

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
BOARD OF HEALTH
Minutes
June 8, 2021

The City of Middletown Board of Health met in remote and regular session at 7:30 AM on June 8, 2021.

Members Present

Mayor Nicole Condrey, BS, President
Jeff Bonnell
Margie Davis, RN
Ruth Lolli
Sally Kash, MS, RN
Dr. Ken Patrick, DVM
David Schul

Health Department Staff Present

Jackie Phillips Carter, MPH, BSN, RN
Carla Ealy, RS
Chandra Corbin, BSN, RN
Dr. Paul Jennewine, MD
Amanda McDonald

Absent and Excused

Charlene Kurtz, BSN, RN

ROLL CALL

Motion: Dr. Patrick moved, seconded by Ms. Lolli to excuse Ms. Davis and Ms. Kurtz.

Roll call vote: Yes-5 (Bonnell, Lolli, Kash, Patrick, Schul). No-0. Motion passed.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-May 2021

Motion: Mr. Bonnell moved, seconded by Ms. Kash to approve the May 2021 Board of Health Meeting Minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes-5 (Bonnell, Lolli, Kash, Patrick, Schul). No-0. Motion passed.

Mayor Condrey welcomed Ms. Kash back to the Board of Health. This is the first meeting Ms. Lolli has been able to attend in-person due to COVID restrictions being lifted.

Ms. Davis joined the meeting via ZOOM at 7:40 AM.

RECEIVE AND FILE FINANCIAL REPORT-May 2021

Motion: Ms. Kash moved, seconded by Ms. Lolli to receive and file the May 2021 Financial Report.

Roll call vote: Yes-6 (Bonnell, Davis, Lolli, Kash, Patrick, Schul). No-0. Motion passed.

EDUCATION PRESENTATION- Dementia

Dr. Jennewine explained that dementia is an umbrella term used to describe brain injury caused either by disease or injury. It is difficult to diagnose dementia in the early stages because a decrease in cognitive abilities is common among the elderly. There are many different causes and types of dementia, including: Parkinson's, Vascular Dementia, HIV,

Alzheimer's, Huntington's Disease and chronic alcohol use. Sixty to seventy percent of all dementia includes word finding difficulties. Other symptoms of dementia include: speech impairment, disorientation, mood swings and self-neglect. The typical life expectancy after a dementia diagnosis is three to nine years.

Physicians carefully consider the patient's history, perform a physical exam and look for signs of brain shrinkage (though some brain shrinkage is normal as one ages) to diagnose dementia. Physicians must first rule out other mental illnesses, as many can mirror dementia. There are 50 million dementia patients worldwide, 30 million of those are diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease. Women are more affected than men and six percent of anyone over the age of 65 will be diagnosed with some form of dementia.

There are little options for treatment. The earlier medication is started, the better the prognosis.

Discussions

Question: Mayor Condrey asked if an MRI is ultimately used to diagnose patients with dementia.

Answer: Dr. Jennewine explained that the best way to definitively diagnose dementia is by a lumbar puncture, though commonly it is an MRI that is used for diagnosis.

Feedback: Ms. Phillips Carter commented that a large percentage of dementia goes undiagnosed. Dr. Jennewine added that many are diagnosed late.

Question: Ms. Phillips Carter asked if mind-memory games really help ward off dementia.

Answer: Dr. Jennewine stated that there is no good medical proof.

Feedback: Ms. Corbin added that there has just been a new medical drug approved to treat dementia. Ms. Phillips Carter stated that it is very expensive and must be used in the early stages of dementia. Ms. Lolli added that she read the new treatment will cost around \$56,000 per year and will not be covered by medical insurance.

OLD BUSINESS

COVID

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that on June 2, 2021, COVID mandates in Ohio had been lifted by ODH and Governor Mike DeWine. Masks should still be worn by those that have not been vaccinated as they are still at risk for contracting COVID. As of today, June 8, 2021, Ohio is at 49.5 cases per 100,000. We are seeing less infection in our community. Ms. Phillips Carter stated that vaccinations continue to move along, there are typically thirty vaccines given out by CMHD at weekly clinics held on Thursdays in the city building. CMHD also continues to vaccinate the jail and homebound patients weekly. Medicaid is now offering incentives and will be offering them at community events such as the Balloon Challenge, Broad Street Blast, Middletown High School. CMHD will be partnering with the Roosevelt Boulevard Bingo on June 24, 2021 to offer vaccines. We are now offering all three vaccines: Moderna, Pfizer and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson). COVID is still considered a class A reportable disease and must be reported to the local health department within 24 hours. CMHD continues to contact trace COVID cases along with ODH.

PHAB

Ms. Phillips Carter thanked all board members for their efforts in the PHAB site visit and the entire accreditation process. The site visit has officially concluded. We will find out in August whether CMHD is accredited, will be placed on a work plan or failed the accreditation process.

Discussions

Question: Dr. Patrick asked if Hamilton City Health Department and Butler County General Health District had been accredited.

Answer: Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that Hamilton City has been placed on a work plan and Butler County has not yet received their results.

NEW BUSINESS

Travel Authorizations

None.

REPORTS

Health Commissioner

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that she will be virtually attending the Spring Combined Health Conference on June 21, 2021.

