

**Health Commission  
City of Stamford  
DRAFT MINUTES  
November 14, 2013**

Commissioners Present: Dr. Barbara Decker, Ms. Patricia Parry, Dr. Bert Ballin, Dr. Margaret Cobb, and Dr. Edward Schuster

Guests Attended: Ms. Pam Scott, Recording Secretary, Mr. Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare, Ms. Deidre Anspach, Director of Nursing, Ms. Sandy Morano, Public Health Nurse

Meeting called to order		Dr. Decker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
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Additional Agenda Items:	<p>Dr. Decker requested the following items to be added to the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Needs Assessment (old business) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Mental Health and Specialty Care</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Traffic Enforcement (Director Jankowski)</li> <li>• Review of Health Commission Statutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Proper Focus of the Health Commission</li> <li>-Introduction of New Health Commissioner</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Polio Outbreak in Syria</li> <li>• Breastfeeding – new proposal in England</li> </ul>	Dr. Cobb moved to add the items to the agenda; Ms. Parry seconded. Approved unanimously.
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**Minutes:**

Minutes of October 10, 2013	Minutes from the October 10, 2013 meeting were reviewed.	Ms. Parry moved to approve October 10, 2013 minutes with corrections. Dr. Decker seconded. Approved unanimously.
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**Correspondence:**

There were no correspondence		
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**Presentation**

<p>Tuberculosis Update 2013</p> <p>Presented by: Sandra Morano, B.A., R.N. and Deidre Anspach, B.S.N, M.P.A.</p>	Ms. Morano presented a Tuberculosis 2013 update. Members of the Health Commission asked questions and sought clarifications. Below is a copy of Ms. Morano’s Power Point presentation.	
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**Background**

- TB Program, City of Stamford, CT
- Stamford, CT located 38 miles outside of New York City; population 125,109; 58 languages spoken
- 298 latent cases and 8 new active TB cases in 7/2012 - 6/2013; 1 new case identified from 7/2013 to present.
- 2012 - Highest in State with 9 active cases.
- 2008 - Highest incidence in State with 11 active cases

**Map of World**



**TB Nurse Duties**

1. Deliver Direct Observation Therapy, (D.O.T.) to all active cases
2. Deliver DOT to latent cases taking the 12 dose therapy / 3HRP
3. Follow up on all latent cases in Adult and Pediatric clinics
4. Follow up on pregnancy referrals with positive QuantiFERON-TB Gold (QFT) from 1351 Washington Blvd.
5. Letters are sent a week before clinic
6. Reminder calls are made for Adult and Pedi

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Clinics.

7. Education provided to the Clients and Medical Community

**Changes to TB 7/2012 - 10/2013**

1. Pedi Clinic changed from Fridays to Wednesdays
2. 12 dose therapy / 3HRP for latent cases instituted.
3. Obstetrics (OB) referral system changed Breastfeeding mothers with latent TB, three (3) months post-partum, are receiving medications.
4. TB clients referred to SHD / HIV Prevention Staff

**12 Dose Therapy / 3HRP**

1. In Connecticut, 175 TB clients started 3 HRP therapy, 97 clients completed.
2. 85% of those receiving 3HRP have private providers.
3. Stamford started 9 clients on 3HRP therapy, 6 completed, 2 remain on therapy, 1 client discontinued due to side effects.

**OB Referral System**

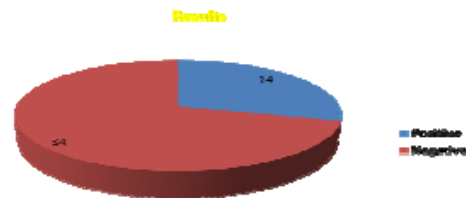
1. Receive referrals for positive Tuberculin Skin Test (TST), (Chest X-ray done; sent for QuantiFERON-TB Gold / QFT )
2. If positive QFT, contact by mail
3. Appointment at office
4. Appointment at clinic

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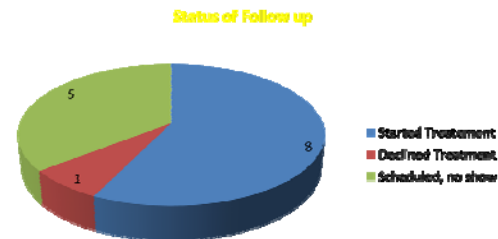
**Health Commission Initiative**

- 11/11 "Promoting a Tuberculosis Free Community: One Referral at a Time" Presented to Health Commission
- 12/11 Meeting with Dr. Barbara Decker and Pat Parry, RN - Health Commissioner
- 2/12 Meeting with Pat Parry, Dr. Parry, Dr. Sachs, Dr. Bobby, Marie Yukna
- 9/12 QFT testing referral begun at Stamford Hospital

**QuantiFERON-TB Gold Results  
9/2012 - 7/2013**



**Follow up of QuantiFERON-TB Gold Positive  
n=14**



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**Additional Educational Opportunities**

1. Mentored student from Western University of Health Sciences, College of Graduate Nursing A.D.N. to MSN Program.
2. Mentored 3 student interns, from Norwalk Community College, Associates Nursing Degree Program.
3. Attended American Thoracic Society International Meeting, Phil., PA.
4. Attended Yale's AIDS Colloquium featuring Kenneth Castro, Director of Division of TB Elimination for CDC at the time.

