

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
BOARD OF HEALTH
Minutes
August 10, 2021

The City of Middletown Board of Health met in regular session at 7:30 AM on August 10, 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, REHS
Dr. Paul Jennewine, MD
Amanda McDonald

Absent and Excused

Charlene Kurtz, BSN, RN

ROLL CALL

Motion: Ms. Kash moved, seconded by Ms. Davis to excuse Ms. Kurtz.

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-June 2021

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

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

RECEIVE AND FILE FINANCIAL REPORT-July 2021

Motion: Mr. Schul moved, seconded by Ms. Lolli to receive and file the July 2021 Financial Report.

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

EDUCATION PRESENTATION-Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency

Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency was unable to attend the July meeting and will be presenting an education presentation at the September Board of Health meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

COVID

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that we are seeing an increase of cases with the delta variant. The delta variant appears to be very contagious, but since it is affecting a different population, it is not as virulent. Younger people are getting sick with it, causing us to see fewer deaths. Ms. Phillips Carter states that she is advising schools and businesses to follow the same protocol and mitigation efforts that were in place last year, the only difference being that it is not mandated.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that the state of Ohio is no longer issuing COVID mandates. All COVID rules and regulations are being put into place by individual businesses/schools for their respective employees/students.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that after speaking with Middletown City Schools superintendent, she believes he will be announcing that masks are required for Middletown City Schools beginning on August 23rd.

The CDC does still have a federal mandate which requires masks on all public transportation.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that City of Middletown Health Department, along with Butler County General Health District and Hamilton City Health Department, issued a press release recommending universal masking in K-12 schools and universities.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that there were 494 vaccines given at the clinic held at the Butler County Fairgrounds on Saturday, August 7, 2021. CMHD continues to hold weekly vaccination clinics on Thursdays from 12:00pm – 1:00 pm as well as offering vaccines to the City of Middletown Jail and home-visits for those that are homebound.

Discussions

Question: Dr. Patrick asked what would happen if a student forgot to wear a mask on the bus.

Answer: Ms. Phillips Carter explained that the school and transportation systems provide masks to anyone that does not have one.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that we have been giving vaccines to school aged children for much of history and have been able to successfully eradicate the spread of diseases such as smallpox and measles.

Mayor Condrey stated that the COVID vaccine is still new and does not have a proven track record thus far.

Ms. Phillips Carter states that she agrees with people stating that it is a new vaccine, but that all vaccines are new at some point. The FDA takes so long to approve them because of all of the red-tape, not because of them being unsafe.

Ms. Phillips Carter states that she is not in favor of mandates, however; if we were to stop vaccinating against previously eradicated diseases, we could be overwhelmed with new cases of illnesses.

NEW BUSINESS

Travel Authorizations

None.

Approval of Agreement with Hamilton County General Health District-Harm Reduction

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that Hamilton County has additional funds (\$50,000) to support CMHD's harm reduction strategies. We will be billing staff time spent at the Syringe Exchange Project (SEP) and giving HIV education, resources and vaccinations (flu, hepatitis A, COVID, etc.).

Question: Mayor Condrey inquired whether the funds received from the Hamilton County General Health District Harm Reduction would be given to the health commissioner or any staff member personally.

Answer: Ms. Phillips Carter explained that all money received by billing time for any staff would be deposited into the health department miscellaneous funds account.

Question: Mayor Condrey asked if, as a stipulation of the agreement with Hamilton County General Health District, a statistical report providing data could be required.

Answer: Ms. Phillips Carter explained that there is a report available on Hamilton County's website. Ms. Phillips Carter stated that we will follow up with Hamilton County to see if there are any additional reports available.

Motion: Dr. Patrick moved, seconded by Ms. Davis to approve the Agreement with Hamilton County General Health District-Harm Reduction.

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

Approval of Agreement with Regional Harm Reduction Collaborative-Syringe Exchange Program

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that SEP is no longer an expense to the health department and city. This grant will run through September 30, 2021. Another grant will run from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022. In addition to needle exchange, SEP offers HIV testing, Hepatitis C testing, immunizations and other wrap-around services including mental health.

