

Norwalk Health Department Board of Health Actions

October 8, 2002

Attendance

Board: Dr. McNamara, Ms. Lemmon & Dr. Tracey

Staff: Mr. Callahan & Mr. Closter

Call to order at 6:00 PM

Minutes of September 11, 2002 meeting: A motion to approve was made by Dr. Tracey, seconded by Dr. McNamara and passed unanimously.

Environmental Services Fees: A motion to approve the fee schedule as proposed was made by Dr. McNamara, Seconded by Ms. Lemmon and passed unanimously.

Updates

West Nile Virus: A third application of larvicide was made to the storm water catch basins and to areas of standing water.

Health Norwalk Partnership Lifestyles Workgroup Project: The work group, which is headed by Rhonda Collins, the Health Department's Health Educator includes representatives from the YMCA, the Norwalk Public Schools, the Norwalk Hospital and the American Lung Association. The Community Health Assessment found that physical inactivity rates among Norwalk residents exceeded the Healthy People 2010 Objectives. To address this issue the workgroup sought and obtained funding to develop and promote 10 neighborhood-walking routes. A second challenge for this group is to focus on the Healthy People 2010 objective, which is intended to increase the proportion of persons who consume at least 2 daily servings of fruits and at least 3 daily servings of vegetables. The group will work with the Rowayton Farmer's Market to change their policy to accept WIC vouchers. This policy change will increase access to nutritious foods for more Norwalk residents. Funding for this project is for 3 years.

Influenza Vaccine Clinics

The flu vaccine clinic schedule was distributed. The Board discussed offering the flu vaccine program to pediatric patients. Dr. McNamara agreed to discuss this matter with Mitchell Kresch, Chairman of Pediatrics, at Norwalk Hospital. Dr. McNamara will report to the Board at the December meeting.

Other Business

Smallpox: The Board discussed the role of the Health Department in mass vaccination and or the distribution of antibiotics. A plan is in the early development stages. The Board will be kept informed on progress.

Environmental Pollution: Dr McNamara made reference to a report that stated Connecticut residents face a 500 times greater risk of environmentally produced cancers. Health Department staff will research this issue and report to the Board.

Environmental Conditions in Schools: Ms. Lemmon asked if environmental risk assessments were undertaken in the schools. Health Department staff will contact the school maintenance director to determine if any such action has taken place.

Motion to adjourn by Dr. Tracey at 6:54 PM

