

DRAFT December 6, 2023

**Wallingford Board of Health
45 South Main Street, Town Hall, Rm 315
Minutes of December 6, 2023**

Call to Order: 8:38 a.m. by Vanessa Bautista, Director of Health.

Present: Mayor Dickinson, Dr. Delbert Smith, Jeffrey Necio, Len Guercia, Kathy Neelon, Adriana Rodriguez.

Excused: Isaac Cardona

Guest: Anne Bernick, Public Health Nurse

Minutes: DRAFT Minutes, August 25, 2023, were approved as distributed.

Agenda:

Staffing: Vanessa Bautista

- All positions have been filled .

School Health: Kathy Neelon

- Noted an increase in respiratory illness, especially in high schools.
- Schools are actively collaborating with the YMCA on the Drowning Prevention Program.
- Highlighted an event where over 2,600 students attended a motivational talk by Christopher Herren on addiction, mentorship, and self-esteem at the Toyota Oakdale Theatre.

Directors Report (See attached):

1. **Infectious Diseases: Anne Bernick**
 - a. Influenza cases are on the rise.
 - b. Influenza vaccine clinics held in October were successful.
 - c. Discussed TB monitoring.
2. **Environmental: See the Director's report.**
3. **Public Health Emergency Preparedness Response:**
 - a. Continued participation in monthly MRC and ESF 8 meetings.
 - b. WHD staff will attend the Region 2 pandemic influenza Tabletop Exercise on December 8, 2023.
 - c. Collaboration with the CERT team to strengthen Emergency Preparedness efforts, including teaching CPR/First Aid as part of the CERT team training series.
 - d. Reviewed scheduled Community Emergency Trainings (CPR/First Aid & Narcan Training) from August to December.
 - e. Shared upcoming emergency preparedness course dates.
 - f. Developed Disease Outbreak Protocol and Environmental Emergency Response Plan to add to the PHERP plan.
 - g. Lenny Guercia edited the department's PH Risk Communication Plan in accordance with State and Local requirements.
4. **Community Outreach/ Health Education: See the Director's report.**
5. **Community Partnership: See the Director's report.**
 - a. Implemented a month-long Red Ribbon Week program with middle schoolers.
 - b. Donated a Christmas tree to the Coalition for a Better Wallingford for their Festival of Trees event.
 - c. Provided the YMCA with Narcan kits and training.
6. **Public Health Policies:**
 - a. Revising Food Ordinance, Chapter 122 in accordance with FDA Model Food Code.
 - b. A grant-funded full-time PH Educator will assist the department in rolling out a proactive community health program to reduce the number of lead-poisoned children in Wallingford in accordance with new lead level standards.
7. **Competent Workforce and Development: See Director's Report**
8. **Administrative: See Director's Report**
 - a. PH Workforce Development grant will assist in retaining the full time PH educator/Emergency Preparedness Coordinator position for another year.

Comments:

- Board of Health members reviewed AED training requirements.
- Mayor Dickinson emphasized the need to address drug substance abuse.

Meeting adjourned: 9:25am

Next Meeting: February 7, 2024

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Respectfully Submitted,

Vanessa Bautista

Vanessa Bautista, RS, MPH
Director of Health



Town of Wallingford, Connecticut
Health Department

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Wallingford Board of Health
Director's Report for December 6, 2023

1. Infectious Diseases (Anne Bernick)

- Respiratory Diseases
- Vaccine Clinics
- TB

2. Environmental:

- A total of 134 PH nuisance complaints
- 23 Subsurface Sewage Disposal System permits
- 27 B100a applications (Building Additions/Alterations/Change of Use)

3. Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP):

- MRC and ESF 8 meetings
- CERT Team
- Region 2 Pandemic Influenza TTX
- PHERP Plan
- Trainings conducted: Narcan, CPR/AED courses

4. Community Outreach:

- Community Health Assessment (420 responses)
- Celebrate Wallingford
- Garden Market
- Breast Cancer Initiative
- YMCA Health Fair
- Wallingford Public Library Providers Fair

5. Community Partnerships:

- Red Ribbon Week
- Opioid Remediation programs in partnership with YSS and the Coalition for a Better Wallingford
- Festival of Trees with the Coalition for a Better Wallingford
- Partnership with Masonicare and Wallingford Public Library to organize Wallingford Wellness Series.
- Collaboration with Parks & Recreation to provide several lifesaving courses.
- YMCA Narcan Training

6. Public Health Policies:

- FDA Model Food Code- Food Ordinance, Chapter 122
- House Bill No. 5045-Public Act No. 22-49 (AN ACT REDUCING LEAD POISONING)

7. Maintain a competent public health workforce:

- 1 Staff members completed CPR/AED Instructor course.
- 1 Staff member completed the Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) Instructor Course.
- 4 staff members attending the CERT Basic Training Series

8. Administrative:

- ELC 1 no-cost extension to expire on December 31, 2023
- ELC 2 (Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Cooperative Agreement Funding)
- Public Health Workforce Development funds

Next Meeting: February 7, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,

Vanessa Bautista

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Director of Health