

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

Commissioners Attendance March 2021

Present:

Dr. Roslyn Burton-Robertson

Dr. Thomas Getreuer

Ms. Patricia Parry (Arrived at 8:04am)

Dr. Tabitha Fortt (Arrived at 8:17am)

Absent:

Guest Attendance: Dr. Jennifer Calder, Director of Health, Ms. Raquelle Early, Recording Secretary

Meeting called to order		Dr. Robertson called the meeting to order at 8:06am.
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<u>Topics</u>	<u>Discussions</u>	<u>Actions</u>
<b>Proposed Action</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Approval of the minutes of the Health Commission Meeting of February 11, 2021.</li><li>Approval of the minutes of the Health Commission Special Meeting of March 03, 2021.</li></ul> <b>Correspondence</b> <b>Director of Health Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dr. Jennifer Calder<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>COVID-19 Response</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minutes reviewed by the Health Commission.</li><li>Minutes reviewed by the Health Commission.</li><li>No correspondences.</li><li>Dr. Calder stated the Department of Health continues to work on the COVID-19 Response. She stated at this time, the Department of Health's efforts are primarily focused on getting the vaccinations out.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Motion to approve as amended occurred at 8:20am.</li><li>Motion to approve as amended occurred at 8:27am.</li></ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First Responder vaccinations has been completed. The Department of Health participated in the vaccination of Healthcare providers, as well as individuals seventy-five (75) years and older until the nurses returned back to school. The Department of Health has partnered with Stamford Health which Dr. Calder has reported to be going excellently.</li><li>• Dr. Calder said The Department of Health has contracted with Delta-T Nursing Services to provide temporary services to Stamford Health. The Department of Health has also activated approximately twenty (20) MRC Volunteers, including RNs, APRNs and individuals whom are now certified as Tier two (2). Dr. Calder said School Nurses has also been trained and are working weekends or after hours.</li><li>• Dr. Calder stated the Hospital has had a lot of challenges getting their full complement of vaccines from the State which has delayed the opening of Elmcroft. Dr. Calder said she has been told Elmcroft will be opening on Monday. Dr. Calder said while the Department of Health was providing the Hospital with additional support in anticipation that Elmcroft would be opened months ago, the Hospital has informed her they've hired sufficient staff to support both the on-site campus vaccinations and Elmcroft.</li><li>• Dr. Calder said the Department of Health started vaccination for Educators and Childcare Providers over the weekend. She stated approximately 1,500 people had been scheduled to be vaccinated which included Stamford Public School Educators, Private Schools, two Daycares and a Boys and</li></ul> |  |
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Girls Club. Approximately 60% of the individuals within Stamford Public Schools who said they wanted to be vaccinated showed up on Saturday. Dr. Calder stated the bulk of the people who hadn't showed up were due to either individuals finding appointments closer to home or changing their mind because of concerns about the vaccine. Dr. Calder said there was a high response rate among the Private Schools and Boys and Girls Club. She also said there was a 75% rate among the daycares that were vaccinated. Dr. Calder said Stamford Hospital is using Johnson & Johnson.

- Dr. Calder said the Department of Health started their Bedbound Vaccination Program through a part-time Visiting Nurse they hired through the Department's COVID-19 Grant. As of yesterday, approximately twelve (12) individuals have been vaccinated. The Department of Health is also working with the Hospital to identify other areas where the Department of Health can go to vaccinate individuals.
- Dr. Calder said CHC has been working with the City to vaccinate Senior Residents, as well as Homeless Shelters. Dr. Calder said she is planning to have a discussion with CHC to determine how the Department of Health Nurses can support this effort.
- Dr. Calder stated during the first peek, discussions about how the Department of Health could get communities of color to participate in mitigation activities were held. Dr. Calder said it was clear what the Department of Health was doing wasn't working so with the grant that the Department of Health received, Dr. Calder put funding aside to support a more professional and focused effort of

