

DRAFT August 25, 2023

**Wallingford Board of Health
45 South Main Street, Town Hall, Rm 315
Minutes of August 25, 2023**

Call to Order: 8:35 a.m. by Vanessa Bautista, Director of Health.

Present: Mayor Dickinson, Dr. Delbert Smith, Jeffrey Necio, Len Guercia, Isaac Cardona, Kathy Neelon.

Excused: Adriana Rodriguez & Melinda Schoen

Guest: Anne Bernick, Public Health Nurse

Minutes: DRAFT Minutes, May 3, 2023, were approved as distributed.

Agenda:

Staffing: Vanessa Bautista

- The Sanitarian job has been posted, and a temporary part-time Sanitarian will be hired until the full-time position is filled.
- A new staff member, Grace Jaworowski, has been hired as a part-time health educator.
- Nina Robertson, previously a part-time health educator, has transitioned to working full time as a health educator/Public Health Specialist, a grant-funded position with the department.

School Health: Kathy Neelon

- Mentioned schools are preparing to start the new school year.
- Schools will continue to adhere to the current CDC respiratory infection guidelines.

Directors Report (See attached):

1. **Infectious Diseases: Anne Bernick**
 - a. Shared the upcoming influenza vaccine clinic dates: October 17, 21, & 26.
 - b. Discussed required Direct Observed Therapy (DOT) for infectious TB.
2. **Environmental: See the Director's report.**
3. **Public Health Emergency Preparedness Response (PHEPR):**
 - a. The WHD continues to participate in monthly MRC and ESF 8 meetings.
 - b. WHD staff took part in the Region 2 Anthrax Tabletop Exercise on May 10 to assess response concepts, plans, and capabilities for biological events.
 - c. Collaboration with the CERT team to strengthen Emergency Preparedness efforts.
 - d. Reviewed scheduled Community Emergency Trainings (CPR/First Aid & Narcan Training) from April to July.
 - e. Shared upcoming emergency preparedness course dates.
 - f. Discussion on an AED donation from the In A Heartbeat Foundation, to be donated to the softball league at Pragemann Park. Len Guercia emphasized the importance of public access to AEDs, and Kathy Neelon noted that all Wallingford schools have had AEDs since 2007, totaling 24 AEDs, which have been instrumental in saving lives.
4. **Community Outreach/ Health Education: See the Director's report.**
5. **Community Partnership: See the Director's report.**
6. **Public Health Policies:**
 - a. Letters were sent to Wallingford food operators regarding changes due to the implementation of the FDA model Food Code. WHD is working with FSEs to address these changes.
7. **Competent Workforce and Development: See Director's Report**
8. **Administrative: See Director's Report**
 - a. ELC 1 & 2 funding continues to support infectious disease services.

Meeting adjourned: 9:00am

Next Meeting: December 6, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Vanessa Bautista

Vanessa Bautista, RS, MPH
Director of Health



Town of Wallingford, Connecticut
Health Department

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WHD

Protect. Promote. Improve.



**Wallingford Board of Health
Director's Report for August 25, 2023**

1. Infectious Diseases (Anne Bernick)

- COVID-19 Response/Update
- Vaccine Clinics

2. Environmental:

- A total of 105 PH nuisance complaints
- 21 Subsurface Sewage Disposal System permits
- 26 B100a applications (Building Additions/Alterations/Change of Use)

3. Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP):

- MRC and ESF 8 meetings
- CERT Team
- Region 2 TTX
- Trainings conducted: Narcan, CPR/AED courses
- AED donation -In A Heartbeat Foundation

4. Community Outreach:

- Wallingford Garden Market
- Masonicare Fair
- Community Day
- Celebrate Wallingford
- Breast Cancer Initiative

5. Community Partnerships:

- Partnership with the Wallingford Coalition -Community Day
- Opioid Remediation programs in partnership with YSS and Wallingford Coalition
- Partnership with Masonicare and Wallingford Public Library to organize Wallingford Wellness Series.
- YMCA Community Fair
- Collaboration with Parks & Recreation to provide several lifesaving courses.

6. Public Health Policies:

- Adoption of the FDA Model Food Code

7. Maintain a competent public health workforce:

- 2 Staff members completed CPR/AED Instructor course.
- 1 Staff member to complete Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) Instructor Course.
- 2 staff members attended CT Health Care Coalition Annual Conference.
- 1 staff member received Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication (CERC) Training.
- 1 staff member attending the Annual Yankee Conference on Environmental Health.
- 1 staff member attending a Pandemic Planning Training.

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 to be distributed by 11/30/2023

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Respectfully Submitted,

Vanessa Bautista

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