

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
BOARD OF HEALTH
Minutes
July 9, 2024

The City of Middletown Board of Health met in regular session at 7:30 AM on July 9, 2024.

Members Present

Mayor, Elizabeth Slamka
Ruth Lolli
Emily Miller, BSN, RN
Dr. Scott Zollett, MD
Amy Sibcy
Jeff Bonnell
Sally Kash, MS, RN
Joseph Richmond, MBA

Health Department Staff Present

Jackie Phillips Carter, MPH, BSN, RN
Carla Ealy, BS, REHS
Chandra Corbin, BSN, RN
Amanda McDonald, Vital Statistics Registrar

Absent and Excused

All board members were present.

ROLL CALL

All board members were present.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 2024

Motion: Ms. Kash moved, seconded by Ms. Lolli to approve the June 2024 minutes.

Roll call vote: Yes-7 (Lolli, Miller, Zollett, Sibcy, Bonnell, Kash, Richmond). No-0. Motion Passed.

RECEIVE AND FILE FINANCIAL REPORT-June 2024

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that the June Financial Report is current through June 11, 2024.

Motion: Ms. Lolli moved, seconded by Mr. Richmond to approve the June Financial Report.

Roll call vote: Yes-6 (Lolli, Miller, Bonnell, Sibcy, Kash, Richmond). No-1 (Zollett). Motion Passed.

Education Presentation- Middletown Connect, Kristy Duritsch & DeAnna Shores

Kristy Duritsch and DeAnna Shores provided the Board of Health with a presentation on Middletown Connect. The City of Middletown Health Department secured the OHIZ Grant and in partnership Southwest Ohio Safety has created and implemented Middletown Connect. Middletown Connect focuses on health equity and social determinants of health. Health equity is the state in which everyone has a fair and just opportunity to attain their highest level of health. Social determinants of health are the conditions in the environment where people are born, live, work, play, worship and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. There is a 12.5-year difference in life expectancy between the least vulnerable census tract and the most vulnerable census tract in Middletown.

Middletown Connect combines community engagement and activation with resource and systems alignment to create a positive impact on the community. Middletown Connect has appointed dedicated Community Ambassadors to restore

the pride in their neighborhoods. Community Ambassadors host monthly meetings and volunteer for community events working alongside city leaders, organizations and health agencies. Middletown Connect is an emergent community building process. Middletown Connect does not deploy a pre-determined list of programs and services. Alignment is created by employing a credible process, engaging community residents, engaging health improvement partners and facilitating a feedback loop.

Health Improvement Partners (HIP) play a key role in this project. The HIP Team meets quarterly to review data and identify ways to provide resources that support community priorities. HIP Partners are made up of healthcare providers, law enforcement, school system, courts and clergy and community agencies.

Middletown Connect utilizes census data to identify and target areas with higher social determinants of health and share data with health partners and residents. Middletown Connect raises awareness by supporting and promoting programs to educate the community on health-related topics. Middletown Connect promotes physical activity by encouraging and facilitating physical activity within the community to improve overall health. Middletown Connect seeks to improve healthcare access for all residents, especially underserved populations. Middletown Connect strives to empower the community by engaging residents to advocate for their health needs and provide platforms for community input and resources allocation. Middletown Connect addresses social determinants of health by understanding and addressing barriers related to income, education and healthcare access. Middletown Connect promotes health equity by tailoring interventions to meet the needs of underserved populations and ensuring equitable access to healthcare services and resources.

Middletown Connect aims to enhance public health by supporting resident led initiatives, promoting physical activity, and ensuring better access to healthcare. The project emphasizes community empowerment, engagement and health equity. The Middletown Connect organizational chart consists of a core team, connector, coordinator, administrator and facilitator. Kristy Duritsch serves as the administrator, Pastor Scotty Robertson as the advocate, Carrie Yaeger as the intern, Sherry Gibson as the coordinator, Rhonda Molina as the facilitator, Jackie Phillips Carter as the influencer and DeAnna Shores as the connector.

Middletown Connect continues to serve census tracts 130, 131, 132 and has recently added census tracts 122, 141 and 144.

