

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
BOARD OF HEALTH
Minutes
October 12, 2021

The City of Middletown Board of Health met in regular session at 7:30 AM on October 12, 2021.

Members Present

Mayor Nicole Condrey, BS, President
Jeff Bonnell
Ruth Lolli
Dr. Ken Patrick, DVM
David Schul

Health Department Staff Present

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

Absent and Excused

Margie Davis, RN
Sally Kash, MS, RN
Charlene Kurtz, BSN, RN

ROLL CALL

Motion: Mr. Schul moved, seconded by Ms. Lolli to excuse absent board members.

Roll call vote: Yes-4 (Bonnell, Lolli, Patrick, Schul). No-0. **Motion Passed.**

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizens were present, however; Mayor Condrey informed the board that a citizen had made a complaint regarding a rusty filament on the grass at the airport. Mayor Condrey stated that she will forward the pictures to Ms. Phillips Carter.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-September 2021

Motion: Dr. Patrick moved, seconded by Mr. Schul to approve the September 2021 Board of Health Meeting Minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes-4 (Bonnell, Lolli, Patrick, Schul). No-0. **Motion Passed.**

RECEIVE AND FILE FINANCIAL REPORT-September 2021

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that due to money received by grants and revenue, the health department has not used any additional city funds in 2021.

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

Roll call vote: Yes-4 (Bonnell, Lolli, Patrick, Schul). No-0. **Motion Passed.**

EDUCATION PRESENTATION-Death Certificates

Dr. Jennewine provided the board of health with education as to how cause of death is determined on death certificates. There is a difference between inpatient and outpatient death certificates. Inpatient death certificates are completed in the hospital at the time of death by the attendant following the patient. These death certificates are typically straightforward to determine because there is an immediate cause of death available. When an outpatient death certificate is completed, cause of death is determined by the primary care physician that has been following the patient. The primary care physician must then look at the health history of the patient. The coroner only performs autopsies for suspicious causes of deaths (IE: homicide, suicide, accidental).

The part I section of the death record (a) is the immediate cause of death. The second through fourth lines (b, c, d) are related to the immediate cause of death. Time and onset of each condition due to or as a consequence of the immediate cause of death is also listed. Part II of the cause death lists other significant conditions contributing to death but not resulting in the underlying cause given in part I.

The physician that signs the death certificate is paid the same amount of money no matter what cause of death is determined. Hospitals receive additional money if COVID is listed as the cause of death. This does not influence local physicians when determining cause of death. With COVID, there are a lot of very clear-cut cases, however; there have been a few that were "iffy" with COVID listed under Part I letter (d). The state leaves the determination up to each physician. Dr. Jennewine stated that he believes our local physicians are doing a good job determining cause of death. Dr. Jennewine stated that COVID is a serious condition. Twenty percent of people that end up with COVID end up with acute renal failure.

Discussions

Feedback: Ms. Phillips Carter stated that there are people that die from COVID and that there are people that with COVID. Dr. Jennewine stated that they're all counted the same whether COVID is listed as an immediate cause of death or under Part II (other significant conditions contributing to death but not resulting in the underlying cause given in Part I). Ms. Phillips Carter stated that during the Hepatitis A outbreak, all liver failure was required to be reported to the state just as COVID is now reported to the state.

Question: Ms. Lolli asked how long physicians have to complete a death certificate.

Answer: Dr. Jennewine stated that physicians have forty-eight hours to complete a death certificate from the time of death.

Executive Session

Executive session was called under the authority of O.R.C. 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official.

Motion: Dr. Patrick moved, seconded by Mr. Schul to move to executive session at 8:01 am.

Roll call vote: Yes-4 (Bonnell, Lolli, Patrick, Schul). No-0. **Motion Passed.**

REGULAR SESSION

Motion: Dr. Patrick moved, seconded by Ms. Lollie to resume regular session at 8:19 am.

Roll call vote: Yes-4 (Bonnell, Lolli, Patrick, Schul). No-0. **Motion Passed.**

OLD BUSINESS

COVID

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that there was an uptick in cases after homecoming. Although the number of COVID cases being reported remain high, we have seen a decrease in the number of cases since last month.

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that she is hoping COVID becomes endemic meaning that we learn to live with it.

NEW BUSINESS

Travel Authorizations

None.

Discussions

Question: Dr. Patrick inquired as to how staff is obtaining education and training since there has been no travel authorizations since the onset of COVID.

Answer: Ms. Phillips Carter explained that staff has been able to attend additional trainings and education opportunities through ZOOM and other online platforms.

Approval of Agreement between Regional Harm Reduction Collaborative and the City of Middletown Health Department-Syringe Exchange

Ms. Phillips Carter explained to the board that the Regional Harm Reduction Collaborative's grant year started over again. This is the exact same agreement that the board of health approved in June 2021, just with different effective dates. This grant will run from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Motion: Dr. Patrick moved, seconded by Ms. Lolli to approve the agreement between Regional Harm Reduction Collaborative and the City of Middletown Health Department.

