

ADVISORY BOARD OF HEALTH

Minutes for
May 17, 2017 meeting
Weiss Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Moynihan, Kim Malone, Diane Strano, Dr. Jamshid Marvasti

MEMBERS ABSENT: Karen Gionet

STAFF PRESENT: Jeff Catlett, Dir. of Health

CALL TO ORDER:

- The meeting was called to order by Diane Strano at 6:03 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Diane Strano moved to approve the minutes of November 16, 2016, seconded by Mary Moynihan. Minutes from November 16, 2016 were unanimously approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Community Health Needs Assessment – we partnered with Eastern CT Health Network. We completed the assessment and have started to partner with ECHN/Prospect on the implementation plan. We are still gathering information and will be sharing with the Advisory Board, the highlights in the future. From the Assessment, the Improvement Plan, has been developed to tackle items they find to be issues. For example, diabetes, they are going to partner with communities that offer health education. This is an area we fit in perfectly through our nurses. Same thing with heart health and blood pressure screenings. We do blood pressure screenings weekly at the Senior Center. Through discovery, we will find out what the hospital does and how we fit in and partner with them and share resources.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Regionalization of Local Health, the Commissioner of Public Health had approached the idea of regionalizing local health departments. This proposed bill did not pass. The positive result is the discussion that has taken place regarding the lack of funding for Public Health. The Commissioner stated that he would propose it every year while he is in office.
- Lead Training at Pavillions, as our nurses monitor trends and allows us to see where we are noticing a higher incidence of lead poisoning and The Pavillions was identified. While the Pavillions does not have a lead issue, but because of the population there, we are seeing many children coming to the US already poisoned. So we partnered with The Pavillions and had nineteen residents attend. We had invited Indian-born, Dr. Matthews, who was able to connect with the residents, sharing stories of growing up in India. With the success of this training, we have identified other areas with higher incidence of lead in a nontraditional form, such not just older housing, but people coming to the US with high lead levels. We have used our Lead Grant funds for this program. We have also held two Lead Safe Work Practices courses for contractors and we have had twenty attendees to get them recertified to be Lead Safe work practices. This is an EPA requirement.

- Summer Education on West Nile, Zika and Lyme, just as we did last year, we will be providing summer education program at the summer camps. The nurses will be addressing the campers and staff along with providing information for the children to bring home to their parents. The State Lab has reported that 40% of ticks submitted have been found to be positive for Lyme. Residents who have come in contact with a tick can bring the tick to our office and we will send it for testing. There is no charge for this. We expect to see an increase in the number of ticks being sent for testing.
- Senior Health Fair, May 4th we had a successful senior health fair. Cathy Drouin, our clinic nurse, along with Eileen Faust, Senior Center Director, put together an amazing event. All rooms at the Senior Center were full. Some of the vendors included the Police Department doing “drug take back”, Fire Department, and food vendors. There were over 400 attendees.
- Barbara Quigley retired on April 28th, 2017
- Kathleen Polhemus is our new Community Health Nurse.
- Questions - Is the Health Department aware of the speculation of school-based clinics? Barbara had been involved with some of the discussions but we do not believe we will have any involvement, other than if we are asked for advice.
- Check our Web Page for Posted Minutes at <http://health.townofmanchester.org/>
- Next meeting is scheduled for August 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.