

Public Health Agency
323 Route 81
Killingworth, CT 06419

January 10, 2024
MINUTES

Members Present: Chair Natalie Ortolì Drew, First Selectman Eric Couture, Robin Duffield, Sue Nesci, Ernest Pizzuto, Alice Lucas and Staff from the Connecticut River Area Health District (CRAHD): Scott Martinson, Director of Health, Sherry Carlson, Public Health Nurse Supervisor, and Ryan Grenon, Registered Sanitarian. Guest: Richard Pleines

Members Absent: Mike Stehney

Chair Natalie Drew called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Minutes & 2024 Meeting Calendar

July 12, 2023 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Robin Duffield made and Sue Nesci seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the July 12th regular meeting. Voting in favor: Natalie Ortolì Drew, Robin Duffield, Sue Nesci, and Ernest Pizzuto; Opposed: 0; Abstentions: 1. The motion carried: 4:0:1.

2024 Meeting Calendar

MOTION: Natalie Drew moved and Robin Duffield seconded a motion to approve the 2024 meeting calendar. Voting in favor: Natalie Drew, Robin Duffield, Eric Couture, Sue Nesci, Alice Lucas, and Ernest Pizzuto: Opposed:0; Abstentions:0. The motion carried: 6:0:0

First Selectman Update- Eric Couture reported the following:

Investigate Health Problems/Hazards Affecting the Community- PFAS- Testing and monitoring of PFAS levels is continuing at several sites. The Connecticut Department of Public Health has issued comments on the filtration system at Killingworth Elementary School. Tests show that in homes with two filters, the first filter is taking care of the core of the PFAS.

Health District Report: Staff from the Connecticut River Area Health District reported the following:

Investigate Health Problems/Hazards Affecting the Community- COVID- Scott Martinson reported that hospitalizations for COVID are not nearly what was seen in the past three years.

Robin Duffield questioned a policy of the school system. Since COVID is no longer at pandemic proportions, staff can report back 24 hours after testing positive. She reported a backlash from teachers to this policy. Natalie cautioned that there is a difference between testing positive and having symptoms. Sherry noted that schools have the right to make their own policies. She added that the CDC policy is on the district website; if unwell, don't come in.

Flu- Sherry noted that Connecticut had 547 cases of flu. There were 7-10 cases in the district in the previous week. The district is continuing flu vaccinations until the end of January.

Disease Issues- Natalie asked about several bacterial or viral illnesses, including infections, viruses, and food-borne illness. Scott noted that the health district webpage has information on a number of

illnesses. Both Scott and Sherry said they are not seeing food-borne illness in towns in the health district. Scott added that the website will also list food recalls, when the state asks the district to post the information.

Running Brook Farm- Sue Nesci asked for an update on wood burning issue at Running Brook Farm. She reported that a resident of the subdivision in back of Running Brook attended the October meeting. He said that the particulate level was so high that children in the home across from his could not play in their driveway. Ryan responded that the Fire Marshall and Planning and Zoning got involved in the issue. The nursery seems to be complying with orders and recommendations. He noted that there is no smoke and appears to be no wood burning at the location.

MOTION: Robin Duffield moved and Ernest Pizzuto seconded a motion to adjourn. Voting in favor: Natalie Ortolini Drew, Eric Couture, Alice Lucas, Sue Nesci, and Ernest Pizzuto, and Robin Duffield; Opposed: 0; Abstentions: 0. The motion carried: 6:0:0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42pm. The next quarterly meeting will be April 10.

Susan M. Nesci
Sue Nesci
Secretary