

**Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
April 22, 2014**

**Board Members & Liaisons Present:**

Constance Young, EdD, RN, Chairperson  
Holly Mulrenan, BSN, RN, MS  
Atty. Christine M. Gonillo, Secretary  
Ernest Judson  
William F. Lynch, MD  
Ray Vitali, Board of Alderman Liaison  
Laura Fucci, Board of Education Liaison

*Board Members & Liaisons not present:*

Joan M. Costello, BSN, RN, Vice Chairperson  
Mitchell Quintner, DMD  
Greta Stanford, Board of Alderman 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 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes – March 18, 2014**

The minutes of the meeting held on March 18, 2014 were approved unanimously on a motion by E. Judson and seconded by W. Lynch.

**Public Session:** None

**Environmental Division Report – Laura Miller**

Concession Stand Training On Thursday April 17, 2014 Paul Scholz, RS conducted a training session geared toward volunteer food handlers working in the concession stands. This year we trained 10 volunteers from various organizations. In total, there are nine concession stands serving food to the public during sporting events. Organizations utilizing each stand must obtain a license, have their menu approved by this office and have at least two people attend one of our training sessions. Training topics include personal hygiene, food temperatures, proper garbage disposal, food protection and general sanitization.

Anti-bligh activities As of the week ending April 21, 2014, the Health Department received 49 total complaints of blight since the beginning of the 2013/2014 fiscal year. Since the ordinance went into effect in September of 2009, the Division received a total of 494 complaints. Over time each complaint is in various stages of the process, some properties do not meet the criteria

set up in the anti-blight 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.

Currently, eight properties 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 since ordinance implementation	FY 2013/2014	Currently under orders - NOV <b><u>OPEN</u></b>	Referred to City Attorney <b><u>OPEN</u></b>
494	49	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>

*Comments: None*

**Nursing Division Report – Joan Campbell**

Seasonal Flu and Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Campaign

For the week ending April 12, 2014, the Connecticut Department of Public Health reports that influenza activity continues to be classified as “widespread” and many regions are experiencing a second wave of influenza activity. A total of 5,452 positive influenza cases have been reported statewide for the current season with 1,650 being in New Haven County. Of the 5,452 positive influenza reports: 1,352 were Type A (2009 H1N1), 375 were Type A (H3N2), 3,129 Type A (subtype unspecified), 529 influenza B viruses, and 67 of unknown type. A total of 1,509 hospitalized patients with laboratory-confirmed influenza have been reported statewide. A total of 28 influenza-associated deaths in individuals greater than 30 years of age have been reported. At the end of Influenza Season Week 15 (April 12, 2014), the Center for Disease Control reports that seasonal influenza activity is low across most of the country but a wave of influenza B activity is affecting parts of the country. This week influenza B viruses account for 55% of viruses nationally and are causing an increase in influenza-like-illness in parts of the northeast especially. The Milford Health Department has concluded its seasonal influenza campaign. A total of 1,231 influenza vaccinations were administered. The school nurses and Health Department continue to monitor the influenza Like Illness (ILI) activity in the schools.

School Health Services

The Connecticut State Department of Education Health Services Survey – The Milford Health Department has participated in the statewide School Health Services Survey for the past several years. This data collection process is designed to assist the CT State Department of Education to understand the status of school health services in Connecticut school districts, the needs of

school districts and students in the area of school health services, and progress being made in these areas over time. The survey addresses several areas in school health services such as student health care needs, health care procedures performed, screenings and referrals, staffing and health coordination. The school nurses are currently collecting their data and this will be summarized and submitted to the CSDE by the Director of Nursing.

Extended School Year (ESY) Program – The Milford Public Schools will hold extended school year programs from July 1 – August 4, 2014. School Nurses have been assigned to work at Orange Avenue, Harborside, Mathewson and Pumpkin Delight schools. Our 12 month nurse, Joan Braun, will be working at Camp Happiness this summer which will be held at Foran High School.

