



**Norwalk Board of Health
October 23, 2018
8:30 AM
Library
Monthly Meeting
Minutes**

Call to order at 8:36 AM Present:

Board of Health –Theresa Quell, PhD, RN, Norman Weinberger, MD, Vincent Amoruccio, MS, MA (phone) Kenneth Lalime, RPH (phone)

Staff – Tom Closter, Director of Environmental Services, Deanna D’Amore, Director of Health, Megan DiMeglio, Project Coordinator, Pat DiPietro, Business Manager

Approval of the September 25, 2018 Meeting Minutes – Dr. Weinberger moved and Dr. Quell seconded a motion to approve the minutes. The minutes passed unanimously.

FDA Food Code Update

Mr. Closter gave a review of the new FDA food code and what changes will be happening January 1, 2019. There will no longer be a score given for inspections. Mr. Closter said this will affect the Lighthouse rating system and how we rate restaurants. He and his staff have been working on getting ready for the new code. Mr. Closter presented a draft of the new inspection form.

Environmental Services Fees

Ms. D’Amore presented the proposed 2019 Environmental Fees. She explained the changes in the code will affect the class structure of the restaurants. Ms. D’Amore reviewed the Fee Setting Policy. Ms. DiPietro explained the calculations behind the environmental fees. Dr. Weinberger moved and Dr. Quell seconded a motion to move proposed fees to a public hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

Noise Ordinance

Ms. D’Amore presented proposed changes of the Norwalk Noise Ordinance from a noise consultant working with the Ordinance Committee of the Common Council. Ms. D’Amore explained she was sent the draft changes for her review and comment and she wanted the Board of Health’s feedback as well given they are included within the ordinance. Board members discussed the ordinance and provided feedback. Ms. D’Amore will compose a letter from the Board and herself to send to the Committee with their comments.

Proposed Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance

Ms. D'Amore presented the new proposed plastic bag ban ordinance. The Ordinance Committee discussed this at their last meeting and have requested departments to comment on the enforcement provision. They have suggested the Health Department, in particular Weights & Measures, as a potential enforcement agency. Ms. D'Amore reported that she reviewed the job description of the Sealer of Weights and Measures and the state statute and this type of enforcement doesn't align completely with his duties. She asked other health directors in the towns/cities that have passed similar bans about enforcement, and they said it is enforced by Conservation/Inland Wetlands. She asked Board members for their opinion, and they said it is an environmental and conservation issue, not a health issue. They also advised to be consistent with the other health departments. Ms. D'Amore will look into it further and reply to the ordinance committee with her recommendations and summarize the discussion she had with the Board of Health.

Flu Vaccination

Ms. D'Amore gave an update on flu vaccination.

- An estimate of 966 flu shots were given as of 10/22/18.
- 886 were given at this time last year, which is approximately a 9% increase.

Personnel Updates

Ms. D'Amore gave an update on the following positions under recruitment or in development:

- APRN
- Disease Intervention Specialist – HIV & Hep C
- Laboratory Technical Assistant

Other Business

- A new noise variance application for the SoNo Mall Collection construction site will be submitted soon.
- The 2017-2018 Health Department Annual Report is near completion and will be shared soon.
- New lead funding has been awarded by the Connecticut Department of Public Health for lead poisoning prevention work focused on families participating in the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Adjourn at 9:30 AM