

**Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
May 18, 2010**

**Board Members & Liaisons Present:**

Constance Young, EdD, RN, Chairperson  
Ernest Judson, Vice Chairperson  
Joan M. Costello, BSN, RN, Secretary  
Mitchell Quintner, DMD  
Ray Vitali, Board of Alderman Liaison

*Board Members & Liaisons not present:*

Howard Fink, MD  
William F. Lynch, MD  
Deborah Woods  
James Patterson, Board of Alderman Liaison  
Diane Kruger-Carroll, Board of Education Liaison

*Others Present: None*

**Health Department Staff Present**

A. Dennis McBride, MD, MPH, Health Director  
Beverly Hayes, BS, Administrative Assistant

C. Young called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes – April 20, 2010**

The minutes of the meetings held on April 20, 2010 were approved unanimously, on a motion by E. Judson and seconded by J. Costello.

**Environmental Health Report – Laura M. Miller, RS**

*Anti-blight activities – Week Ending May 15, 2010*

As of the week ending 5/15/2010, the Health Department received 123 complaints of blight, 24 of which are repeat complaints. Each complaint is in various stages of the process – some properties do not meet the criteria set up in the ordinance and are being investigated under the Housing or General Public Health codes. Others are in compliance and show no cause for enforcement action, while others are still in progress or under investigation. After several inspections, reviews, and discussions with owners, four properties have been issued a notice detailing violations. They are currently within the specified compliance date.

Eleven properties have failed to comply with the orders defined in the Notice of Violation and have been referred to the City Attorney's office for enforcement action. The owners of these properties may be fined \$100 for each day the violation(s) continue to exist after the compliance date specified in the notice of violation.

| Total # of blight complaints | Submitted by anti-blight complaint form | Submitted by other | Repeat complaints | Notice of Violation issued | Under Investigation | Abated/remedied/closed | No cause for enforcement action | Referred to City Attorney |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 123                          | 72                                      | 51                 | 24                | 7                          | 6                   | 53                     | 22                              | 11                        |

#### Housing Code Board of Appeals

On May 5, 2010, Dr. McBride, Laura Miller, Tara Mustakos and Bob Grive attended an appeal hearing before the Housing Code Board of Appeals with regards to properties located at 9, 11, 18, 20, 22 and 24 Shweky Beach Way and 163 Rivercliff Rd.

In February 2010, the Health Department received complaints under the blight ordinance and issued notices of violation (NOV) for the premises located at 9, 11, 18, 20, 22 and 24 Shweky Beach Way Milford, Connecticut regarding the property containing vacant building structures, structures in incomplete in a blighted state; overgrown grass and brush, and the presence of inorganic building materials and garbage. In March 2010 the Health Department received complaints under the blight ordinance and issued a NOV for the premises at 163 Rivercliff Drive, Milford, Connecticut regarding a large uncovered dumpster full of garbage and scattered debris on the property. The effected parties appealed the NOV(s) and requested hearings in front of the Housing Code Board of Appeals.

On May 5, 2010 the Housing Code Board of Appeals heard testimony from all parties. After hearing testimony from all appellants and the Health Department, the Housing Code Board of Appeals upheld the order(s) from the Director of Health with regards to all premises. Representatives of all properties were granted extensions for compliance with the NOV's. The Health Department will continue to monitor the properties and report back to the Housing Code Board of Appeals in 30 days. Minutes from the meeting held on May 5, 2010 can be viewed on the City Website.

*Comments:* None

#### **Nursing Division Report – Joan Cagginello**

##### School Health Services

Several new programs for students have been added at The Academy building, both during the school day and after school hours. Many of the students attending the programs have health conditions that warrant having a nurse on site full time throughout the day until 4:30pm. The change in nursing service hours has been made in concert with the Health Department and the Milford Public Schools, to ensure the health and safety of the students.

##### Extended School Year Programs & Camp Happiness

Camp Happiness will be held at The Academy this summer from July 12<sup>th</sup>-August 12<sup>th</sup>. The twelve-month nurse will provide school health services for the program. The Milford Board of Education

will hold two extended school year programs (“summer school”) in district this summer. They will be held at JFK elementary and Harborside middle schools, beginning on July 6<sup>th</sup> and concluding on August 6<sup>th</sup>. There are two nurses assigned to these summer programs.

