

**Health Commission
City of Stamford
APPROVED MINUTES
June 13, 2013**

Commissioners Present: Ms. Patricia Parry, Dr. Bert Ballin, Dr. Margaret Cobb, and Dr. Philip Corvo (late arriving).

Guests Attended: Ms. Nancy Palamarcuik, Attys. James Minor, Samuel Bernstein, Vincent Freccia and Mark F Katz; Mr. Ronald Miller, Director of Environmental Inspections, City of Stamford; Stamford Environmental Health Inspectors: Ebrima Jobe, Tyrone Joseph, Timothy Noia and Renford Whynes; Sgt. Wayne Scutari and Officer Douglas Robinson of the Stamford Police Department, Linda Lakin, Paralegal, City of Stamford Legal Department

Meeting called to order		Ms. Parry called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.
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Additional Agenda Items:	<p>Ms. Parry requested the following items to be added to the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well Water Testing Result Analysis • Community Needs Assessment • Flu Vaccine - Fall • Asthma Program • Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative • Brief on 'Meth' Scourge • Dental Clinic held in Bridgeport • NALBOH - Address 	Ms. Parry moved to add the items to the agenda; Dr. Cobb seconded. Approved unanimously.
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Minutes:

Minutes of May 9, 2013	Minutes from the May 9, 2013 meeting were reviewed.	Ms. Parry moved to approve May 9, 2013 minutes with minor corrections. Dr. Ballin seconded. Approved unanimously.
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Correspondence:

There was no correspondence		
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Director of Health

There was no presentation by the Director of Health.		
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Appeal:

Massage parlor hearings		Appeals will be heard at the end of the regularly scheduled meeting.
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Dangerous Intersections	Ms. Parry indicated that an analysis might be done using minimal data and statistical models and that Dr. Cobb might be of assistance doing this. The suggestion was made that an epidemiology intern might conduct the analysis.	
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New Business:

Well Water Testing Result Analysis	Ms. Parry brought a 05/26/13 Stamford Advocate article regarding the inability of the HD to analyze the data collected from the Well Water testing program due to a lack of funds. Group discussion brought out the idea of using whatever resources might be available at little cost to design a protocol and database that would allow for some analysis of the data. Dr. Peggy Cobb is well versed in liked epidemiology model and offered her assistance to setting up the project. Ms. Parry suggested that there might be summer interns who could assist with putting data into a database so that some analysis could be done. Ms. Parry mentioned that she recalls seeing another article in the local paper about the possibility of the Geologist from UCONN (who was interested in conducting a study on of this matter 1-2 years ago) coming back to the table to again discuss his possible involvement.	Ms. Parry moved that a letter be sent to the Director of Health suggesting these options.
Community Needs Assessment	Ms. Parry reminded all that the Community Needs Assessment was completed in 2011 and that a report was given to the stakeholders who participated. Ms. Fountain has reported to the HC that there are	The HC would like a report on the DOH's analysis of the Community Needs Assessment at the September meeting.

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	committees looking at the data who will be making recommendations about actionable items and Ms. Parry asked that this item (Community Needs Assessment) remain on the Agenda for some reporting on the DOH's analysis at our September meeting.	
Flu Vaccine – Fall 2013	Ms. Parry questioned whether the HD had ordered flu vaccine for the Fall and how much. She also had questions regarding vaccine distribution plans for Fall, most specifically with regard to BOE employees, as Stamford Hospital has gotten a request to provide flu vaccine to them. Brief discussion among HC members posed the question as to how much was ordered last year and how much of it was utilized in the 2012-13 Flu season.	The HC would like information regarding the 2013-14 Flu Vaccination Clinic schedule and the amount of vaccine ordered. They would also like to know the statistics from the 2012-13 flu season vaccinations.
Asthma Program	Ms. Parry noted that the HC has not had any update on the Asthma Program run by the DOH. In the past, she recalls that a grant helped to fund the program but she was not sure that it continues to have funding.	The HC would like an update on the Asthma program activities.
Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative	Ms. Parry provided copies of a handout on the “Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative” now in use at Stamford Hospital.	
Brief on ‘Meth’ Scourge	Ms. Parry brought an article for the Advocate on the growing meth scourge in CT and wondered if the HC could be briefed on whether there is any impact from this matter on the City of Stamford. If so, what actions might be undertaken by the HD with regard to it.	
Dental Clinic held in Bridgeport	Ms. Parry brought to the HC's attention a free dental clinic that had been held in Bridgeport serving a large number of persons who would otherwise be unable to get dental services. She wondered whether or not any persons from Stamford had been directed to it.	
NALBOH – Address	Ms. Parry commented on some interesting articles in the 1 st Quarter issue of NALBOH's publication NEWSBRIEF.	Ms. Parry will get copies to her fellow commissioners for possible discussion at the September meeting.