Roll call vote: Yes-4 (Bonnell, Lolli, Patrick, Schul). No-0. **Motion Passed.**

Approval of Agreement for Facility Use-Towne Mall Galleria, LLC

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that the old Sears building with the car bays is a great location for a drive through clinic in the case of inclement weather. The health department can pay for the use of space, but is not required to by this agreement.

Motion: Mr. Schul moved, seconded by Mr. Bonnell to approve the Agreement for Facility Use.

Roll call vote: Yes-4 (Bonnell, Lolli, Patrick, Schul). No-0. **Motion Passed.**

Third and Final Reading-MBHE Ordinance No. 2021-01-Establishing 2022 Food Fees

Motion: Mr. Schul moved, seconded by Mr. Bonnell to adopt MBHE Ordinance No. 2021-01.

Roll call vote: Yes-4 (Bonnell, Lolli, Patrick, Schul). No-0. **Motion Passed.**

REPORTS

Health Commissioner

Ms. Phillips Carter followed up with Ms. Lolli's inquiry about immigrants and vaccination status. Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that all immigrants that enter the country legally, in a processed way, are required to be screened for COVID and then vaccinated properly for all vaccine preventable diseases..

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that Ms. Castlen had sent follow up information regarding the cleaning program offered by Cleveland Cliffs to residents affected by fugitive dust. The information was sent to City of Middletown Communications Manager, Shelby Quinlin, for distribution to city residents.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that she had received a complaint stating that Middletown High School had turned off water in the bathrooms and provided hand sanitizer for students to wash their hands instead. Ms. Phillips Carter spoke with Middletown superintendent and it was confirmed that in an effort to prevent a TikTok challenge, the high school had turned off water to the restrooms. Ms. Phillips Carter informed the superintendent that running water is required in all bathrooms and water has been restored to the high school.

The health department will be providing annual flu shots to SunCoke on October 26th and October 28th.

Medical Director

Dr. Jennewine informed the board that the approval of the anti-viral drug Merck could significantly impact the outcomes of COVID cases, and possibly cut hospital costs in half.

Dr. Jennewine reported September's reportable disease numbers to the board.

Chlamydia infection	20
COVID-19	912
Gonococcal infection	13
Haemophilus influenzae	1
Hepatitis A	1
Hepatitis B	1
Hepatitis C	7
Streptococcal pneumoniae	1

Director of Nursing

Ms. Corbin informed the board that last month (September) there were 900 cases of COVID, we are twelve days into October and at 285 cases. Ms. Corbin is hopeful that cases continue to decrease and level off.

There has been a slight increase in the number of cases reported in children. There have been over 300 cases in children over the age of five since August 1st.

While the number of COVID related hospitalizations has decreased, there has been a slight increase in the number of deaths associated with COVID. Ms. Corbin informed the board that 80% of positive cases reported in Middletown were among unvaccinated patients.

Discussions

Feedback: Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that in an effort to reach our low vaccinated areas, CMHD held vaccine clinics at: Sherman Park, Mayfield Elementary and Amanda Elementary.

Question: Ms. Lolli inquired if CMHD would be attending fall events hosted throughout the city to offer vaccinations.

Answer: Ms. Phillips Carter stated that due to lack of interest at community events, CMHD will continue to hold weekly clinics on Thursdays and does not plan on offering vaccines at community events at this time.

Environmental Director

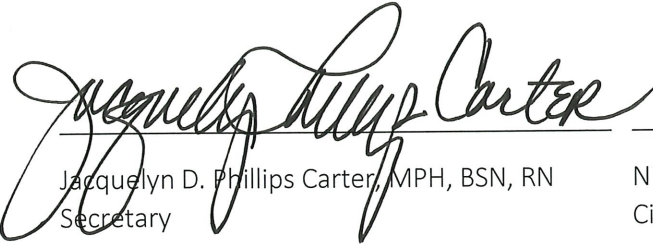
Ms. Phillips Carter presented the board with Ms. Ealy's environmental report. There was a new septic system installed, inspected and approved at 4077 S. Dixie Highway.

Four new facilities were licensed in September: Cintas Micromarket (Yankee Road), Charlie's Line Drive Thru (Lefferson Road), Eat Right (mobile) and Taco Bout Crab (Tytus Avenue).

Plans were received, reviewed and approved for DC Roadhouse (Vail Avenue) and Triple J's (previously known as Fast Lane Subs-Central Avenue).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 AM. The next meeting will be held on November 9, 2021 at 7:30 AM.


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


Nicole Condrey, President
City of Middletown Board of Health