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ TB</li> <li>○ Hiring</li> </ul>	<p>reaching communities of color. She said she's been working with <i>Impact Planning Group</i> and within a month, they have reach out to many Black Community Leaders, Community Leaders representing Hispanics, Board of Education and has retained a lot of information pertaining to why these communities feel the way they do.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Parry asked Dr. Calder if she could identify the grant the Department of Health received.</li> <li>• Dr. Calder said the Department of Health has identified Trust voices for both groups of individuals and they now have a roadmap for what they want to do and how they want to do it. The committee includes Reverend Lingle, Reverend Dr. Jackson, Laura Jordan, Arthur Augustyn, Robin Stein, Laura Burwick, Dr. Calder and Family Centers.</li> <li>• Dr. Calder said the Department of Health has active cases of TB that are being reported.</li> <li>• The Department of Health is trying to hire new nurses to help the Nursing program respond more effectively.</li> <li>• Ms. Parry asked Dr. Calder how many nursing positions she is trying to fill.</li> <li>• Ms. Parry asked Dr. Calder if the eight (8) positions she is looking to fill are a combination of Community Nursing and School Nursing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Calder responded it is the Epidemiology &amp; Laboratory Capacity grant.</li> <li>• Dr. Calder said approximately eight (8).</li> <li>• Dr. Calder confirmed Ms. Parry was correct.</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Hypertension Grant</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ms. Parry asked Dr. Calder if she knows how many school nursing positions are opened and could that information be given to the Health Commission.</li><li>• Dr. Calder reported the Department of Health has increased the number of Contact Tracers they have hired. Four (4) Contact Tracers have been solely committed to issues related to schools. The hours for Contact Tracing has increased so Contact Tracers are available from 8:30am to 8:00pm, seven (7) days a week. Other Contact Tracers are available for the same days and times as well. The State has provided the Department of Health with two (2) Contact Tracers who are bilingual and that are dedicated to Contact Tracing only in Stamford.</li><li>• Ms. Parry asked Dr. Calder what is the total number of Contact Tracer does the Department of Health has.</li><li>• Dr. Calder reported after being shut down for a year due to COVID-19, the Hypertension Grant has rolled out. The educational program has started in the Fall of 2020. Marjorye Alday, who is a part-time Nurse, screened approximately forty (40) people and identify around ten (10) individuals. A Registered Dietitian has been hired to conduct the dietary component. Another person has been hired to conduct cooking classes. Cooking Class is conducted once a month. Exercising classes are conducted once a week. These classes are conducted by HIPAA Complaint Zoom and are free.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr. Calder said that she doesn't know but would request the Director of Nursing provide the Health Commission with the information.</li><li>• Dr. Calder stated she believes it's approximately seventeen (17) but requested Ms. Early confirm that information.</li></ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Online Systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Calder stated Patagonia Health is up and running. The Department of Health is able to link to facts directly from the Department’s medical records to the State. The State reports, CTWiz, the Immunization Program and Patagonia Health are working together to iron out connectivity issues.</li> <li>• Dr. Calder stated ViewPoint Cloud was rolled out in October of 2020. It’s working well. The Program is supported by the City. Dr. Calder said the only thing left from the Department of Health to do is accept online Plan Reviews and she is awaiting the software to finalize this by the end of the month.</li> <li>• Ms. Parry asked Dr. Calder when she says plans, could she specify the plans she is talking about.</li> <li>• Ms. Parry asked when the Building Department has something, Septic, or other things like this, is that what Dr. Calder is referring to.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Calder responded, people submit plans to the Department of Health Inspectors to review.</li> <li>• Dr. Calder said if there is a plan that comes to Buildings that needs to be reviewed by the Department of Health – yes, but the Department of Health gets plans independent of the Building Department.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Director of Public Safety, Health &amp; Welfare</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Ted Jankowski</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Jankowski was not present to provide a report.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Old Business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nothing to report.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>New Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Dr. Burton-Robertson’s Resignation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Robertson reported that she has officially resigned from the Health Commission and this is her last Board Meeting. Dr. Robertson said she is technically on the calendar until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Calder said she would like to thank Dr. Robertson and she has thoroughly enjoyed working with her. Dr. Calder expressed how supportive Dr. Robertson has been and she recalls when working on HIV, getting to zero</li> </ul>

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and she will support the Commission throughout the remainder of the month.

- Dr. Robertson said that she has been presented with many opportunities that would help expand her practice. She said that she is getting ready to embark upon an opportunity to go to Law School as well, which has just recently happened by in way of doing a psych evaluation for someone who happened to be in California.
- Dr. Robertson stated that the Mayor and Marty will be working with the Health Commission to get the position filled. Dr. Robertson said she has expressed to the Mayor and Marty, her strong recommendation that Dr. Getreuer resume his role as Chair.
- Ms. Parry stated the Health Commission would have to take a vote because it is not the Mayor or Marty Levine's decision who chairs the Commission, it's the Health Commissions' decision.
- Ms. Parry said she proposed Dr. Getreuer reassume the role of Chair, on a temporary basis while the Health Commission discuss what they are doing going forward and as the Health Commission tries to get more Commissioners appointed.

and Dr. Robertson was there helping get the message out to people of color.

- Ms. Parry congratulated and said how gracious Dr. Robertson is. Ms. Parry wished Dr. Robertson the best.
- Dr. Getreuer said in response to what Dr. Robertson is suggesting, he would accept only as a temporary position, as the Head of the Health Commission. Dr. Getreuer said he would like to speak to Ms. Parry and Dr. Fortt after the meeting to make sure this is the best thing for the health Commission.
- Dr. Getreuer asked that this vote be taken now.
- Motion passed. (4-0)

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Health Commissioners' Personal Information for Public View</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ms. Parry said there is an issue on the Health Commission's notices that go out regarding the Commission having meetings. Ms. Parry said, since forever, the notice would have all the Commissioners' names, addresses, and phone numbers to contact. Ms. Parry said this information went to the Board of Reps and got posted. Apparently that is no longer being done. Ms. Parry said she feels this information needs to be there.</li></ul>	
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<b>Appeal:</b> There were no appeals		
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<b>Adjournment:</b> Meeting ended at 9:43am.
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Submitted by: Raquelle Early