The contract for the Syringe Exchange Program with Hamilton County expires this month. Access Counseling is currently providing Narcan at The Gathering (31 S. Clinton Street). The city manager is considering moving the Exchange Program to a new location, possibly on Main Street or Curtis Street. There continues to be an uptick in the number of HIV cases being reported.

Ms. Phillips Carter is working with Atrium Medical Center CEO, Keith Bricking, and chief medical officer, Dr. Harris, to discuss health disparities among African Americans.

There will be a Juneteenth celebration held at Robert "Sonny" Hill Community Center from 3 pm- 5 pm on Saturday June 19, 2021. The activities for the day include: conversations with our ancestors, this will be a round table discussion regarding the history of health among African Americans; health screenings including: blood pressure, cholesterol, and glucose; and COVID vaccinations. The event will culminate in a ceremony to honor those lives that were lost during the pandemic year.

Ms. Phillips Carter has been selected as the Grand Marshall for the 4th of July Parade. Ms. Phillips Carter states that she is very honored and looks forward to ushering out the old season and bringing in the new.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that she has been put on notice that she may be deposed in a lawsuit between the Fraternal Order of Police and City of Middletown. There are questions in regards to whether or not COVID was declared an emergency. Police pay is doubled while patrolling during a declared emergency.

Medical Director

Dr. Jennewine reported on the communicable disease numbers for the month of May.

Campylobacteriosis	1
Chlamydia infection	24
COVID-19	119
CP-CRE	1
Gonococcal infection	9
Hepatitis A	1
Hepatitis B	2
Hepatitis C	10
Streptococcal-Group A	2
Streptococcus pneumoniae	3
Syphilis	1

Director of Nursing

Ms. Corbin stated that vaccination efforts continue. CMHD will be offering vaccines at the Balloon Challenge, Fireworks Blast, National Night Out and the Roosevelt Boulevard Bingo. We will continue to make the vaccine available wherever the public will be, we are fortunate to have a cooler that can haul and store the vaccine.

Ms. Corbin informed the board that CMHD has administered 7,805 vaccines. The total number of positive and/or probable positives among Middletown residents is 4,082. There have been 91 new cases of COVID reported since our last Board of Health meeting (May 11, 2021). There have been 8 cases reported this month (June). We have not received any positive cases associated with AK Steel in two weeks. CMHD held its first student clinic last week (June 4, 2021). Over 100 doses of Pfizer were given, we will return in three weeks to administer second doses.

Environmental Director

Ms. Ealy stated that all seven sewage cases have now been summoned to court for failure to connect to sanitary sewer. Property owner of 3121 Seneca, who appeared before the board in 2019 to appeal connection orders, has now connected to sanitary sewer. Property owners of 5218 Hendrickson can connect to sanitary sewer this summer. Fisher Homes has granted the property owner an easement to allow for connection with the new Renaissance subdivision. Property owners of 4821 Lefferson Road were granted one year to connect by the courts. The property at 2108 Wellington Road has been using approximately 14,000 gallons of water per month. An average home uses 450-500 gallons per month. The landlord will be evicting the current tenants and working to see if the reduction in water will allow for the system to dry and resume work on the system. The septic system at 4077 South Dixie Highway is failing, the septic contractors that will be working on this system have not yet registered with CMHD and must do so before beginning work on the system.

Ms. Ealy stated that most area pools have now been opened, there are still a few pool inspections left to conduct.

Ms. Ealy stated that Hunan Bistro, located behind Burger King on Breiel Boulevard, has been licensed. The Fenwick Festival, now known as The Festival, will be held at John 23rd Elementary School on University Boulevard June 25th-27th.

Ms. Ealy informed the board that Salvation Army offers lunches to children at local parks daily from 10:30 AM- 1:00 PM. Middletown Pride Color Crawl, sponsored by Downtown Middletown Inc., will be held on June 25th.

Ms. Ealy included the annual report from Hamilton County Environmental Air Quality Division in the board of health packet. Ms. Ealy commented that AK Steel has changed its name to Cleveland Cliffs Steel Corporation. Ms. Ealy stated that a representative, Kerri Castler, could come speak to the board if members are interested. Ms. Ealy noted that one complainant made most of the air quality complaints.

Ms. Ealy added that CMHD has received a call from Steak 'N Shake stating that they will be reopening their Middletown location.

Discussions

Feedback: Ms. Condrey commented that she receives a lot of complaints about air quality surrounding AK Steel/SunCoke, stating that SunCoke citizen's advisory panel (CAP) is not open to the public and they are not accepting any new members. Mayor Condrey commented that transparency of conversation seems to be lacking on this topic. Ms. Phillips Carter stated that the CAP is supposed to represent citizen's concerns. We will be inviting Hamilton County Air Quality to the August BOH meeting.

Question: Dr. Patrick asked if approximately 100 students had been vaccinated and if there were any adverse reactions.

Answer: Ms. Corbin stated that there had been approximately 100 students vaccinated and there have been no problems or reactions reported. Ms. Corbin went on to state that Moderna is now asking to be approved for children.

Feedback: Ms. Phillips Carter added that there has been an increase in COVID hospitalizations among children.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 AM. The next meeting will be held on July 13, 2021 at 7:30 AM.



Jacquelyn D. Phillips Carter, MPH, BSN, RN
Secretary



Nicole Condrey, President

City of Middletown Board of Health