



TOWN OF MONROE
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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MONROE BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
Monroe, Connecticut

April 13, 2022

Present: Christopher Thornley, Chris Davis, Mary Porter, Nancy Brault

Also Present: Enid Lipeles, Town Council Liaison, Barbara Krajewski, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Michael Herlihy

The virtual, on-line meeting was called to order by Thornley at 6:22 PM.
Thornley provided meeting introductions and discussed meeting requirements.

Public Participation: None

Approval of the Minutes

The membership reviewed the Minutes dated February 9, 2022.
A MOTION was made by Thornley, SECONDED by Brault, to approve the Minutes dated February 9, 2022. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Thornley advised the membership that Porter would be leaving the Board of Health and he thanked her for her service.

Environmental Health Activity Report

Brault reported that the department is currently behind in routine food service inspections as noted in the Environmental Health Activity Report, primarily due to COVID-19 activities. In addition, fewer applications for B-100a's were received from customers to install additions, pools, decks and sheds, etc. This may be related to the rising costs of building materials.

Revenue Report

Brault reported that all food service license renewals have been received thanks to follow up by Krajewski and her outreach with our customers. Brault also reported that temporary food service applications are slowly coming in for the Spring season. As reported in the Environmental Health Activity Report, the number of B-100a applications received are less than expected. Brault indicated that based on the proposed budget this year, she currently projects a short fall of \$5,000 to \$7,000.

Brault provided the membership with a revised Calendar of Events. She indicated that on June 4 the health department will have a booth at Webb Mountain for National Trails Day. Free tick tweezers will be available while supplies last. She also noted that plans are in process for a

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health fair to be held at the Monroe Senior Center this fall. Lipeles volunteered in support of this initiative and Porter suggested that students in the Health Sciences Department at Sacred Heart University may be available to set up booths with information on mobility and safety, and other topics. She also suggested contacting Monroe EMS so that they may set up a booth. Porter suggested that outreach for the health fair may include the food pantry distribution list, public health newsletter, flyers in the Town Clerk's office and other locations where seniors may receive information.

Grant Status

Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

Brault reported that this grant is currently closed out. Unspent funds that remained in the grant due to the lack of nursing staff will be returned to the State of CT. A new Preventive Health Grant is expected from the State Health Department in 2023.

Emergency Preparedness Grant

The department is on track with deliverables under the grant and Brault indicated that she just submitted the third quarter financial report to our fiduciary for reimbursement.

Health Enhancement Community Grant

Approximately \$3,000 of this grant was disbursed to the Edith Wheeler Memorial Library to support the cost of video and camera equipment for meetings. Approximately \$500 is left in the grant and will be expended on speaker engagements.

ELC Funding Grant

The Monroe Health Department is working collaboratively with the Stratford and Trumbull Health Departments to contract with a subcontractor to develop an infectious disease plan that can service our 3 towns. The town attorney is currently reviewing a draft MOA. An additional portion of the ELC Funding Grant will support costs for information packets for regulated facilities, outlining customer and employee safety, food and equipment management, etc.

ELC 2 Funding Grant

Brault reported that funding under this grant is in the process of being reviewed by the Department of Public Health. We plan to use these monies to support the hiring of a public health nurse to assist with disease tracking and other public health nursing needs. Additional funds from Stratford and Trumbull Health Departments will support this full time position. A second MOA is expected between the towns.

Unfinished Business

Covid-19 Status Report

Brault reported that the overall number of COVID-19 cases have decreased including hospitalizations; however new variances are continuing to circulate. She also noted that per the Department of Public Health, a number of cases and clusters have been popping up in school settings associated with musical or other events where separating distances are not maintained and students do not wear masks.

Brault reported that Monroe's Rite Aids, Walgreens and CVS are providing those 50 and over with booster shots. Customers can make an appointment and receive the vaccine within the same week.

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Porter inquired as to how does the State know the type of viruses that are circulating through the population. Brault indicated she will follow up with additional information.

New Business

Staffing Review

Brault reported that the public health nurse position has been reposted and so far one applicant will be contacted for an interview.

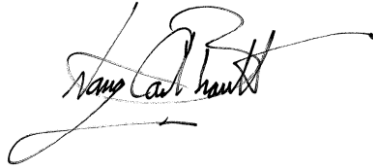
Medical Advisor MOU

The Town Council currently approved an MOU with Dr. Michael O'Reilly to serve as the department's medical advisor.

Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Thornley, SECONDED by Porter to adjourn at 7:20 PM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy Carol Brault", with a large, stylized initial "N" and "C".

Nancy Carol Brault, MPH, RS
Director of Health