

Norwalk Health Department Board of Health Actions

February 14, 2006
Immediately Following the Public Hearing
Library

Call to order at 6:30 PM

Present: Board of Health – Ivy Burke, Martha Lemmon, and Roberto Jimenez
Staff – Tim Callahan

Minutes of November 8, 2005 Meeting
Action postponed to the next meeting

Appointment of Medical Director – Ruben Mendoza, MD
Mr. Callahan spoke about the trusted sound advice provided by Dr. Mendoza to himself and the clinical staff. The board members asked Mr. Callahan to thank Dr. Mendoza for his commitment and service. A motion to re-appoint Ruben Mendoza, MD the Medical Director for the Norwalk Health Department was made by Ms. Lemmon seconded by Mr. Jimenez and passed unanimously.

Environmental Fees

A motion to approve the fee schedule as presented was made by Ms. Lemmon, seconded by Mr. Jimenez and passed unanimously.

Clinic Fees

Mr. Callahan reviewed the methodology for setting the fees charged for vaccinations. A motion to approve the fee schedule as presented was made by Ms. Lemmon, seconded by Mr. Jimenez and passed unanimously.

Pandemic Influenza Planning

Mr. Callahan provided an update on federal, state, and local planning for pandemic influenza. A discussion of the role volunteers will play in responding to pandemic influenza and other major public health emergencies ensued. Ms. Burke recommended contacting the Volunteer Action Committee (VAC) at the Human Services Council. Mr. Callahan told the Board the Health Department will be involved in a regional emergency response drill that will take place in April 2006 at the Westport Weston Health District. In October 2006 the Norwalk Emergency Response unit will conduct a drill. More details will be provided in the near future.

Adjourn 7:05 PM

Board of Health
Public Hearing

Minutes
February 14, 2006
6:00 PM
Library

Call to order at 6:05 PM

Present: Board of Health – Ivy Burke, Martha Lemmon, and Roberto Jimenez
Staff – Tim Callahan

Mr. Callahan spoke about the methodology used to calculate fees. Several years ago the Board of Health decided that fees for services would be set at the cost of providing the service. Further the Board decided to annually review and adjust the fee schedule. Fees are calculated by multiplying the hourly cost by the time required to provide the service. Hourly cost consists of inspector's compensation plus overhead. Overhead includes supervision, support staff, supplies, equipment, travel and occupancy.

Public participation

Frank DiCostanzo owner of Franklin Phillip Salons, 56 & 250 Westport Avenue. Mr. DiCostanzo questioned the reason for the inspection and fee charged. Mr. DiCostanzo felt high levels of sanitation are essential to attracting and maintaining customers. Mr. Callahan explained that several years ago the State Legislature passed a law, which requires local health departments to inspect salons. The Norwalk Health Department is complying with the law. Mr. Callahan also said that not all salon owners adhere to the high levels of sanitation as Mr. DiCostanzo's. Unsanitary conditions are found by Health Inspectors and therefore there is a public benefit from this program.

The public hearing ended at 6:30 PM.