

54 Meadow Street, 9th Floor • New Haven, Connecticut 06519 • 203-946-6999

Justin Elicker, Mayor • Maritza Bond, MPH, Director of Health

**Board of Health Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2023**

Present: Dr. James Hadler, Heather Reynolds, Dr. Frank Mongillo, Dr. Darnell Young,

Absent: Gregg Gonsalves, Dr. Alice Forrester

Staff: Maritza Bond, Director of Health

Call to Order:

Commission Chair Hadler called the meeting to order at 5:34pm.

Approval of Minutes:

Dr. Mongillo moved to approve the minutes from May 10, 2023, Commissioner Reynolds seconded.

Minutes were approved with no edits or objections.

Public Comments or Statements:

No members of the public present

Updates:

Director Bond presented the following status updates:

General and Situational Updates:

- CT-DPH has transitioned COVID-19 reporting to seasonal respiratory surveillance reporting schedule, October to June. This presents challenges to

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tracking local cases. The Department is still promoting and offering vaccines. Marketing efforts will be ramped up in the fall.

Administration Updates:

- The HUD Lead Hazard Control Grant was submitted today, Overdose grant (CDC OD2A) was successfully submitted. Director Bond attended an OD2A overdose conference in Atlanta, GA last week. She was a part of a national platform and was able to see how others are implementing initiatives.
- The Department is currently working on 2 DPH grant applications, a Preventive Health Block Grant and an Immunizations and Vaccines for Children supplemental grant. ELC2 grant has been executed. The Department has been able to hire an additional Epidemiologist with grant funding.
- ARPA Funding Updates
 - The Workforce Development Plan will be completed by June 30th.
 - The Department is looking to support syringe disposal in the City. The Request for Proposal closed on June 13.
 - The Lead and Healthy Homes marketing campaign proposals are being scored. The campaign is intended to target families and property owners to take part in The Departments initiative to combat Lead in the City.
 - A contract is being executed with Save the Sound for water quality monitoring for Mill and Quinnipiac Rivers. The Department is expanding efforts to monitor water quality as many individuals' fish in these areas. A fish advisory is coming out tomorrow because of some of the concerns of the water quality.
 - A contract is being executed with Hispanic Health Council for a pilot nutrition program for students and families in The Hill neighborhood that will then be expanded to other neighborhoods in the City.
 - A contract has been executed with Scott Esdaile, The President of the NAACP who has a television show with Channel 8. The partnership will be bringing awareness on Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning, targeting the black community.
- Legislative Updates:
 - Director Bond as Co-Chair of the Advocacy Committee for The Connecticut Association of Directors of Health (CADH) and on behalf of The Health Department has been closely monitoring Public Health bills. Bills being tracked include violence prevention, and mold.
 - Director Bond presented before a recent Board of Alders meeting to get funding approved to extend the lease on the current office space for The

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Department. New space at Chapel St is currently under construction and a move is expected to happen in November.

- Staffing Updates
 - The Department is still experiencing challenges hiring a Nursing Director and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. Offers have been extended and ultimately are not being accepted.
 - Several Public Health Nurse positions have been filled and an additional Epidemiologist has been hired.
- Section Updates
 - The Department clinic is fully functioning with the Children’s Clinic and STI Clinics.
 - The Department is working on getting timely reporting of Tuberculosis (TB) cases and data associated with TB.
 - Gun Violence Dashboard has not been launched. The Department is working with the Community Services Administration (CSA) on getting the dashboard ready for public view.
 - A discussion ensued on how The Department and Board of Health can support gun violence prevention as a Public Health issue.
- Director Bond asked Board Members to think about anyone they may want to recommend joining The Board.
- The July Board of Health meeting will be cancelled.

Commissioner Mongillo moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:20pm. Commissioner Young seconded it. The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in person.**

Attest:

Damaris Velez

Damaris Velez
Office Manager

09/25/2023

Date

Approved:



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Dr. Frank Mongillo
Board of Health Commissioners

Date

