REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF HEALTH
AGENDA

JANUARY 28, 2025, 8:00 AM
BY ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING

To allow public access, anyone may access a meeting by telephone and/or Zoom, or a recording in the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. Specific instructions and links can be found at norwalkct.gov/meetings.

Members of the public may call in to participate. Callers will not be able to see the meeting participants. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, dial *9 on the phone and you will be called on by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. All speakers must state their name and address. Comments must be on a topic on the agenda, and are limited to three minutes. Anyone disrupting the orderly conduct of the meeting, including by using threatening, hateful, or sexually-explicit language, will be removed. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who wish to provide "live comments" may also use the Zoom meeting platform. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, click the “raise your hand indicator” and you will be called by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. All speakers must state their name and address. Comments must be on a topic on the agenda, and are limited to three minutes. Anyone disrupting the orderly conduct of the meeting, including by using threatening, hateful, or sexually-explicit language, will be removed. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via email in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be included into the record, they must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Please email Aniella Fignon at afignon@norwalkct.gov with the subject line “Public Comment” to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting: December 17, 2024

V. EPIDEMIOLOGY UPDATES

VI. REACCREDITATION UPDATES

VII. CULTURALLY & LINGUISTICALLY APPROPRIATE SERVICES POLICY

VIII. BUDGET UPDATES

IX. PERSONNEL UPDATES

X. REPORTS

A. Director's Report

XI. ADJOURNMENT

CITY OF NORWALK
NORWALK BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 17, 2024

ATTENDANCE: Dr. Frank Ehrlich, Joan McNeil, DNP, Ken Lalime, RPh, Anthony Santella, DrPH, Norman Weinberger, MD

STAFF: Deanna D'Amore, Director of Health, Theresa Argondezzi, Assistant Director of Health, Community Health, Aniella Fignon, Project Coordinator, Bill Mooney, Assistant Director of Health, Environmental Health, Brian Weeks, Program Director of Epidemiology and Informatics

OTHERS: Lamond Daniels, Chief of Community Services

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. D'Amore called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one from the public who wished to comment at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **November 26, 2024 Regular Meeting**

**** DR. EHRLICH MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 26, 2024 REGULAR MEETING.**
**** MS. MCNEIL SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 26, 2024 REGULAR MEETING AS SUBMITTED PASSED WITH FOUR (4) IN FAVOR (EHRLICH, MCNEIL, LALIME AND WEINBERGER) AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION (SANTELLA).**

- **December 10, 2024 Special Meeting**

**** DR. EHRLICH MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10, 2024 SPECIAL MEETING.**
**** MR. LALIME SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2024 SPECIAL MEETING AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

EPIDEMIOLOGY UPDATES

Mr. Weeks greeted everyone and displayed the CDC Respiratory Illness Activity page. He noted that the nation was in the moderate category. In CT, the wastewater indicators indicate that CT is high. The nation is in the uptick phase for most of the East Coast for both the flu and RSV. He reviewed the details of Norovirus, rhinovirus and enterovirus. He reminded everyone to wash their hands during this holiday season.

VAPE SHOP ORDINANCE.

Ms. D'Amore then spoke about smoke and vape shops selling illegal cannabis. The Ordinance Committee of the Common Council is looking to establish and have drafted an ordinance to address these concerns. She said that the Common Council will be considering the health department to license and enforce violations for vape and smoke shops. Ms. D'Amore said that she had concerns about the Health Department being responsible for licensing these establishments since the Health Department's focus should be encouraging people not to smoke or vape. She also has some questions about staff safety when doing these inspections. The focus of the Health Department is on prevention.

Dr. Ehrlich said he felt that having the Health Department as the enforcement entity would be a mistake. He pointed out that the Health Department is opposed to vaping and asked how they could approve a store that sells vaping products.

Mr. Santella agreed and asked if the Health Department had the staffing to handle this. Dr. Weinberger and Mr. Lalime agreed.

Ms. McNeil pointed out there were licensed cannabis shops in Norwalk and felt that the agency that licenses these establishments should license the smoke and vape shops.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. D'Amore welcomed Mr. Santella to the Board. She then spoke about the Operating Budget and gave a brief overview of changes in the State statutes. Lastly, she gave an update on statewide efforts for Medicaid redesign.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. D'Amore wished everyone happy holidays and said that she was looking forward to working with everyone in 2025. She adjourned the meeting at 8:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services