

**Health Commission Meeting  
City of Stamford  
APPROVED MINUTES  
November 8, 2018**

Commissioners Attendance September 2017 - November 2018:

Present:

Absent:

Dr. Barbara Decker  
Dr. Thomas Getreuer  
Dr. Peggy Cobb  
Dr. Roslyn Burton-Robertson

Ms. Patricia Parry

Guest Attendance: Mr. Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare, Dr. Jennifer Calder, Director of Health, Michael Toma, General Counsel, and Ms. Deborah Clark, Recording Secretary

Meeting called to order		Dr. Getreuer called the meeting to order at 9:07 am.
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**Minutes:**

Minutes of May 10, 2018	May 10, 2018, meeting minutes were reviewed.	Dr. Decker moved to approve. Dr. Robertson seconded. May 10, 2018 minutes were unanimously approved.
Minutes of June 14, 2018	June 14, 2018 meeting minutes were reviewed.	Dr. Decker moved to approve. Dr. Cobb seconded. June 14, 2018 minutes were unanimously approved.
Minutes of October 11, 2018	October 11, 2018 meeting minutes were reviewed.	Dr. Cobb moved to approve. Dr. Decker seconded. October 11, 2018 minutes were unanimously approved.

**Correspondence:**

No correspondence.		
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**Health Commission Meeting  
City of Stamford  
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November 8, 2018**

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**Director of Health Report:**

<p>Dr. Jennifer Calder</p>	<p>Dr. Calder updated on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Dental hygiene program:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Thanked everyone for attending 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Dental Hygiene program celebration. Dentals hygienists are back in Stamford schools providing care to students. Nothing new to report.</li></ul></li><li>● Environmental Health Services:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Deborah Miller has accepted role of Interim Director of Environmental Health.</li><li>- Continue to await State's implementation of new FDA food code.</li><li>- Met with a group of local Stamford restauranteurs on Tues., Nov. 6, 2018. Will be moving on some requests made, and wants to have these meetings regularly as outreach.</li></ul></li><li>● Laboratory:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Continues to look how to increase activities for well water testing, and educational campaign for well water testing. Residents may not be aware that they should test their well water at least every 2 years.</li></ul></li></ul>	
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**Health Commission Meeting  
City of Stamford  
APPROVED MINUTES  
November 8, 2018**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Nursing:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Staff pending, and hopefully by April 1, 2019 will have four positions filled. Those positions:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Full time Nurse Practitioner</li><li>- School Nurse promoted to a supervisory position. This person has both community and school nursing experience.</li><li>- On the school nurse level, another school nurse is being promoted to Public Health Nurse II to provide onsite supervision particularly to new hires.</li><li>- Due to left over funding, a part time non benefited community nurse will be hired to come in twice a week 14 hours to provide adult services. Although the Health Department is very strong in pediatric health, it doesn't provide sufficient adult community health. The community nurse will perform the following screenings to refer for care: Blood pressure screening clinics, BMI, diabetes screening clinics. The part time - community nurse will also administer PPD immunization at women's homeless shelters once a month as well as access other services. Having a nurse practitioner will allow the Health Department to offer adult services at all times.</li><li>- Commissioner will be launching statewide influenza clinics, and Stamford DPH will be participating. Commissioner is taking a</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>	
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**Health Commission Meeting  
City of Stamford  
APPROVED MINUTES  
November 8, 2018**

proactive approach as opposed to reactive approach due to last year's which was in response to the bad flu season. The focus is on the uninsured, and underinsured. The clinics will be on December 1, 2018, and December 8, 2018 at the Government Center.

- Commissioner being proactive with Hepatitis A immunization. Hepatitis A outbreak is occurring in other states, and Commission started the "Hepatitis A Campaign" targeting IV drug users and HIV positive individuals. Working with two community partners to administer vaccines. This initiative isn't being publicized so that members of this target group can come. The outbreak hasn't reached Connecticut.

- Public Health Education:
  - Nothing new to report.
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness:
  - Working hard to reactivate MRC, and received support from state MRC Coordinator. MRC being activated to participate in the flu clinic.
  - Placed a request for proposal (RFP) for an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. Received replies, and though the individuals are highly qualified, they don't reside in CT which raises concerns over response time in the event of a true emergency. Working with Eric Larson in

**Health Commission Meeting  
City of Stamford  
APPROVED MINUTES  
November 8, 2018**

Purchasing to hire a local person.

