

## **Advisory Board of Health Meeting Minutes**

A special meeting of the Advisory Board of Health (ABH) was held on Wednesday, December 9, 2009, in the employee lounge of Town Hall.

Members present: Jennifer Geddes; Dr. Jose Cara, Vice Chair; Kevin Cunningham, Chair; and Mary Guimond, Clerk  
Guests: David Knauf, Darien Director of Health

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. The meeting minutes of October 21, 2009, were approved. Mr. Knauf reported the following:

**H1N1.** The town has held seven clinics, six by appointment only due to lack of availability of vaccine. The last clinic had 100 people signed up but only 34 participated. Calls to the Health Department were exceptionally heavy up until Thanksgiving and have now returned to normal levels. The priority list of those to be vaccinated has been expanded to include all school age children. There is now an abundance of H1N1 vaccine and a limited supply for seasonal flu. Clinic information is posted to the town website.

**Emergency Preparedness Grant.** The Health Department has received another \$36,000 from the State to integrate Health Department plans into the overall town plan. A mass transportation plan in the event a majority of residents would be required to be inoculated is still unresolved. Use of school buses seems the best solution, but requires changes to the contract between the bus company and the town. Proposed changes have not met with approval by the Town Administrator. Mr. Knauf will continue to pursue this issue.

**Regulation and Ordinance Review.** Significant progress in updating the Health Department ordinances and regulations has been made. There are a few items to wordsmith with the town lawyers. Ms. Guimond will work to get these updates to the Representative Town Meeting (RTM) at the March meeting.

**New Computer Program Progress.** The Digital Health Department work continues with weekly conference calls and an updating of the many forms the department uses. It is anticipated that the software will be up and running by the end of the fiscal year.

**Budget Planning.** Mr. Knauf has been advised there will be no budget increases this year. While it is not anticipated the department will suffer, prudence in spending is always exercised.

**Beach Report.** Mr. Knauf presented the beach report to the Board of Selectmen. Connecting substandard septic to sewer if available has been included in the update to the sewer ordinance. Mr. Knauf agreed to follow up with the Town Administrator regarding a letter the previous Board of Selectmen agreed to send to the Sewer Commission regarding such a requirement (Editor's note: no letter was sent and the requirement will only be made if it can be proven the resident's septic is substandard). Mr. Knauf would

like to employ the use of Darien High School students or Norwalk Community College students to engage in continued water quality testing and water runoff studies. He has obtained agreement from the Stamford testing laboratory to allow the students to run the tests, which will make this project interesting and exciting for the students.

**Miscellaneous.** Food planning training is nearly complete and a pilot program is expected to begin in January.

The 2010 meeting schedule was set for the third Wednesday of every other month, starting at 7:00 pm, beginning January 20<sup>th</sup>. All meetings will be held in room 213.

Respectfully submitted on December 14, 2009

Mary Guimond  
Clerk