

ADVISORY BOARD OF HEALTH

Minutes for
August 16, 2017 meeting
Weiss Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kim Malone, Karen Gionet, Dr. Jamshid Marvasti

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary Moynihan, Diane Strano

STAFF PRESENT: Jeff Catlett, Dir. of Health

CALL TO ORDER:

- The meeting was called to order by Karen Gionet at 6:06 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Karen Gionet moved to approve the minutes of May 17, 2017, seconded by Kim Malone. Minutes from May 17, 2017 were unanimously approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Summer Education on West Nile, Zika and Lyme Disease – we visited the summer camps and provided literature to take home to parents. We have had posters in town buildings and libraries on Lyme Disease. We haven't heard much about Zika this year. The State Lab is overwhelmed with the number of ticks submitted for testing. We collect ticks and submit to the lab. They are finding that approximately 60% of ticks submitted are testing positive for Lyme. Dr. Marvasti asked if many of the ticks originated from Case Mtn. The Director of Health stated that most people use their home address when submitting tick, but it could be something that could be looked into. West Nile is around, mostly around the shore and the best defense is prevention.

NEW BUSINESS:

- FDA Food Code legislation has passed. Starting July 1, 2018 Connecticut will use the FDA Food Code. We have a year to implement it. It is similar to our current code but it is scientific based. The old code said you should do this because. The FDA food code is backed up by science, things that are most likely to cause food borne illness and there have been studies nationally. Our inspectors have been preparing for the last couple years and will be among the first to be certified. Mr. Shanley had asked the Director of Health to present the FDA Food Code last month at the Board of Director's meeting. We are planning to have a series of public health forums for residents, restaurant owners and workers to ease them into the transition. There will not be a pass/fail anymore and no scoring. The violations are classified as critical, non-critical or foundation and many of the violations are corrected immediately on site. We expect the inspections to be longer in length but the inspectors will be in the restaurants less often. The Director of Health described some of the differences between the CT Food Code and the FDA Food Code.
- Lead Grant, with the State budget still not passed, we have been told that there may no longer be a Lead Grant. We still plan on doing as much as we can. Our staff does proactive visits with households of children with lead levels of 5 or higher. The families are provided education and cleaning kits. We are still planning on doing that as funding and time allots.

- Emergency Preparedness Grant was funded this year with a 5% cut. We are continuing with our Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, who does our drills and ensures that we are fully stocked with equipment we need. We do quarterly call down drills and will be planning some drills in the upcoming year. The funding is being handled a little differently. Instead of being directly funded by DPH (Department of Public Health), now the five Emergency Planning Regions are being funded. We are in Region 3 and the funds will go to Capitol Region Council of Government, then distributed to us. September is Emergency Preparedness Month.
- Performance Measures are being simplified and will be displayed in a graph form. The budget office feels that it is no longer necessary to track how long it takes to perform a particular function. We are aiming towards more general programs for all populations. This is one of the items from our Community Needs Assessment.
- Catrina Belton has been promoted to the Youth Service Bureau.
- Rebecca Brown is our new Clerical Assistant. She had previously worked with Senior, Adult and Families and most recently in the Assessor's office.
- Other New Business, October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and we coordinate to have a van for mammograms come to town. September is Prostate Health Month and we have been posting literature and posters around town encouraging men to have their prostate checked, along with other precautionary health concerns. National Men's Health month is in March and will be doing another promotion. This way we are broadening our reach in the community.
- Questions - Question was raised whether funding to the state is being diverted as a possible cause for the loss of the lead grant.
- Check our Web Page for Posted Minutes at <http://health.townofmanchester.org/>
- Next meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.