

**Health Commission Meeting  
City of Stamford  
DRAFT MINUTES  
February 18, 2020**

Commissioners Attendance Jan 2020-December 2020 (Number of meetings attended-Number of meetings missed)

Present:

Absent:

Dr. Barbara Decker (2-0)  
Dr. Thomas Getreuer (2-0)  
Ms. Patricia Parry (1-1)

Dr. Roslyn Burton-Robertson (1-1)  
Dr. Peggy Cobb (0-2)

Guest Attendance: Erika DeBenedictis, Recording Secretary

Meeting called to order		Dr. Getreuer called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.
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<b>Minutes:</b> Minutes of January 09, 2020	January 09, 2020 meeting minutes were reviewed.	Patricia Parry moved to approve. Dr. Decker seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.
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<b>Correspondence:</b> <b>No Correspondence</b>		
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<b>Director of Health Report:</b> Dr. Jennifer Calder	Dr. Calder reported on the Department:  Laboratory: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lab has seen an increase for water testing. Increase for water testing could be due to</li></ul>	
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	<p>post cards being created in which inspectors distribute when on site, post cards also left in lobby, tables in waiting area, etc. Water testing is also advertised on the PowerPoint which plays on the educational TV in the waiting area of the department.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There is a deposit fee for bottles for residents to test their water for \$10.00 which wasn't done before. This allows the lab to follow up with a phone call if they haven't returned the bottle, etc.</li><li>• PFAs-Affects water supply (municipal water supply). A type of chemical found in the municipal water. Although not in Stamford it has been a problem in Norwalk and Greenwich. Stamford is trying to be proactive. Governor may also be putting together a PFAs task force.</li></ul> <p>School Nursing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lisa Konopko and Pat Caldwell are working to standardize school nurse offices.</li><li>• Visiting several school nurses offices at different schools to get an idea what each office has and how they can best standardize the offices.</li></ul>	<p>Ongoing: Software program. IT took it over in regards to budget. However, now that four departments are onboard, IT will be taking over budgeting for it. Will no longer have to mail out applications. Applicants will be able to come to the department and print them out themselves and pay online.</p> <p>Dr. Calder mentions she contacted the state and plans to have a community meeting. Aquarion has begun testing. Dr. Calder will send PFAs documents to commissioners.</p>
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	<p>Nursing department reached out in regards to planning of new schools and that they would like to be involved so they may offer advice on the layout and early discussions as there are several standards of what should be in school nurse office.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rep Lions will be meeting with the nursing director and nursing supervisor to visit some of the schools to visit school nurses and nursing office sites to help them get a better idea on what school nurses do.</li><li>• Very challenging to get nurses out of school for training, but there will be training for school nurses to recognize suicide in children. Plan to have nurses mainly in middle school and high schools to be trained.</li></ul> <p>Community Nursing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flu clinic was on February 1<sup>st</sup> and community nursing worked with Family Centers to also HIV test and Hep C. 33 People received flu vaccines and 7 people were tested for HIV and Hepatitis C.</li><li>• Implementing Electronic Medical Records- Patagonia Health. Mayor has signed the bid</li></ul>	<p>Rep Lions and nursing supervisors plan to go on the tours on February 19<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Dr. Getreuer asked if this is the same program used in the schools. Dr. Calder mentioned the one in the schools is called SNAP and works in the schools.</p>
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	<p>waiver and contract is with law office and waiting to be signed off.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Patagonia is designed for public health and syncs with immunization registry, reports to the state and all reporting requirements. Reports are able to fax through system. Upgrades are automatic and built in.</li><li>• Contract for part time nursing is being finalized and is through Visiting Nursing Nurse &amp; Hospice to fill part time nursing position in the clinic. The contract requires them to provide the clinic so that there is always someone in the position. This company has worked with other health departments.</li><li>• Block Grant-Provides funding-Since Community Health Needs Assessment pointed that hypertension is a problem in Stamford, this grant will help to provide resources such as screening tools for self-monitoring measures and educational classes for those with hypertension (8 classes a year). Will have nutritionist at these classes and have plans to</li></ul>	<p>Dr. Getreuer asked how much the program will be a year and Dr. Calder stated it is around \$15,000.00 a year.</p> <p>Dr. Calder mentioned about two years ago it was decided to get a part time nurse in the clinic to offer services such as hypertension and diabetes screenings for adults but there was a hard process of trying to hire as part time is hard to hire so it was decided to get a RFP to hire a nursing services company. The contract is written so that the clinic may use them for what they need but primarily for these screenings.</p> <p>-Barbara Decker recommended maybe reaching out to HUD/Charter Oak to see if they can help.</p>
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	<p>work with Continuing Ed for classes such as Yoga or other classes to benefit those with hypertension. Grant also requires to advertise (Plans to also advertise in El Sol for Spanish speaking residents). Will most likely start in Senior Center and then to clinic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• VA has training program for veterans' placement and may be able to provide a Connecticut licensed nurse. Person interested is looking for a job as a nurse but would like to get more experience. VA would be responsible for the salary and would benefit the department to have extra help. Person currently going through background check.</li><li>• Interview is coming up in the next two weeks for an APRN position. This position will be working in the clinic. Position was funded for 2019/2020 fiscal year after being removed the previous year. The position was never filled so now that the funds are available they are planning to fill it.</li><li>• MOU was set up through legal with Stamford Health and working with Dr. Yoon once new</li></ul>	
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	<p>residents come in July so that some residents in Family Medicine can get experience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Department is continuing their investigation with the Corona Virus with the state. There has been flu in the schools and two nursing homes.</li><li>• Directors of Nursing, Director of Laboratory, and Director of Environmental Inspections in the process evaluation for their programs within the CDC guidelines to clearly outline what is needed and what can help move towards accreditation.</li></ul> <p>Public Health Emergency Preparedness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contracted service with All Clear Medical Response Team plans to hold Pandemic Influenza Table Top Exercise in April. Plans city currently has are not user friendly to use during an emergency so they will be revise the plans and create field guides that are user friendly. Will also help identify any gap such as sheltering. Table Top exercise will include PD Head, FD Heads, EMS head, EMD, press officer, and health department.</li></ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MRC- Plan to have a training with Dr. Yessenow for Stamford Animal Response Team on March 28<sup>th</sup> to help with how to prepare sheltering for animals in the event of an emergency. Training will be held at one of the fire departments and will include Mr. Cobb from Animal Control.</li></ul>	
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<b>Old Business:</b>	No Old Business	
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#### New Business:

Coordination of efforts to support Health Department budget process and accreditation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Important to reach out to members from BOF and BOR to explain why accreditation is good and a necessary idea.</li><li>• Lists of rep names from Public Safety and Health Committee and Fiscal committee along with names from Board of Finance.</li><li>• Each commissioner will be assigned to contact board members to tell them about the importance of accreditation for the health department.</li><li>• Commissioners can educate board members on the importance of accreditation such as that it will increase efficiency.</li></ul>	<p>Ongoing: Process of accreditation includes the first step of \$22,000.00 and helps with required training. After the first year the fee is around \$9,000.00 a year.</p> <p>Ongoing: Looking for date and time of meeting.</p>
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<b>Appeal:</b>	No Appeals	
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**Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn. Barbara Decker accepted. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:24 am.

Submitted by,  
Erika DeBenedictis