Motion: Mr. Schul moved, seconded by Ms. Kash to approve the Agreement with Regional Harm Reduction Collaborative-Syringe Exchange Program.

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

Approval of Ohio Department of Health Tobacco Enforcement Smoke Free Investigations Provider Agreement

Ms. Phillips Carter explained that this contract is renewed with Ohio Department of Health every two years. The state reimburses us for every smoking complaint investigated by CMHD.

Motion: Ms. Kash moved, seconded by Ms. Davis to approve the PHEP Grant.

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

First Reading-MBHE Ordinance No. 2021-01-Establishing 2022 Food Fees

Ms. Ealy explained that license fees are based on the time in each program by CMHD. Due to COVID, the time spent in the food program decreased, therefore lowering the annual license fee. The only fees in the food program that did not decrease were vending and temporary license fees. Local health departments are required by law to review their food fees annually.

Motion: Mr. Bonnell moved, seconded by Ms. Lolli to read Ordinance No. 2021-01 by title only.

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

REPORTS

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that the health department has been receiving an increasing number of calls dealing with questions and concerns about COVID testing sites. Some of the testing sites have closed or changed hours of operation. CMHD has provided an updated list of testing sites on the website.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that we will be discussing the preliminary 2022 budget at the September board of health meeting. We have prepared and submitted a budget to the finance department. Ms. Phillips Carter has a meeting with the city manager and the finance director on August 23, 2021.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that at the September meeting we will have a report showing our vaccination rates in the city of Middletown.

Discussions

Feedback: Mayor Condrey stated that plans for a new community center was presented at the joint city and school board meeting. The plans involve approximately twelve million dollars of improvements and new construction at the Robert "Sonny" Hill Community Center. The community center is focused on developing stronger youth. Mayor Condrey states that she fears the cost of this project may be vastly underestimated, however; mental and physical health aspects of this would be very significant to our community and could be great.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that the plans look exciting. She was concerned when a school board member stated that they are responsible for children, but not their families. Ms. Phillips Carter states that the two are connected.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that she is hopeful that the project moves forward. We have to keep investing in our community and our kids for the future.

Mayor Condrey is concerned that there were no community partners or financial contributors included in the proposal to help sustain the new community center. The group stated that is the next step.

Dr. Jennewine expressed concern about the school system already struggling financially.

Medical Director

Dr. Jennewine stated that COVID numbers have increased. Other states and countries are ahead of Ohio's curve, some have seen mortality rates double.

Chlamydia infection	21
COVID-19	100
Giardiasis	1
Gonococcal infection	6
Hepatitis B	2
Hepatitis C	12
Varicella	1

Environmental Director

Ms. Ealy informed the board that the sewer connection order for 2206 Cincinnati Dayton Road has been rescinded due to Public Works reevaluating and finding that the system cannot be connected by gravity..

Ms. Ealy stated that Genesis Nutrition located on Jackson Lane has been licensed and is open for business. Ms. Ealy stated that plans had been disapproved for Warren County Career Center, but after working with them on some issues, they are now licensed. Steak 'N Shake plans have been received and approved.

Ms. Ealy informed the board that the Elks Weekend was held on August 6th and 7th. Ms. Ealy conducted temporary food inspections for vendors that were set up at the event.

Ms. Ealy informed the board that all pools are licensed. Three hotel pools have closed for maintenance or renovation.

Discussions

Feedback: Ms. Phillips Carter stated that the infant mortality report had been sent to board members via email on Friday, August 6, 2021. More infant mortality initiatives continue to be added, CMHD will be keeping track of the initiatives and progress.

Dr. Patrick asked if listeriosis is a problem.

Dr. Jennewine stated that we have not seen any increase in numbers of listeriosis.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 AM. The next meeting will be held on September 14, 2021 at 7:30 AM.



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

Nicole Condrey, President
City of Middletown Board of Health