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Appeals & Attorney James Minor:	Ms. Parry introduced Atty. Minor, who briefed the HC on their role in hearing Appeals of orders issued by the DOH. Due to the past and anticipated future legal challenges, he has engaged a court reporter to take minutes and record the hearing. Attys. Mark Katz and Samuel Bernstein will be appearing on behalf of the appellants.	
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Executive Session:

No Executive Session was called.		
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Adjournment:

There being no further business before the regular session of the HC, Ms. Parry moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 a.m. to prepare for the Appeal hearing.
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Appeal Hearing

<p>Aloha Salon, LLC; Apple Salon; Palm Tree (Four Seasons); Swedish Health Spa; ABA 934 LLC, Inook Bang; Shan Jin Cui; Aizi Yin; Jeon Keum; Sonija Cha Haney; Jinck Kim; Okyuh Le; Kyung Lin; Betty Ann Lee; Mixoung Lee; Hyang Mi Ko; Jung Mi Sook; Sergio Kailis; Maria Kailis; Filimon Sgouris; Argyri Sgouris; Hae Suk Snead; Beverly M Sgritta; Alonso (Alfonso) C. Sgritta; Alonso (Alfonso) J. Sgritta</p>	<p>The Appeal was opened by Ms. Parry at 10:20am and all Health Commissioners introduced themselves. Attorney Bernstein then made a statement that his clients have been involved in court proceedings in relation to the Apple Salon and past inspections and orders from the HD. Their position is that the owners of the property are not legally able to evict the owners for no cause and are waiting for a summary judgment from the court to initiate any action. Ms. Parry asked if there was a lease with the tenant. Atty. Bernstein indicated that there is no written lease. The tenant is paying the rental fee each month and the matter is being handled as a month to month rental until such time as the court issues an order.</p> <p>Atty. Katz arrived shortly after Atty. Bernstein's statement and the cases represented by Atty.</p>	
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Katz then proceeded. Inspector Ebrima Jobe presented the findings of the Apple Salon Inspection from February 15, 2013. The orders issued were reviewed and pictures were submitted for review. Atty. Katz asked Inspector Jobe about the citations and what he witnessed during the Inspection process. Then Sgt. Scutari from the SPD spoke about the police reports generated at the time of the inspection and submitted documents in support of the police reports. Atty. Katz asked Sgt. Scutari questions.

Atty. Katz then agreed that the observations documented in the orders from the DOH were factual as to the findings of the Inspection and that he was not challenging those. He presented a case that there was no evidence that the persons at these establishments, and named in the orders of the HD, were engaged in any massage because no such activity was witnessed.

Landlord Sergio Kailis of Palm Tree (Four Seasons) spoke on his position that he cannot act without legal direction. When asked, he said there is a lease for the space rented.

Sue Sgouris, daughter of Filimon and Argyri Sgouris, landlords of Swedish Health Spa, then made a statement that her parents are business people and that they have no idea of what happens in their building by tenants. Her parents do have counsel but she stated that it is costly. The tenants have violated their lease if they are

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	<p>engaged in illegal activity. Her parents, the building's owners, continue to accept rent payments because they need the income. They are waiting until there is a court order to take action against the tenants so that they do not lose money on the space being rented.</p> <p>At the conclusion of this evidence, Atty. Katz requested time to prepare a written brief to the HC in support of his clients' appeals. Due to personal vacation plans, he requested until July 11, 2013 to submit his case in writing. A transcript of the hearing will be available from the Law Department.</p> <p>There being no further business, the appeal was closed at 12:20pm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A transcript of the appeal hearing may be obtained from the City of Stamford's Law Department.	<p>A vote by the Commissioners was unanimous in granting Atty. Katz until July 11, 2013 to submit his case in writing. The commissioners will review the written submission and render their decision for all cases in July.</p>
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Adjournment:

There being no further business before the regular session of the HC, Ms. Parry moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:53 a.m. to prepare for the Appeal hearing.

Submitted by,

Nancy Palamarcuik
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