

**Health Commission Meeting
City of Stamford
APPROVED MINUTES
February 11, 2021**

Commissioners Attendance February 2021

Present:

Absent:

Dr. Roslyn Burton-Robertson
Dr. Thomas Getreuer
Ms. Patricia Parry
Dr. Tabitha Fortt (Arrived at 8:13am)

Guest Attendance: Ms. Raquelle Early, Recording Secretary

Meeting called to order		Dr. Robertson called the meeting to order at 8:03am.
-------------------------	--	--

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Discussions</u>	<u>Actions</u>
<p>Proposed Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of minutes of the Health Commission Meeting of January 14, 2021 <p>Correspondence</p> <p>Director of Health Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Jennifer Calder <p>Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Ted Jankowski <p>Old Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes reviewed by Health Commission. No correspondence. No report provided at this time. No report provided at this time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion to accept minutes as amended occurred at 8:08am.

**Health Commission Meeting
City of Stamford
APPROVED MINUTES
February 11, 2021**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FOIA Attorney Mike Toma <p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beach Water Testing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Parry questioned why Attorney Toma was on the agenda as Old Business if there was nothing for the Health Commission to discuss about it. • Ms. Parry stated she doesn't think the Health Commission needs to move New Business items to Old Business if the Health Commission is finished with the topic. • Ms. Parry stated she saw a post this week from someone on a website called 'Next Door' that said 'they' were fishing at Cummings Beach until 'their' equipment and hand reeked of diesel marine fuel. Ms. Parry quoted the person saying "It's clear the water is completely contaminated, not healthy for swimming, and probably not healthy for the people fishing and eating the fish 'they' caught there. • Ms. Parry commented that the City of Stamford website, it says Cummings Beach is open for swimmers and shoreline activities. Ms. Parry further said, the website disclosed the Beach is tested weekly and regulated by the Department of Health, Memorial Day through Labor Day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Robertson responded that she moved it to Old Business because what she has done in previous agendas was move New Business items to Old Business, once they have been discussed. Dr. Robertson stated that if this was incorrect, going forward she would take items discussed off the upcoming agenda. • Dr. Robertson agreed once a New Business item has been discussed and closed out, it will not be added to the next meeting agenda listed under Old Business.
--	---	---

**Health Commission Meeting
City of Stamford
APPROVED MINUTES
February 11, 2021**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website Issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Parry asked for the following questions to be answered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is the Health Department testing any other time, outside of the stated timeframe of Memorial Day through Labor Day? ○ Who is responsible for the testing outside of the Memorial and Labor Day timeframe? • Ms. Parry stated that she wants to know, what is the policy for testing, as it poses concerns that someone is writing their hands and equipment was reeking of diesel marine fuel. • Dr. Robertson stated that although the information is subjective, this is definitely a matter the Health Commission should bring to the attention of Dr. Calder. • Ms. Parry stated when going to the Department of Health and clicking the link for the Health Commission, it says that the MD contact is Dr. Henry Yoon. Ms. Parry claimed to have asked about this before and she would like a response as to why Dr. Yoon is listed as staff for the Health Commission? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Getreuer stated that he would assume these were questions Ms. Parry could ask Dr. Calder directly. • Dr. Getreuer responded to Ms. Parry by asking if the person filed a complaint with the City for investigation. • Ms. Parry raised questions regarding who else would be involved in the matter. She inquired if the Harbor Commission should also be involved because technically people can go down and jump in the water for a swim. They can and are going down to fish. Ms. Parry reiterated, requesting the matter be looked at and the Health Commission be provided with feedback about how ‘this’ is managed.
--	---	--

**Health Commission Meeting
City of Stamford
APPROVED MINUTES
February 11, 2021**

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Response to Health Commission Recommendation to have Vaccine Exemption Form signed annually.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Getreuer asked Ms. Parry to correct him if at all incorrect regarding Dr. Yoon being the Health Commission’s Medical Advisor. • Ms. Parry brought it to the attention of the Health Commission that Dr. Tabitha Fortt needs to be added to the Health Commission as a staff member. • Ms. Parry spoke to Mike Pensiero, Director of Information Technology about the website. When asked, Ms. Parry stated two members were no longer with the Health Commission • Ms. Parry mentioned she doesn’t believe the Health Commission could have any response regarding the Vaccine Exemption Form being signed annually with Dr. Calder and Mr. Jankowski being present.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Parry clarified, Dr. Yoon is the Medical Advisor for the Department of Health, not for the Health Commission. Ms. Parry explained the Health Commission’s entire function is from the Board of Representatives. All the Health Commission’s authority is through the Charter from the Board of Representatives. The Health Commission is a separate entity which works alongside the Health Department, so it is incorrect to suggest Dr. Yoon is a Health Commission staff member. • Mike Pensiero said he would take their names down. This task was completed.
--	---	--

**Health Commission Meeting
City of Stamford
APPROVED MINUTES
February 11, 2021**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Fortt questioned, what’s the issue with the Vaccine Exemption forms? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Parry responded, the exemption forms are for students. Ms. Parry explained, when students go to school they have to fill out a physical assessment form at three points during their life in the school system, assuming the student remains in public school the whole time. Ms. Parry further explained, at those time periods, there’s a request for vaccination, which many students claim through parents and/or guardians to have a religious exemption. The proposal of the Health Commission was the exemption form should be filled out every year because things change, people and circumstances change. • Dr. Getreuer provided background regarding the matter, stating the City’s Nursing division has moved to an EMR and because of that they have the ability to track these things much more easily and there’s no reason not to be current on a yearly basis.
--	--	---

<p>Appeal: There were no appeals</p>		
---	--	--

<p>Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:36am.</p>

Submitted by: Raquelle Early