Health Commission Special Meeting City of Stamford APPROVED MINUTES November 10, 2021

Commissioners Attendance November 2021

Present: Ms. Lorraine Olson

Dr. Thomas Getreuer Ms. Patricia Parry

Dr. Viviane Trinh, arrived at 9:32am

Absent:

Dr. Tabitha Fortt

Guest Attendance: Ms. Jody Bishop-Pullan, Acting Director of Health, Mr. Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare, Ms. Raquelle Early, Recording Secretary

Meeting called to order	Ms. Olson called the meeting to order at 9:03am.

Topics	Discussions	Actions
Proposed Action Approval of the minutes for the Health Commission meeting of October 14, 2021	• Minutes reviewed by the Health Commission. Page 1 the wording for blue booklet by Health Department is "Stamford Health Department Housing Standards."	Motion to approve as amended occurred at 9:05am. (Approved 3-0)
Correspondences	 No correspondence were noted in the Agenda, but a follow-up of the appeal received last month was pending. Since the appellant did not respond to the Health Commission, the appeal was dropped. 	
Director of Health Report Ms. Jody Bishop-Pullan	 Ms. Lorraine Olson proposed that questions regarding information from the DOH be posed after each topic discussed. 	• All commissioners agreed to this process. (3-0)

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•	A Director of Environmental Health &		
	Inspections has been hired. The paperwork has		
	not been completed but the candidate hired is an		
	internal employee. This person will also serve as Assistant DOH.		
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- Two Inspector I positions have been posted on the City's website. There department has had many complaints and the department is understaffed but work continues.
- Lead testing on all school fountains has been conducted. No lead was found.
- ViewPoint Cloud for environmental inspections continues to be challenging to use. A new program is expected next year.
- 301 Flu vaccines have been administered.
- All services provided at Henry Street Clinic are up and running. 476 visits since July.
- COVID-19 vaccinations are now available for children 5 11 years of age.
- Discussions with Board of Education regarding Health Commission recommendation in June 2020 regarding annual attestations for religious exemptions for vaccinations have not taken place as of yet.
- Brittany Dube, the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator is working with Red Cross. She is

• The appointee will be introduced once HR paperwork is completed.

- ViewPoint Cloud education is being conducted.
- Public charge for flu vaccine is \$25.
- One new nurse has been hired to fill two recently opened vacancies in school nursing.

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	 doing monthly public education at the Ferguson Library while also working on accreditation. Meeting to take place between Director of Health and Board of Education (BOE) regarding Stay and Screen program where students are allowed to continue attending school without quarantining after COVID exposure. 	
	 Contact Tracing System has been nationally recognized. Stamford has a 96% contact rating and a 69% reached & assessed rating. 	
Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare Mr. Ted Jankowski	• COVID vaccination rates for eligible individuals is at 90%. 83% of City employees have been fully vaccinated. Police Department vaccination rate is low at about 60% and Fire Department at about 83%.	
	 Police Department is opening a Police Activities League at Chester Addison. Various after school athletic and non-athletic programs offered to children. Pursuing grant funding through Board of Finance. 	
	 Police Department - Police exam held in September. Of the 550 applicants only 380 showed up. Down significantly from usual 700 - 800 applicants in prior years. 	 Police currently being ordered to work. Department budgeted for 287 positions; current positions filled 270; active positions 255.
	As of January 2020, Police Department founded a Mental Health Collaborative with representatives from various state and community organizations. Mr. Jankowski	

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	extended an invitation to Health Commissioners for the upcoming meeting.	
	 911 dispatchers have series of questions to determine if nature of call may be mental health. Ms. Parry asked if questions could be shared with Commissioners 	Mr. Jankowski agreed to share questions asked by 911 dispatchers.
	 Providing Police Department with crisis intervention training. To date, 70% have completed such training. 	
	• Partnered with Recovery Network of Programs to provide a Social Worker who's embedded with Police Department to answer mental health crisis related calls made to Dispatch Center. Social worker has answered 200 calls, and followed up within a 24-hr. period with individual to ensure care is being administered.	
	 Reached out to DOMUS CEO to implement similar program as Recovery Network of Programs. Should be available in the next 2 months. 	
Old Business Influenza Vaccines & Payment	• Flu vaccines cost to public is \$25.00.	
New Business Facilitation of information between the Health Department and Health Commission	Commissioners requested being notified of personnel changes, especially key personnel, within Health Department and having input in the selection / interview process for Health Director Position.	

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Mask Mandates for City & School	Mayor David Martin has lifted all mask mandates City wide, except inside Government Center. BOE's recommendation is to continue mask mandates in schools, except for public places. In schools, the BOE makes mask determination.	
COVID-19 Boosters	Administered in Henry Street Clinic for both employees and general public via appointment.	
Mental Health Service for Youth	Ms. Lorraine Olson wants Health Commission and Department to partner with BOE and other community members to explore what might be done to provide youth mental health services. She has proposed increasing School based health centers, where possible and is working on one at Anchors, in the old Health Department building on North Street. The p.	
	Ms. Lorraine Olson proposed asking speakers with knowledge on this topic to speak to the HC.	 All Commissioners (4-0) agreed and Ms. Lorraine Olson will explore options and notify the Commissioners of meeting possibility.

Appeal:	
There were no appeals	

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 10:34am.
Submitted by: Raquelle Early