ADVISORY BOARD OF HEALTH
Minutes for
May 15, 2019 meeting
Weiss Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Gionet, Mary Moynihan, Kim Malone

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Jamshid Marvasti, Joyce Hodgson

STAFF PRESENT: Jeff Catlett, Dir. of Health

CALL TO ORDER:
- The meeting was called to order by Karen Gionet at 6:02 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
- Karen Gionet moved to approve the minutes of November 14, 2018, seconded by Mary Moynihan. Minutes from November 14, 2018 were unanimously approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
- FDA Food Code legislation we originally sent letters to our food establishments in 2017 stating it was going to be ready shortly, here we are in 2019 and it is still not ready. The latest word is that the code has been written and it is at the Office of Policy Management at the state legislature. They have now shifted the date for implementation to no later than January 2020. We have been ready for a year and a half. Kim Dubanoski, Chief Sanitarian, is one of the first in the state to be certified as a Training Officer.
- Educational Awareness Messaging. We did a vaping campaign in December with an article in the Journal Inquirer. Also, NBC news did an interview with the Director of Health. We distributed posters to the high school. The Health Department has been asked by the Board of Directors to be part of the Tobacco 21 committee. We are continuing with our lead paint education program. The state had considered making a change to lead follow up, which would have increased our case load from 7 to 48. We partnered with two local grocery stores, Highland Park Market and Shop Rite, to educate the public about Emergency Preparedness. We placed displays showing what supplies you should have for an emergency. We choose 2 or 3 topics each month for health promotion and display posters at the libraries and all town building. This month we have placed poster about Measles.
- Human Services Director retirement after twenty seven years, Mary Roche Cronin is retiring. This will be a tremendous loss. Her retirement date is September 1, 2019.
- Human Services Department Senior Needs Assessment – Mary Roche Cronin, Director of Human Service, lead an initiative for a Senior Needs Assessment. A questionnaire was developed based on focus groups at the Senior Center and some Housing sites. We wanted to find out what are the real needs of the seniors directly from them. We will be having a partner breakfast meeting at the Country Club on June 13th. The Advisory Board members will be invited, along with the community partners that participated. We will be presenting our preliminary results. The Director of Health discussed the population surveyed and some of the results. One of the top concerns is affordable housing.
NEW BUSINESS:

- **Proposed Cosmetology ordinance.** We will begin inspecting in June. Ninety-seven cosmetology establishments have been identified. The definition we are using for cosmetology is hair and nail salons, barber shops, threading, anything to do with waxing and microblading. We are planning to inspect approximately 8 a month. We held a public forum in February and 42 establishments attended and they were extremely supportive. We had 3 gentlemen who have been barbers for 30 years and were very pleased that we are doing this, because they do not want unlicensed individuals carrying out the task.

- **Performance Measures.** Everything we do, we measure to see that we are making a difference. We are looking at revising our Performance Measures to be sure they are telling an accurate story of what we do. We have a great set of measures right now, but we are looking at what else we could measure that the public would appreciate to know we are doing. Our number one measure is the total number of inspections. On an average, we do about 1,000 inspections a year. We have two full-time inspectors that do 90% of all the inspections and a Chief Sanitarian that oversees the operations. That means that each inspector does approximately 500 inspections a year.

- **Part-Time Environmental Inspector position.** Based on our Performance Measures, we were able to justify and get approval to hire a part-time Environmental Health Inspector. Interviewing will begin shortly and we anticipate the new person to start July 1st. The position is 19.5 hours a week and will primarily be afternoons and early evenings.

- **CADH presidency** – After serving as vice president (CT Association of Directors of Health) for a year, the Director of Health will serve as president beginning July 1st. It is a great opportunity for our department. It allows us to stay on top of proposed legislation as the president gets to meet with the new Commissioner of Public Health monthly. It is a huge time commitment with after-hours participation, but very worthwhile.

- **Questions** – question was asked about measles. Director of Health spoke about the vaccination rates by school that were published. Question was also raised about the MMR vaccine, is it 3 different serums? Director of Health will find out.


- Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.