#### Local Health Department/District Preventive Health Federal Block Grant

The Milford Health Department will apply for funding through the Federal Block Grant for a Healthy Homes Assessment Program. The proposed program would address education for homeowners and tenants and remediation guidance for those situations requiring corrective measures.

#### Update - Enough is Enough: A Community Discussion on Teen & Young Adult Motor Vehicle Safety

The forum planned for this month has been postponed due to logistical conflicts. The collaboration between departments and agencies will continue and the forum will be presented in the fall.

*Comments:* None

### **Community Health Division Report - Deepa Joseph**

#### Putting on AIRS Asthma Program

The program received a total of 24 referrals for the months of March & April, for a total of 87 referrals received this contract year.

#### One noted Success:

Region 6 continues to successfully navigate an established system with Community Health Network (CHN) – when a POA referral has CHN as their primary health insurance, they will provide the non-allergen mattress and pillow covers – this quarter 2 referred families were able to receive these services. This system allows the noted supplies to be conserved for families not having CHN as their health insurer.

#### The following explains one new outreach efforts initiated during this period;

This new outreach initiative involved a partnership with the Milford Family Resource Center (MFRC). The MFRC received a grant from Venture Grants Program of the United Way of Milford to fund a ½ hour television show highlighting the Region 6 Putting on AIRS program.

*Comments:* None.

### **Emergency Preparedness Report**

#### **Regional/CRI Emergency Preparedness Report - Amy Shields**

Milford health department staff and representatives from the board of education and public works attended a regional sheltering tabletop exercise. This exercise was coordinated by the All-Hazards Shelter Operations Exercise Planning team. Representatives from various towns in Region 2 attended. The scenario of a major power outage was presented to the group, allowing each jurisdiction to examine their current sheltering plans in terms of communications and activation of a shelter.

The leap of faith regional exercise is scheduled for late June. A total of five faith-based organizations, representing New Haven and West Haven, are participating in this table-top exercise. The exercise is focused on these five faith organizations standing as a closed point of dispensing (POD) in an emergency event. A training session for participating organizations was held on May 13<sup>th</sup> to review the responsibilities each organization will have in the Mass Dispensing process.

Region 2 CRI coordinator attended a week long training in Atlanta focused on the Strategic National Stockpile/Cities Readiness Initiative. The training allowed for review of key issues related to mass dispensing on the local, regional, and state level. Representatives from all over the United States attended, allowing for discussions on how each state coordinates their Mass Dispensing Plans. The training included presentations, guest speakers, group work, and hands on training with the off-loading/loading of stockpile medications from receiving sites. Preparedness staff from Region 2 Health Departments will be attending SNS trainings in the upcoming months.

**Local Emergency Preparedness/Volunteer Activity Report - Tara Mustakos**

The Milford Health Department will continue to offer H1N1 flu vaccination at the regular scheduled health department clinics. H1N1 vaccination ordering is already planned for next fall's influenza season.

The Milford Health Department MRC/CERT volunteers are going to be breaking for the summer months. Bruce Varga, our volunteer coordinator, is organizing an agenda with potential volunteer activities such as the Milford Oyster Festival.

The Milford Animal Control in partnership with the Region 2 State Animal Response Team (SART) will be hosting a *Raise the Tent* event on June 5<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this drill is to showcase the two Regional Response Trailers for animal rescue. Invitations were sent out to all Mayors, First Selectmen, EMDs, First Responders, Public Health Professionals and all partners of Emergency Support Function (ESF) 8: Public Health and Medical. The two trailers are housed and maintained at Milford Animal Control but act as a regional asset.

*Comments:* None.

**New Business:**

**Director's Report:**

- D. McBride distributed the Proposed Memorandum of Decision from the Department of Public Health – Public Health Hearing Office regarding the Olive Tree Hookah Lounge located at 2007 Bridgeport Avenue. He explained that he has filed an appeal to file a brief and present an oral argument.
- D. McBride explained that the Board of Alderman made cuts on the Nursing Budget, cutting 2 nursing positions, and also denied a new position for a Community Health Nurse on the Health Department budget and the funds provided for those had not been restored.
- D. McBride added that the Community Development Block Grant budget proposed to cut the Housing Code Enforcement from their budget, which funds Sonja Devitt, the Community Housing Inspector.

**Adjournment:**

E. Judson motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by J. Costello and approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Hayes, BS  
Recorder