

424 Chapel St • New Haven, Connecticut 06511 • 203-946-6999

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

Board of Health Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2024

Present: Dr. Darnell Young, Dr. Ada Fenick, Dr. Gregg Gonsalves,
Dr. Tamiko Jackson-McArthur

Absent: Dr. Alice Forrester, Dr. David Cantonwine

Staff: Maritza Bond, Director of Health

Call to Order:

Commission Chair Young called the meeting to order at 5:38 pm.

Approval of Minutes:

Commission Chair Young moved to approve the minutes from July 10th, 2024.
Commissioner Fenick seconded it.

The July minutes were unanimously approved.

Public Comments or Statements:

Updates:

Director Bond presented the following status updates:

Health Department Section Updates:

- Dorothy Cohen, Program Director of Epidemiology, provided updates on Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STI) data collected by Don Pedro Ume, an intern who was working in the Health Department during the summer.

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- Dorothy presented preliminary results concerning STI counts among New Haven residents, obtained from Connecticut Department of Public Health (CTDPH)
- The data obtained from CTDPH was broken down by disease type, age, race,
- Dorothy advised for an increase in educational awareness for STI's among teens.
- Dorothy's goal is to complete the data entry for 2023, review the completeness and quality of data, provide feedback to lab providers and coordinate a meeting with providers to review trends, create educational material, and work with community partners to increase public awareness and education for prevention and reducing spread.
- Commissioner Gonsalves asked if we have any geographic data pertaining to where the cases are. Director Bond responded with the zip codes where the cases are happening, which included 06511, 06513.
- Commissioner Gonsalves asked about how many total syphilis cases there are in 2023.
- Dorothy stated that there is 437 lab cases. Director Bond added that she will put together an agenda with Dorothy and share it with CTDPH and discuss how CTDPH is processing STI data.
- A conversation ensued about preliminary data and the high number of cases, particularly in New Haven, and Director Bond stated that there will be a meeting with Health Care Providers to assess the urgency of educating the young population on STI's.

Staffing Updates:

- Director Bond proudly introduced the new office manager, Farris Milling, who has taken over from Damaris Velez.
- Farris Milling confidently introduced herself as a highly experienced professional. She recently served as the program coordinator at the University of Bridgeport's School of Nursing, bringing her expertise in sales, management and support.

New Business:

- Commissioner Fenick and Commissioner Gonsalves suggested addressing a letter to CTDPH regarding the collection of preliminary data.
- Commission Chair Young moved to approve Director Bond's personnel updates. Seconded it by Commissioner Jackson-McArthur.

Commission Chair Young moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 pm. Commissioner Gonsalves seconded it. The meeting was adjourned.

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The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in person.

Attest:

Lorraine Reed

Lorraine Reed
Administrative Assistant

08/23/2024

Date

Approved:

Darnell Young

Dr. Darnell Young, Chair
Board of Health Commissioners

09/11/2024

Date