin Duffield moved and Mike Stehney seconded* a motion to withdraw the motion to cancel the August meeting.

MOTION: Betty Dennis moved and Ernest Pizzuto seconded a motion to accept as amended the June 13th minutes. Voting in favor: Natalie Ortolì Drew, Betty Dennis, Sue Nesci, Ernest Pizzuto, and Mike Stehney; Opposed: 0; Abstentions: 0. The motion carried 5:0:0.

First Selectman Update - Paul Hutcheon reported that there were no updates.

Health Director Update Paul Hutcheon provided the following updates:

Diagnose and Investigate Health Problems/Hazards- Herbicide- Paul and Cathy met with two women, who had raised objections to the safety of an herbicide containing glyphosate. The town uses the herbicide to control weeds under guard rails on town roads. They were concerned that the herbicide was linked to a possible cluster of triple negative breast cancer in another town in the state. The women did not have enough information on the neighborhood in the other town where the cluster might have occurred. They wanted to see if the well water could be tested. Paul gave them contact information for the local health department as well as the state health department.

Elderly Services- Paul investigated a complaint referred by the state Department of Social Services Protective Services for the Elderly concerning living conditions at an owner occupied house. He visited the house but was refused entry. The owner has contacted an out-of-state relative, who is knowledgeable about home repair, to address repair issues. Paul will recheck on the status of repairs in mid-July.

Boil Water Notice - A water line break at the Jensen's community resulted in the loss of water pressure and water. A boil water notice was issued as a precaution until test results could come back from the lab. The test results showed no contamination. If there was contamination, it would have been necessary to go door-to-door for notification.. The CT. Water Company, which supplies water to the Jensen's community, noted that many residents have not updated their

phone records. The company will try to address updating records. Betty Dennis suggested putting a notice in water bills to attract residents' attention.

Disease Reporting- The committee reviewed the monthly environmental reporting sheet. Paul reported that a tick submitted to the CT Agricultural Experiment Station for testing came back negative for Lyme Disease, anaplasmosis, and babesiosis. Sue Nesci reported that the Agricultural Station has reported that 40% of the ticks tested were positive for Lyme Disease-a higher percentage than in prior seasons.

Radon Mapping- Paul met with a fourth year student in environmental science at Boston College regarding a radon mapping study. The student will plot data from 130 radon kit tests over the past three years with Geographic Information System (GIS) software. The results will be related to the location of the two types of bedrock in town. A previous study in the state has suggested a relationship between radon and bedrock type. Natalie Drew asked how duplicate tests at the same address would be handled. Mike Stenhey asked if the plotting would be blinded to specific addresses. Paul and Ernest Pizzuto said that the plotting would be public information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI).

Enforce Laws and Regulations that Protect Health and Safety- Septic Plan Filing Complaint
Paul has filed a complaint with the state health department regarding a septic installation that was done nine months ago. The pumper has not submitted required documentation, including an as built plan, in spite of repeated requests to do so. Paul has set a July 13th deadline to file. Otherwise, a formal investigation and complaint will be filed with the state that could lead to license revocation.

Cottage Food Statutes- Paul reviewed Public Act 18-141 requiring home preparation of food for sale. The statutes requires that gross income not exceed \$25,000. It also prohibits ironing in the kitchen while preparing food.

Develop Policies & Plans Supporting Individual/Community Health- State Health Department Annual Report- Local health departments and health districts have to file an annual report in October with the state health department. This year, the department is using criteria created by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) as questions that local health departments must answer. Paul asked for committee input on how to respond to ten questions on essential services where the answer might be no. He noted that many of the questions were beyond the scope of a part-time health department. Committee members provided some initial input and Paul will follow up with additional information.

Researching to Find Innovative Solutions to Health Problems- Paul researched a request by an organization to establish a green burial ground. Burial would take place using natural coffins or shrouds instead of embalming or vaults. Paul said the group contacted local health departments on the issue.

August meeting- Meeting Cancellation- Paul will be on vacation for the scheduled August 8th meeting.

MOTION: Ernest Pizzuto moved and Betty Dennis seconded a motion to cancel the August 8th meeting. Voting in favor: Betty Dennis, Natalie Ortolli Drew, Sue Nesci, Ernest Pizzuto, and Mike Stehney; Opposed: 0; Abstentions :0. The motion carried 5:0:0.

Paul will send the required notice to the Town Clerk.

MOTION: Mike Stenhey moved and Ernest Pizzuto seconded a motion to adjourn. Voting in favor: Betty Dennis, Natalie Ortolí Drew, Sue Nesci, Ernest Pizzuto, and Mike Stehney; Opposed: 0; Abstentions :0. The motion carried 5:0:0

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm. The next meeting will be September 12, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Nesci
Sue Nesci, Secretary