NEW BUSINESS

Travel Authorizations

There were no travel authorizations requested.

Approval of Personnel Appointment-Nicole Pennington, Registered Environmental Health Specialist

Ms. Phillips Carter explained to the board that Ms. Pennington has been selected to fill the position of Registered Environmental Health Specialist. Ms. Pennington will be available to begin her position on August 1, 2024 and will be present at the August Board of Health Meeting.

Motion: Ms. Lolli moved, seconded by Ms. Kash to approve the personnel appointment of Nicole Pennington as Registered Environmental Health Specialist.

Roll call vote: Yes-7 (Lolli, Miller, Zollett, Sibcy, Bonnell, Kash, Richmond). No-0. Motion Passed.

Review of Ohio Department of Health Adult Immunization Program Agreement

Ms. Corbin explained to the board that this is an agreement between City of Middletown Health Department and Ohio Department of Health that allows CMHD to administer adult vaccinations. This agreement pertains to underinsured/uninsured adults and is separate from vaccines in response to an outbreak.

Review of Proposed FSO/RFE and Pool License Fees for 2024-2025

Ms. Ealy included the 2025 recommended fee increases in the packet for the board to review. Ms. Ealy noted that after COVID, FSO/RFE license fees were drastically reduced, the recommended 2025 fees continue to be lower than pre-COVID fees. The increase will allow CMHD to recover more of the program cost. Ms Ealy also stated the Health department is required to complete a cost analysis for the food program annually and send forward copies to Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Department of Agriculture.

Ms. Ealy stated that the first reading of the ordinance will be at the August Board of Health Meeting.

Dr. Zollett inquired about facility risk levels. Ms. Ealy explained that each facility is assigned a risk rating dependent on a facility's menu and food processes.

2nd Quarter Report-2024

Ms. Phillips Carter stated that the 2024 2nd Quarter Report was included in the packet as well as the 2023 2nd Quarter Report for year-to-year comparison.

REPORTS

Health Commissioner

Ms. Phillips Carter thanked board members for completing her evaluation.

Ms. Phillips Carter states that it is her hope that public health connects the community to the resources they need to benefit them most.

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that the first Walk With a Doc will be held Saturday, July 20th at 9am at Rosa Parks Elementary School. Walk with a Doc is a program designed for anyone looking to embrace a healthier lifestyle. Participants are able to learn about a current health topic by a physician and then engage in a healthy walk and discussion. There is no cost to participate in this program.

Medical Director

In Dr. Jennewine's absence, Director of Nursing, Chandra Corbin reported the June communicable disease cases.

Chlamydia infection	23
COVID-19	19
Cryptosporidiosis	1
Gonococcal Infection	9
Hepatitis B	1
Hepatitis C	13
HIV	2
Pertussis	1
Streptococcal-Group A- invasive	2
Tuberculosis	1

Director of Nursing

Ms. Corbin informed the board that the Public Health Emergency Preparedness contract is currently being reviewed by the Law Department and should be brought to the board for approval at the August meeting.

Environmental Director

Ms. Ealy informed the board that six new plans were received in June, two sets of those plans have been approved. Ohio Department of Health will be conducting the Food Service Operation survey on August 12-13th. This survey is required every 3 years to ensure that the local health departments are adhering to policies and procedures set forth in



City of Middletown Health Department
Middletown, Ohio
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the Ohio Revised Code. There will be an Administrative review only in the food service program. No there will be no field review.

Ms. Ealy informed the board that 5 official orders requiring sewer connection were sent to five homeowners.

Ms. Ealy stated that CMHD has begun conducting T21 compliance inspections for tobacco retailers. Ms. Ealy explained that compliance includes ensuring retailers display their T21 licenses and signage in appropriate locations according to the ordinance. Ms. Ealy stated that Sarah Chaney's last day was July 12 and Nicole Pennington will start August 1, 2024.

Board Member Open Discussion

Ms. Phillips Carter informed the board that City Council landed on three marijuana dispensaries as compared to the five dispensaries previously discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48AM. The next meeting will be held on August 13, 2024 at 7:30AM in Conference Room 2C.

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

Elizabeth Slamka, President
City of Middletown Board of Health