



**Norwalk Board of Health
October 25, 2016
8:00 AM
Library
Minutes**

**Monthly Meeting
Minutes**

Call to order at 8:03 AM

Present: **Board of Health** – Vincent Amoruccio, MS, MA, Matthew Brovender, JD, Kenneth Lalime, RPH, Theresa Quell, PhD, RN, Edward Tracey, MD

Staff – Tim Callahan, Director of Health, Megan DiMeglio, Project Assistant, Deanna D’Amore, Project Coordinator, David Reed, Medical Director

Approval of the September 27, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Brovender moved and Dr. Tracey seconded a motion to approve the minutes. The minutes passed unanimously.

Other Business

Mr. Callahan updated the Board on Emerald Day Spa. Mr. Callahan and staff will be working on updating the City’s ordinance for massage establishments and therapists.

Influenza Vaccine Program Update

Mr. Callahan gave an update of the Health Department flu clinics. The Health Department held three community clinics, two at the department and one at New Canaan High School for New Canaan Public School employees. The Health Department vaccinated 390 people in total during the clinics. 50% of the flu shots were high dose, for people 65 years of age and older. 90% of people who came to the health department were returning clients. There are also walk-in clinics every Tuesday from 1- 3pm at the health department. Mr. Amoruccio asked if there was any way to track flu vaccination rates for Norwalk residents. Mr. Callahan explained there isn’t a way to track for the entire City. Pharmacies and community physicians are not required to report to the data on vaccinations. He added that sales of vaccines are higher than they have been in the past.

Volunteer Recruitment

Mr. Callahan explained the Volunteer Coordinator position at the Health Department, which is located within the Emergency Preparedness Division. Donna Schlegel was hired for this position, and Mr. Callahan said she has been doing a great job recruiting people during the last six

months. The volunteers will be part of a Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and are available to help during an emergency. Thirty-six people were interviewed to become volunteers, and twenty-six completed the eight hours of classroom training. The classroom training consisted of an introduction and overview of the Health Department and ICS-100 Introduction to the Incident Command System and the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Volunteers will be meeting monthly, and Ms. Schlegel will be looking for opportunities to keep the volunteers engaged throughout the year.

Mayor's Challenge Award

Mr. Callahan presented the award Norwalk received for Creating Safe and Accessible Bike and Pedestrian Networks. Mayor Harry Rilling and the City of Norwalk were honored at the Mayor's Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets Summit on September 16, 2016 in Washington, D.C. Kaitlin Latham traveled to Washington, D.C. to accept the award on the Mayor's behalf.

The Mayor's Challenge Awards, sponsored by the US Department of Transportation and Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx, recognized fourteen cities across the country that have shown the most progress in improving bicycle and pedestrian safety over the past year and a half. The City of Norwalk was recognized as the Small City Winner for "Creating Networks," highlighting the collaboration between Mayor Rilling, the Mayor's Bike/Walk Task Force, and the Norwalk Health Department to create the City's master bicycle plan and to improve the Health Department's successful NorWalker program.

NorWalker updates

Mr. Callahan presented the updated NorWalker maps to the Board. As one of the initiatives in the Healthy for Life Project, the group audited the routes, remapped them into GIS, and updated the historical information on the flyers. The NorWalker Program has forty routes mapped in seventeen different Norwalk neighborhoods. Mr. Amoruccio asked if the routes were mapped within a walking app. Ms. DiMeglio explained how staff have inputted the routes into existing walking apps, but they haven't worked well. Board members discussed the possibility of finding a grant to help fund the development of a specific walking app for the program or utilizing students to accomplish the work.

FY 18 Budget Process

Mr. Callahan will be requesting to fund the Project Coordinator position in the City Operating budget for FY 2018. The Board discussed strategies for creating support for the position.

Immunization Action Plan Program (IAP)

Ms. DiMeglio presented the most recently published rates for children who are up-to-date by the age of two with their recommended vaccines. Data is grouped by birth cohorts from 2007-2012. Mr. Callahan reported that the 2012 birth cohort immunization rate for the Norwalk area is 92%, the highest in Connecticut. The Norwalk IAP region covers Norwalk, New Canaan, Wilton, Westport and Weston. Ms. DiMeglio explained how immunizations are recorded within the Connecticut Immunization Registry and Tracking System (CIRTS). Ms. DiMeglio discussed all the outreach, and follow up and in-services that are provided to the community and providers to achieve these high rates. Dr. Quell commended the Health Department staff on their work in the IAP program.

Adjourn at 8:48 AM