



Trumbull Health Department  
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**MINUTES**  
**January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**Via Video Conference**

**Members Present:** Nancy Busch – Chairperson, Debbi Charles, Allison Vallance, & Glenn Rich, MD

**Members Absent:** Amy Lehaney.

**Also Present:** Lucienne Bango – Director of Health, Joel Kunkel, MD – Medical Director, William Chin – Director of Information Technology, Trumbull Community TV, Taylor Pennino – Administrative Assistant

Call to Order: Ms. Busch called the Trumbull Health Board to order at 6:17 p.m.

Public Comment: None.

Ms. Charles made a motion to accept the December 14 meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Vallance. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Bango provided a recap of department activity since the last meeting.

- ARPA Funding was approved for the parking lot project
- The second full-time sanitarian position is still not filled
- We currently have Quasha as a full-time sanitarian and Shaun as our part-time sanitarian who does most of the septic
- The Town has reached out to sanitarian applicants but no one has accepted the position yet
- Ms. Bango is going to hold off on posting the position again until the end of this fiscal year since we have Shaun to help us part-time
- Ms. Busch inquired about the status of union regarding the position's pay grade
- Ms. Bango stated they did increase the pay to qualified candidates to the top step and applicants are still not interested due to the competitive market
- The topic of workforce shortages was discussed
- There is a sanitarian shortage statewide
- Ms. Busch inquired about the training provided by the state to certify new sanitarians
- There are only 5-10 individuals that are able to train and give out certifications to new sanitarians
- State implemented a field training program that was put on hold during COVID-19
- The State offered for local health departments to utilize the individuals who are qualified to train new employees from other towns and to pay a fee for those services in an effort to solve the issue
- Ms. Charles stated this structure is similar to teachers, most regulations are implemented at the state level and not local
- Some of the regulations created by the state, local health departments are unable to follow
- Some departments are falling behind on their inspections due to these regulations

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- During COVID-19 there was no Commissioner of Health, since then we have gotten a new person to fill this position
- The new Commissioner is working on fixing the issues for local health, but these matters are not a quick fix
- Our contract is out for signature with the Attorney General for our ELC2 Grant
- We have been waiting since March of 2022 to get this funding
- The state has still not reviewed 50% of the applications for the ELC2 Grant
- We are going to receive \$120,000 for that grant and the funding can be used through February of 2024
- We will use it to pay some of current staff, buy equipment, and vaccinate homebound residents
- There will be a new intern starting the week of the 23<sup>rd</sup>, she is a Fairfield U student with a major in public health and a minor in communications
- She will be working two days a week at the health department through April of 2023
- Ms. Bango plans on having the intern help with outreach at the library to help distribute radon kits and help with our summer camp
- National Radon Month is the month of January
- Cosmetology and Tobacco licensing has wrapped up
- Sue and Sam participated in healthcare at Hillcrest Middle School and outreach at a toy drive held at one of the local fire departments during the holiday season
- We received 5,000 covid test kits that expire January 26<sup>th</sup> and were distributed all throughout town
- The topic of test kit expiration dates was discussed, most kits get their expiration dates extended 6 months dependent on the lot number
- We have let go of MedUSA and gone back to TransactRx for medical billing
- Ms. Bango is looking to make Jen's part-time position a permanent position to handle all of the medical billing
- We placed our preorder for flu, last year we spent \$32,000 and this coming year we will spend about \$41,000
- The price of the flu vaccine has gone up, in addition, we ordered more since we were able to distribute all of our vaccine by November this past flu season
- We want to offer more senior and night flu clinics next year
- The state has mandated the use of CTWiz for every vaccination encounter, but that has already been a common practice for the health department
- Ms. Vallance stated we received a ton of positive feedback for the evening and drive thru clinics we held
- Ms. Bango is wrapping up her budget for fiscal year 2024 and will send it to Ms. Busch for review before submitting it to the Town

**Old Business:**

- None.

**New Business:**

- None.

There being no further business brought before the Board, a motion made by Dr. Rich and seconded by Ms. Charles to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled on February 8, 2023 at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Taylor Pennino  
Trumbull Health Administrative Assistant