

**CITY OF NORWALK
HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 25, 2021
VIA ZOOM**

ATTENDANCE: Nicholas Sacchinelli, Chair; George Tsiranides, Dominique Johnson, Thomas Keegan, Diana Revolus, Margaret (Lisa) Shanahan

ABSENT: Manny Langella

OTHERS: Deanna D'Amore, Health Department; Gino Gatto, Fire Department; Susan Zecca, Police Department; Michael Deluca

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

Mr. Sacchinelli called the meeting to order at 7:01pm and did a roll of committee members. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 25, 2021 MINUTES

There were no corrections to the Minutes of February 25, 2021

**** MS. REVOLUS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2021**

****MR. KEEGAN SECONDED THE MOTION**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

There were a few last minute items the committee received for action. Mr. Sacchinelli read the first item in regarding the Police Department. Ms. Zecca spoke briefly about it. There was no discussion.

****MR. TSIRANIDES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The next item was from the Health Department. Ms. D'Amore spoke on this. She was excited to say that the City of Norwalk would like to partner with the Bow Tie Cinemas in South Norwalk for a new location to hold COVID vaccination clinics in the City of Norwalk. She would like the committee to move quickly on this, so they can get it to the Common Council for final approval.

****MS. JOHNSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE BOW TIE CINEMAS AS A NEW COVID VACCINATION SITE IN NORWALK.**

****THE MOTION PASSED – 4 IN FAVOR, 1 ABSTENTION (D. REVOLUS)**

Action Items

1a. Authorize the Mayor Harry W. Rilling to execute any and all documents necessary to accept funding from The Justice Education Foundation, Inc. under FY20 Project Safe Neighborhood Grant Award in the amount of \$5,000

1b. Authorize Chief Thomas Kulhawik to execute any and all documents necessary to implement FY20 Project Safe Neighborhood Grant Award

There was no discussion on these two items.

****MR. TSIRANIDES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ACTION ITEMS 1a and 1b TOGETHER**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion Items

1. Emergency Management Update & Discussion

Mr. Deluca was there to discuss this item. Every week food is provided at Calf Pasture Beach on Wednesday's. They probably provide food to 1500 cars weekly.

From FEMA individuals can apply to receive reimbursement for funeral expenses COVID related. This is direct reimbursement and the City is not involved. The benefit is \$9,500 for funeral or cremation and \$3,500 for expenses.

On June 1st they will be hosting both virtually and in a hybrid format a hurricane exercise with the American Red Cross.

2. Fire Update & Discussion

Mr. Gatto went through the stats of the calls that the Fire Department responded to in the past month. Currently 2 people are out due to COVID. The Fire Department had a press conference today reaching out for recruits to take the fire exam.

3. Health Department Update & Discussion

Ms. D'Amore gave the City's statistics on COVID and the COVID vaccination. The first dose vaccination in Norwalk is higher than in the state. COVID cases are trending upward currently with all the different variants. If you get sick from the vaccination, that is a good sign it means the vaccination is working.

The Family & Children's Agency is currently doing outreach to get the word out about the vaccination. They are looking to discuss nutrition and educate the residents on that subject at the vaccination clinics.

4. Police Update & Discussion

Officer Zecca discussed the idea of getting a Spanish liaison to help translate for the police department and also the use of a language line. There was lots of discussion about this project.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1a. Security Recommendations

The Committee went into Executive Session at 7:54pm.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Bromark
Telesco Secretarial Services