

**Health Commission Special Meeting**  
**City of Stamford**  
**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**January 19, 2023**

Commissioners Attendance January 2023

Present:

Ms. Lorraine Olson  
Dr. Thomas Getreuer  
Ms. Patricia Parry  
Dr. Tabitha Fortt  
Dr. Viviane Trinh

Absent:

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

Call to Order		Ms. Olson called the meeting to order at 9:04am.
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<u>Topics</u>	<u>Discussions</u>	<u>Actions</u>
<b>Minutes</b> Approval of the minutes of the Health Commission Meeting of December 8, 2022		
<b>Correspondence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Motion to approve occurred at 9:10am. Motion to second by Tabitha. (Approved 5-0 with corrections)</li></ul>
<b>Director of Health Report</b> Ms. Jody Bishop-Pullan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Working on Mothers and Babies six (6) week program that helps new mothers manage post-partum depression.</li><li>• Received a grant for \$715,000 for Epidemiology and Laboratory to support case investigation, communication, education, and outreach (except for vaccination). Contract being prepared for Mayor's signature.</li></ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Covid Cases have declined. However, hospitalizations have increased. Community levels are being monitored. Older adult population is impacted the greatest. COVID vaccination clinics have been held at the Senior Center, and in senior housing.</li><li>• State has discontinued supporting COVID-19 testing sites ahead of their June 2023 deadline. One state sponsored COVID-19 testing site on Elm Street will remain open and requires health insurance. Payment will be required for uninsured individuals.</li><li>• COVID-19 Vaccines are still being administered at the Department of Health Clinic at 137 Henry Street via appointment. Griffin Health is also vaccinating at 137 Henry Street 2 days a week, Ferguson Library, and at Westover elementary school on Saturdays.</li><li>• State will be funding Federally Qualified Health Centers for test and treat program. Only (four) 4 centers statewide. Stamford's is in Family Centers in Greenwich. Community Health Centers has funding through HIRSA.</li><li>• Receiving vaccine support / administration grant.</li><li>• Infections Disease(s): Ebola outbreak has been declared over and the USA will no longer monitor travelers to/from Uganda.</li><li>• Last Monkey-Pox case was reported back in September 2022.</li></ul>	
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<p><b>Accreditation</b> Ms. Brittany Dube</p> <p><b>Director of Public Safety, Health, and Welfare</b> Mr. Louis DeRubeis</p> <p><b>Old Business:</b> Mental Health Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Nursing, Infectious disease, and Well Child program is doing physicals and immunizations, especially for newly arrived immigrants.</li><li>• School Nursing: Ensuring students are compliant with immunizations and physicals.</li><li>• Moving into next step of the Accreditation process. Community Health Needs Assessment-completed. Community Health Improvement plan- being finalized by Stamford Hospital. Our Citywide Strategic Plan will begin shortly. Commencement of a new requirement by the Accreditation Board titled Readiness and Training Process which can take up to one (1) year. This process is composed of a myriad of trainings that also help identify gaps and prepares for accreditation. Placing the Health Department on track for accreditation in approximately the end of 2024. Ms. Dube recommends focusing on a monthly basis on the ten domains in accordance with the ten essential functions of public health.</li><li>• No Report</li><li>• The Youth Mental Health Alliance website is up and running. Health commission and health department websites are linked but need improvement.</li><li>• Trainings in Mental Health first aid. Question, Persuade, Refer. Building community power with parents and the clergy. Working with</li></ul>	
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<b>New Business:</b> Funding for Stamford Initiatives  Untimely Deaths in Stamford  Dept. of Health New Hires  Health Commission Website	<p>Youth Bureau and Mayor’s Youth Council on different mental hygiene projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Received funding for School based health centers for Turn of River, and Anchor School to be administered by Family Centers.</li><li>• Replacing sidewalks in front of schools.</li><li>• Several untimely deaths have occurred throughout Stamford. The post-intervention team, which is being used more than anticipated, has been activated 6 times so far.</li><li>• Hired a dental case manager, but due to a retirement in December 2022, there’s a vacancy for a school hygienist.</li><li>• Thus far, only contains names of Health Commissioner’s names alphabetically. Commissioner Olson wants the Health Commission website to be upgraded to include initiatives such as mental health, homelessness, accreditation, etc.</li><li>• General group health commission email: being addressed as to who should respond to questions/concerns from general public.</li></ul>	
<b>Appeals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No Appeals</li></ul>	

**Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 9:58am.

Submitted by: Raquelle Early