

Approved on March 5, 2025

Wallingford Board of Health
45 South Main Street, Town Hall, Rm 315
Minutes of December 4, 2024

Call to Order: 8:34 a.m. by Vanessa Bautista, Director of Health.

Present: Dr. Delbert Smith, Medical Advisor, Len Guercia, Kathy Neelon, Adriana Rodriguez, Tracey Weeks

Excused: Mayor Cervoni, Isaac Cardona, Jeffrey Necio

Guest: Anne Bernick, Public Health Nurse
Aimee Turner, Asst. Superintendent, Special Education and School Nurse oversight.

Minutes: DRAFT Minutes, September 4, 2024, were approved as distributed.

Agenda

School Health Update (Aimee Turner)

- A vaccine clinic was successfully conducted for the schools.
- Received COVID-19 tests to distribute in schools.
- Potential COVID-19 clusters within schools were discussed.
- The Board of Education (BOE) received a grant from DMHAS to implement QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) training for BOE staff.

See Director's Report (attached):

1. Infectious Diseases (Anne Bernick)

- Influenza vaccine clinics were conducted in October:
 - 60 vaccines administered at the Senior Center.
 - 28 at Town Hall.
 - 5 at the community clinic in the library.
- Updates on TB monitoring and respiratory disease statistics (RSV, Influenza, and COVID-19) were shared.

2. Environmental

- Food Service Establishment (FSE) permit renewals in progress, expiring January 31, 2025, per Chapter 122 revisions.
- 321 FSE and 15 beauty salon inspections conducted since January 2024.

3. Public Health Emergency Preparedness Response

- Participation in monthly MRC and ESF-8 meetings continues.
- Health educators attended the Medical Response and Surge Exercise (MRSE) hosted by the CT Healthcare Coalition.
- CPR/AED courses conducted: YMCA on 9/24/24 and community sessions on 9/30/24, 10/28/24, and 11/25/24.

4. Community Outreach/Health Education

- *Matter of Balance Program* (9/11–10/30/24): 11 participants focused on assertiveness and physical health.
- Event participation:
 - *Celebrate Wallingford*: Fall health tips, CPR flyers, healthy snacks, and children's activities.
 - Spanish Radon Presentation at SCOW (10/15/24); another session scheduled for 12/09/24 at the library.

5. Community Partnerships

- *Red Ribbon Week* (10/28 & 10/30/24): Educational talks and video presentations.
- Donated a Christmas tree to the Coalition for a Better Wallingford for the Festival of Trees event.
- Mental Health Collaboration with YSS: QPR training scheduled for 12/11/24.

6. Public Health Policies

- Subsurface sewage ordinance revisions are ongoing.
- Blood lead action levels will be reduced from 10 to 5 µg/dL starting January 1, 2025.

7. Competent Workforce and Development: Reviewed all items listed on the Director's report.

- Recruitment for a Health Educator/Emergency Preparedness Coordinator continues; job description revisions are being considered.
- Staffing needs for sanitarians emphasized due to increased workload (lead standards, FDA code changes, septic system complexities).

8. Administrative Updates

- Office renovations: Team temporarily relocated to the OEM building.
- Annual report is in progress and will be distributed at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 9:05 am

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 3/7/25
AP 1:05 PM AND RECEIVED BY
Muster Ramirez UG TOWN CLERK

Approved on March 5, 2025

Next Meeting: March 5, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

Vanessa Bautista

Vanessa Bautista, RS, MPH
Director of Health