**Going Forward 2014**

1. Perform QFT first, not TST, starting with Pregnancy patients. Send clients to Stamford Hospital, depending upon State funding.
2. Due to TST shortage add QFT testing to Chest X-ray form. Stamford hospital draws bloods and send to State for free testing.
3. Evaluate moving Friday Adult TB clinic to Wednesday.

**Conclusion**

1. Wednesday Pedi TB clinic effective.
2. 3HRP therapy has proven successful.
3. Continue QFT testing on Pregnant women.
4. Due to QFT testing, 100% of pregnant women have been contacted, 57% started on TB treatment.

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	<p><b>Acknowledgements</b></p> <p>Anne Fountain, MPH, Director of Health Henry Yoon, MD, DABFM, FAAF, Medical Advisor Miriam Seelig, MD, Medical Consultant for Schools / Clinics Deidre Costello Anspach, BSN, MPA, Director of Nursing &amp; Dental Hygienist Services Pulmonary Associates of Stamford Stamford Infectious Disease Stamford Health Commission Stamford Hospital, Infectious Disease, Laboratory, Radiology Optimus Health Care, 1351 Washington Blvd, OB Clinic Lynn Galgano, RN, Maryalice Flynn, RN Elaine Braccia, RN, Cinthia Vera, RN Pauline Pochette, RN, Vena Wilson-Waugh Connecticut Tuberculosis Control Program Heidi Jenkins, BS, Program Director HIV / TB Danielle Orcutt, MPH Lynn Sosa, MD Maureen Williams, RN, MSN</p>	<p>The Health Commissioners thanked Ms. Morano and Ms. Anspach for their presentation to the Health Commission.</p>
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**Old Business**

<p><b>Community Needs Assessment</b> -Mental Health and Specialty Care</p>	<p>Dr. Decker requested that in Director Fountain's absence, the Health Commission tabled this topic until the December meeting.</p>	<p>Dr. Decker will send Director Fountain a note asking for the results of the final report of the Community Needs Assessment.</p>
<p><b>Health Commission Sponsored</b> -Presentation on Health Insurance</p>	<p>Dr. Decker commented about the plans of the Health Commission sponsoring an informational talk on Affordable Care Act. She stated, two weeks after the last Health Commission meeting, two members of the Health Commission withdrew their support out of concern regarding the agenda. After discussion with other community programs and the speakers, the talk was</p>	

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	cancelled.	
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**New Business**

<p>Traffic Enforcement (Director Jankowski)</p>	<p>Dr. Decker commented on the Article in <i>Stamford Advocate</i> regarding traffic enforcement crackdown on speeders.</p> <p>Director Jankowski responded with the new traffic enforcement unit, within a two week period they have issued over 500 violations for speeding, passing stop signs, seat belts and other moving violations.</p>	<p>Director Jankowski will forward to the Health Commissioners, the stats from the traffic enforcement unit first two-weeks.</p>
<p>Review of Health Commission Statutes -Proper Focus of the Health Commission -Introduction of New Health Commissioner</p>	<p>Dr. Decker thought - since the Health Commission has a new member it would be an appropriate time to review the Statutes for the Health Commission and come to a consensus as to what the functions of the commission are.</p> <p>Dr. Decker read from the Statutes, the main function of the Health Commission is to “Serve as an advisory body to the Director of Health regarding health policy issues for the City.”</p> <p>The Commissioners had an extended discussion regarding the role of the Health Commission. All agreed that the Health Commission should participate in educating the public and work with the Health Director and other City entities.</p> <p>Ms. Parry suggested that the Health Commission have a formal process for making recommendations.</p> <p>Dr. Schuster suggested that the Health Commission come up with ideas that make people healthier, come up with funding for these ideas and then go to the Mayor and the Director of Health with our ideas and funding for the idea. As an example, Dr. Schuster</p>	<p>Ms. Parry will forward a copy of a memo that she wrote years ago, proposing a process for the Health Commission to do what they are tasked to do: come up with recommendation and advice.</p>

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	spoke about funding that he has already secured and granted to Ferguson Library for children health. The Commissioners asked if there was anything they could do to assist the Library.	Dr. Schuster will contact Ernie DiMattia at the Library to see if he would like recommendations regarding materials to be purchased using these funds.
Polio Outbreak in Syria	Ms. Parry asked if the Polio outbreak in Syria is having an impact in our schools. Ms. Anspach stated that there should not be an impact since vaccinations are a requirement for students.	
Breastfeeding – new proposal in England	Ms. Parry commented, England is proposing to pay women to breastfeed.	

Appeal:

There were no appeals		
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Adjournment:

There being no further business before the regular session of the HC, Dr. Decker moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 a.m., Ms. Parry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
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Submitted by,

*Pam Scott*  
Pam Scott/np