

**Monthly Meeting
Minutes
June 9, 2009
8:00 AM
Library**

Call to order at 8:08 AM

Present: Board of Health – Matt Brovender, Esq., John McNamara, MD, Kenneth Lalime, RPH, Sheldon Miller, and Theresa Quell, PhD, RN, & Edward Tracey, MD
Staff – Tim Callahan, Director of Health, David Reed MD, Medical Director, Rhonda Collins, MPH

Minutes of May 12, 2009 Meeting - Motion to approve by Dr. Tracey, seconded by Mr. Lalime, passed unanimously

H1N1 Influenza Update

According to a report from Matt Cartter, MD from the Connecticut Department of Public Health as of June 5, 2009 there are 480 cases reported among Connecticut residents, 307 in residents of Fairfield County. The distribution of cases seems to be highest in children ages 10 –14. The illness in most of the Norwalk cases has been fairly mild and all of the people with this strain of influenza have recovered

A vaccine is being considered by the Centers for Disease Control. If a decision is made to move forward the vaccine will be available by November or December 2009. A distribution plan has not been developed.

There will be a seasonal influenza campaign. At the urging of the CT DPH staff, seasonal flu shots will be available in September. The goal is to complete seasonal flu shot campaigns before an H1N1 vaccine becomes available.

FY 09/10 Budget

Four employees took advantage of the early retirement offer. Two of these employees are back to work on a part time basis. Al Kao, the Laboratory Director, and Rhonda Collins, the Health Educator is working 2 days per week. The transition to an external EAP provider will begin on June 15, 2009. Craig Shoop, the city EAP coordinator will continue until June 30, 2009 to assist in the transition. Funding to allow for a part time Relocation Officer position was restored to the city budget.

The per capita grant administered by the CT DPH is in jeopardy. There may not be a state budget in place by July 1, 2009 and if there is the local per capita grant may not be funded. The Healthy Lifestyles Associate position is funded by this grant. If the local per capita grant ends this position will be eliminated.

On a positive note, the Emergency Planning grant administered by the CT DPH will continue for at least one more year. A 3% reduction in funding is expected. The city is slated to receive approximately \$62,000.

Norwalk Public Schools

In follow up to the food borne illness outbreak, a meeting was held with Sal Corda, Superintendent of Schools and members of his staff and representatives from Woodson's, the school food service vendor and Norwalk Health Department staff. The Norwalk Public Schools and Whitson's agreed to immediately provide additional and continual training of food service personnel. Acquisition of equipment to better control food temperatures was also discussed. The equipment under consideration is a blast cooler for rapid temperature reduction of hot foods before storage and delivery vehicles with coolers.

Lyme Disease 2009: Tick Me Off conference

Other Business

Dr Quell said she was aware of federal stimulus funds for alternative transportation such as walking and bike paths. Mr. Callahan will follow up to see if Norwalk is slated to receive funds and if so how the money will be spent.

Adjourn 8:55 AM