- MRC Challenge grant is moving along. Joint grant with Stamford Health Department and Stamford Hospital's Dr. Ofer Wellisch who is the Chief of Pain Medicine. The focus was on opioid. Dr. Wellisch is taping two ten minute educational videos this month. Dr. Calder completed the training Narcan administration training for MRC volunteers. Narcan kits, and dummy heads have been purchased. Dr. Wellisch reviewed Dr. Calder's PowerPower presentation portion and liked it. The MRC challenge grant allows one to do anything, but it must involve MRC volunteer. Dr. Calder and Dr. Wellisch proposed teaching MRC to train others how to use Narcan. Darien is interested in this. Stamford is the main Medical Distribution Area (MDA) for both the City of Stamford, but also Darien. Meaning that in the event of an emergency instead of the State distributing medication to all municipalities, they'll only distribute to a small number of municipalities where other municipalities can pick up medications.

- General Department Issues:
  - Working on processes with Ms. Josephine Carpanzano within all divisions of the Health Department in order to best figure out what should be brought to the level of the Health Director and what shouldn't. Having Standard Operating Procedures in place. If there aren't

**Health Commission Meeting  
City of Stamford  
APPROVED MINUTES  
November 8, 2018**

	<p>any, then develop.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Hoarding Taskforce – Pleased with what’s been achieved in less than a year:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o PD trained all inspectors on taking forensic pictures for better standardization.</li><li>o Also needed to standardize assessing hoarding cases via the use of a standardized hoarding scale which the mental health partners who are part of the Hoarding Task Force developed by combining two other scales.</li><li>o Developed a flow chart to be used in hoarding cases where the hoarder won’t allow entry into the apartment versus a hoarder who does.</li><li>o Developed internal resource list.</li><li>o Looking into a hoarding hot line.</li><li>o If the hoarder agrees, as part of their care inspectors can share the pictures taken with emergency room physicians. Working with IT to allow sharing of pictures with emergency room doctors via a secure cloud.</li><li>o Developed a standardized intake form.</li><li>o Develop resources for family members.</li></ul></li><li>- Working on Community Needs Assessment. Provided funding to DataHaven and will be launching needs assessment November 19</li></ul>	
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**Health Commission Meeting  
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November 8, 2018**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In December, HR has offered customer service training for City employees, and Health Department is participating.</li> <li>- DPH has decided to conduct a local health department assessment in 2019.</li> </ul>	
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**Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare Report:**

<p>Mr. Ted Jankowski</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Capital budget season has begun. Tight budget year.</li> <li>○ Mold task force working to remedy West Hill School. School has been temporarily relocated. Continuing to work with legal.</li> <li>○ In response to the Pittsburgh, PA killings, Stamford police were deployed to all religious sites.</li> <li>○ Stamford police department is still recruiting. No age restriction.</li> <li>○ Fire department recruitment has closed. Very successful recruitment effort. 1100 new applicants. Diverse group 62% while male and 38% female and non-white.</li> <li>○ Text to 911 – new feature where a Stamford resident in a domestic violence or other threatening situation can text to 911. Recruiting for a Director of 911, and a CAD Administrator for IT. Both positions are opened until filled.</li> <li>○ Balloon parade kick-off at Lincoln Park</li> <li>○ Veteran’s Day Parade this weekend</li> </ul>	
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**Old Business:**

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**New Business:**

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**Moving to a Board of Health from a Health Commission**

<p>Dr. Thomas Getreuer</p>	<p>Possibility of moving to a Board of Health. The main difference between a Board of Health and a Health Commission are the assigned duties to the members which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Working on Health Department budget with Health Director</li> <li>- Hiring/firing of Health Director</li> <li>- More involvement in policy making in the Health Department</li> </ul> <p>May gradually make changes to the Charter as opposed to a sudden one. Will get more information on moving forward with Board of Health.</p>		
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**Appeal:**

There were no appeals			
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Health Commission Meeting  
City of Stamford  
APPROVED MINUTES  
November 8, 2018

**Adjournment:**

Dr. Getreuer moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by,