

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 24, 2025**

ATTENDANCE: Frank Ehrlich, MD; Janet Karpiak, MD; Joan McNeil, DNP; Anthony Santella, DrPH; Norman Weinberger, MD; Deanna D’Amore, Director of Health

OTHERS: David Reed, Medical Director; Brian Weeks, Program Director of Epidemiology and Informatics; Theresa Argondezzi, Assistant Director of Health, Community Health; Aniella Fignon, Project Coordinator; Darleen Hoffler, Supervisor of Clinical Supervisors Services

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. D’Amore called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Ms. D’Amore called the roll and announced that a quorum was present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Diane Lauricella of Little Fox Lane greeted the Board Members and said that she had spoken to the Board in the past regarding transparent communication about artificial turf field health concerns and other environmental health issues. She would like the department and Board of Health to address concerns about the increased artificial turf fields in Norwalk.

Ms. Lauricella said that there was an item on the agenda regarding the appointment of a Medical Director and the Epidemiological Report that she would like to comment on. She shared her thoughts and hopes for the new Medical Director.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

• May 27, 2025 Regular Meeting

**** MR. SANTELLA MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 27, 2025 MEETING.
** MS. MCNEIL SECONDED.
** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 27, 2025 MEETING
AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

V. REPORTS

• Director's Report.

Ms. D'Amore said that she and some of the staff would be doing an on demand presentation for the National Association of County and City Health Officials at the Annual Conference. They will focus on workforce development that the department has done.

Word has been received that the Public Health Preparedness Funding should be available for at least another year while the program is being reviewed. This funding is used for the part time Preparedness Coordinator and the part time Emergency Response Team Volunteer Coordinator.

Ms. D'Amore said that the Quality Improvement team discussed the Board's suggestions about the Flu Clinic from the previous meeting and will be working on implementing some of these suggestions.

She reminded everyone that there would be an Executive Session regarding the appointment of a Medical Director.

EPIDEMIOLOGY UPDATES

Mr. Weeks greeted everyone and presented his report. He noted that the wastewater viral monitoring for COVID-19 had moved to the moderate category for the NB.1.8.1 virus. He explained that that it was now called "Nimbus". Allergens are at a moderate level. There are 1,214 reported measles cases in the country. Mr. Weeks reviewed the measles protocols.

The City is experiencing a heat wave and it is expected to peak at 100 degrees later in the day. The City has activated the cooling centers, which he listed and reminded everyone that the Air Quality Index is currently in the yellow range, which is moderate.

COMMUNITY HEALTH UPDATES

Ms. Argondezzi presented the Community Health Summer Update report and encouraged everyone to be aware of the heat safety.

The Norwalk BOE Summer Meals program is starting up. For children aged 18 and under, there are 10 sites that will be open to provide breakfast and lunch on site.

The NorWalker trail guide is now available with a list of walks on Mondays.

School physicals and vaccines flyers will be available for the public. The flyer is available in both English and Spanish. They are encouraging families to call their physicians now to schedule physicals.

The Farmer's Markets are starting up and the flyers with the dates and locations are available in English and Spanish.

The Growing Gardens program has started up at Fodor Farm. The program initiative helps families grow their own healthy food.

Tick and mosquito information are being posted on social media with reminders on how the general public can protect themselves.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

• Medical Director Appointment

**** DR. WEINBERGER MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE APPOINTMENT OF A MEDICAL DIRECTOR.**

**** DR. EHRLICH SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Board entered into Executive Session to discuss the appointment of a Medical Director at 8:23 a.m. They returned to Public Session at 8:46 a.m. No actions were taken or votes made while in Executive Session.

**** DR. EHRLICH MOVED TO APPOINT DR. KATHERINE GOLAR TO THE POSITION OF MEDICAL DIRECTOR FOR THE NORWALK HEALTH DEPARTMENT.**

**** DR. WEINBERGER SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ms. D'Amore thanked Dr. Reed for his years of service and noted that she was looking forward to working with Dr. Golar.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. D'Amore adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes

Telesco Secretarial Services.