

**Health Commission Special Meeting**  
**City of Stamford**  
**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**September 03, 2020**

Commissioners Attendance September 2020

Present:

Absent:

Dr. Roslyn Burton-Robertson  
Dr. Thomas Getreuer  
Ms. Patricia Parry  
Dr. Jennifer Calder joined meeting at 8:45AM

Barbara Decker

Guest Attendance: Mr. Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare, and Ms. Raquelle Early, Recording Secretary,

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| Meeting called to order |  | Dr. Getreuer called the meeting to order at 8:00am. |
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| <b><u>Topics</u></b>  | <b><u>Discussions</u></b>  | <b><u>Actions</u></b>  |
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| <b>Old Business:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Religious Vaccine Exemption parental form.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>P. Parry reported that she reached out to Kathy Emmett (Corporation Counsel) as recommended last month and was directed to Atty. Mike Toma in the legal department. Atty Toma agreed with the action taken by the HC in July regarding its recommendation the regarding religious exemption form. A written recommendation was submitted to Dr. Calder and Director Ted Jankowski.</li></ul> | Seeking feedback from Dr. Calder/ Director Jankowski/Mayor Martin. |

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## New Business:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contact Tracing</li><li>• Chair</li><li>• Budget</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr. Getreuer stated everything appears to be working well. The challenge is the language barrier between English and Spanish. Positive COVID-19 patients have been good about communicating people they have been in contact with, as well as places they have visited. Glitches with IT have cropped up but get resolved quickly. The State HD has added an online translation service that will help.</li><li>• Dr. Getreuer announced he is stepping down as chair. He has accepted the CEO position with Silver Source and cannot do both jobs. He is recommending Dr. Robertson as Chair.</li><li>• Dr. Robertson, when asked, feels she has the time to do the job. P. Parry made a motion, seconded by Dr. Getreuer. Barbara Decker sent an email in support of Dr. Robertson.</li></ul> <p>Negotiations with unions were successful. The HD did not lose any positions. In fact, the HD was approved for funds needed to hire an employee to begin preparation for applying for Accreditation. . The final budget has not yet been provided to the HC.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• P. Parry recommended that Dr. Robertson take an FOIA class and all agreed.</li></ul> |
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| <p><b>Dr. Jennifer Calder:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contact Tracing</li><li>• Opening School</li><li>• Grants</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Melissa Lopez, Assistant Director of Health, Director of Nursing and Dental was hired and began working in early August. She has been charged as the Administrator for contract tracing after there were many issues communication issues among volunteers in Stamford. . A structured onboarding package was created to streamline the expectation of Contact Tracers. We lost a number of volunteers due to school re-opening.</li><li>• Nurses are inservicing for the opening of schools. Systems are in place in regards to how positive COVID-19 cases will be handled. Opening plans have been submitted and approved for all schools.</li><li>• The SHD partnered with Family Centers and was awarded a grant from CT Health Foundation of \$214,000.00 for community health workers. One Supervisor and four community health workers who will be reaching out to individuals who are COVID positive, assisting with childcare, assisting seniors with groceries and medication, and educating individuals. Family Centers will be paying the workers and they will work at the HD.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pending MOU agreement w/ Southern CT State University, awaiting signature from the Mayor. Students in Public Health classes will then be able to help with contract tracing.</li></ul> |
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- Dept. of Health is in the process of interviewing for Supervisor and a Clinical Nurse.

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| <b>Director Ted Jankowski:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tropical Storm Isaias</li><li>• Police Department</li></ul> | <p>otherwise there is no charge. P Parry asked who would qualify for a free vaccine and Dr, Calder proclaimed that with the Pandemic, she is not charging anyone, other than Primary Medicare. P. Parry commented that this could result in thousands of people responding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Many residents were without power. City is filing a complaint with PURE. City is very unhappy with Eversource's response. Communications were poor. Mayor Martin had a meeting with Eversource and was a strong advocate for the City's Residents.</li><li>• Looking at Mental Health Response. Looking to bring on a Social worker to assist Police in addressing Mental Health.</li></ul> |  |
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| <b>Appeal:</b><br>There were no appeals |  |  |
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| <b>Adjournment:</b><br>Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:15am. The motion passed unanimously. |
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Submitted by: Raquelle Early