Nursing Staff – Sandra Fomenko, RN at Foran High School resigned as of April 11, 2014. Human Resources has posted the opening on various sites and we hope to have this position filled by the end of June.

Dental Program - Our Dental Hygienists, Elaine Colangelo and Debra Britz, have been busy providing dental services to Milford students in Grades K – 5. An overview of their services include:

- ✓ **Kindergarten:** Emphasis on importance of maintaining primary dentition.  
Introduce plaque formation and how fluoride/sealants protect tooth enamel  
Heavy emphasis on nutrition and limiting snacks  
Importance of bike helmets and mouth guards to reduce head and oral injuries  
8-minute animated video-Geena's Tremendous Tooth Adventure  
Play dough mouth model to take home  
Teach proper brushing/flossing techniques
- ✓ **Grade 1:** Learning that decay can be prevented by proper oral hygiene, nutrition and fluoride rinses  
Strong emphasis on healthy snacks for school and good nutrition  
Review bike helmet and mouth guard safety  
Discussion of eruption of 6year molars and sealant application  
Review brushing/flossing techniques  
6 minute animated video-Dental Defenders vs. Cavity Creeps
- ✓ **Grade 2:** Discuss how plaque formation causes the environment which leads to dental disease  
Discuss food nutrition labels and hidden sugar content  
Review helmet/mouth guard safety  
Review brushing/flossing techniques  
13-minute animated video-The Incredible Ride
- ✓ **Grades 3-5:** Individual chair side oral hygiene instruction

The dental hygienists are also invited twice a year (spring and fall) to speak at the mother/toddler group at the Milford Public Library. In March, there were approximately 20 adults and 26 children in attendance. The hygienists give an informal presentation on oral health and oral development to the adults and then use their puppets to educate the toddlers on oral health.

The hygienists also attended a conference earlier this school year on Treating Patients with Special Needs sponsored by the State of CT Department of Developmental Services. They have been invited to speak with parents of children at The Feroletto Children's Development Center in Trumbull.

*Comments: None*

### **Emergency Preparedness Reports – Tara Mustakos**

#### Local Emergency Preparedness Contract

Four Milford Health Department staff and three Milford Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers participated in Deep River where a full scale exercise Point of Dispensing (POD) was conducted. Over 30 towns from Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) Region 2 participated. The goal of this exercise was to work on standardizing all the materials needed for PODs including training materials and forms. Participation in this drill was to fulfill a grant deliverable.

The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) and the state health department have several events scheduled in the coming months which local health departments are expected to participate. These include:

**April 21-25, 2014:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) drill to test CT Department of Public Health (DPH) Mass Distributing capabilities

**June 2014:** Governor's Annual Emergency Preparedness and Planning Initiative (EPPI), Statewide

The Milford Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is scheduled to meet again this month. Emergency Management, through the Milford Fire Department is the lead of this group in coordination with the Environmental Division Chief and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator from Milford Health.

#### Public Health Preparedness Activities

Milford Health Department is finalizing paperwork for the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) grant in the amount of \$1,350.00. With this money supplies will be provided to new and existing volunteers to support personal preparedness and help them be more able to respond to aid health department staff and school nurses during a public health emergency.

The Milford Health Department Volunteer Coordinator is working with local Boy Scout Troop leaders and the Borough of Woodmont to develop a new CERT group. Presentations will be conducted for these groups on emergency preparedness along with the Milford Condo

Association at Long Meadow Condominium and the Kiwanis. Additionally, the health department high school intern is in the process of scheduling presentations on Emergency Preparedness at Foran High School. From there she will coordinate future presentations at Jonathan Law High School and Harborside Middle School.

A national level call down drill was conducted to all MRCs; Milford replied and documented said notification on the National MRC website.

*Comments: None*

## **Community Health – Deepa Joseph**

### Disease Surveillance

There were 68 cases of disease reported for the month of March, with seasonal influenza being the most reported disease. Reports of influenza locally follow state and national trends with increasing activity with each month.

### Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI)

PLTI enables parents to become leading advocates for children in their community through participation in four phases of training—a one-day retreat, a 10-week course on parent leadership, a 10-week course on civic engagement, and a community project to practice what participants have learned within a community context. Throughout Phase 2, several guest speakers have visited the class including our local legislators, the Mayor, and key community leaders. Participants are working on completing and/or executing their community projects, as the local graduation will be held in the middle of May.

### Access Health CT

The Milford Health Department obtained a grant in the amount of \$12,000 through the CT Office of the Healthcare Advocate and Access Health CT to assist Milford residents in understanding their health insurance options and in enrolling in the health insurance program or plan that best meets their needs. The contract for this project ends on April 30, 2014. Despite unexpected changes in program staffing after the start of the contract, the Milford Health Department enrolled 62 individuals into health insurance. Additionally, the Health Department conducted outreach to over 8,000 individuals and/or families within the city of Milford.

### Putting on AIRS Asthma Program

The program received a total of 78 referrals for this contract year. Approximately 80% of referrals are received via providers or hospitals/emergency departments. The CT Department of Public Health is currently in the processing of preparing the funding application to be submitted to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC). Program staff will be meeting with DPH to discuss future funding opportunities, as the CDC is placing greater emphasis on home-based interventions for asthma.

*Comments: None*

## **Old Business:**

- *C. Young stated that she followed up again with the City Attorney regarding drafting of a smoking ordinance in public parks and other recreational facilities. Dr. McBride stated that he talked with J. Berchem, City Attorney who would be looking into other counties and non-smoking areas. They will revisit this at the next meeting.*
- *Dr. McBride stated that regarding Caswell Cove, the tenants of the condominium have volunteered to monitor and document the dates and times of the odors coming from the Recycling plant nearby. DEP was called, however, there wasn't anything warranting their involvement at this time.*
- *D. McBride stated that he met with the legal counsel and the nurses will continue with established practices and await further guidance from legal counsel if new recommendation are made as to the interpretation of regulations regarding nurses delegating administration of medications is handled.*
- *Dental Services – C. Young stated that the dental services offered in the schools are comprehensive. Dr. McBride stated that they will have Dr. Quintner take the lead. C. Gonillo added that a needs assessment will be needed as per Dr. Quintner's suggestion. C. Young stated that she would call Dr. Quintner.*

#### **Director's Report:**

- *D. McBride stated the CT State Health Department (DPH) is conducting a statewide full scale exercise this week to test stockpile drop locations for Public Health Mass Dispensing Areas. DPH will be physically delivering assets to over 75 locations across the state. On Thursday, 4/24/14, to test its delivery system, DPH will be dropping off assets at the designated Milford location. The Milford Health Department (MHD) will receive the assets. Additionally, on the same date, DPH will be requesting local communities to open, in notion only, the local Emergency Operation Center (EOC), and MDH will be performing an emergency call down public health emergency notifications exercise. The Health Department is fully participating in this exercise as part of our ongoing emergency preparedness campaign.*
- *D. McBride added that the Board of Alderman meeting for the Health Department budget meeting was April 10<sup>th</sup>.*

#### **New Business:**

- *C. Young stated that she is putting together information on the various divisions of the Health Department to distribute when a new board member or liaison is appointed.*
- *W. Lynch distributed a letter he sent to the Police Department back in August 2013 for which he never received a response or acknowledgement regarding bicycle safety. D. McBride offered to do a bulletin board on bicycle safety and also talk to Police Chief Mello, Board of Education, Parks & Recreation and Playground Camps about W. Lynch proposal of bicycle safety education. R. Vitelli suggested contacting Carter Mario regarding helmets and Tony's bikes, adding that school resource officers may be willing to do something.*

#### **Adjournment:**

E. Judson motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by W. Lynch and was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Hayes, BS  
Recorder