

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
April 17, 2018

The St. Lawrence County Board of Health (hereafter known as SLCBOH) met on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 in the Large Conference Room, Human Services Center, Canton, New York 13617.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Jessica Scillieri Smith, Dr. Kathleen Terrence, Nancy Potter, John Burke

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Andrew Williams, Dr. Gregory Healey, Todd Wells

OTHERS PRESENT: Dana Olzenak McGuire, Director; Shannon Beldock, Administrative Assistant; Brigette Sanderson, Wil Neves, Richelle Cisco, and Renae Johnson (Public Health Staff), Anne Marie Snell (Health Initiative).

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Jessica Scillieri Smith, President, called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Dr. Terrence, and seconded by J. Burke, the minutes from the March 20, 2018 meeting were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

Public Health Updates:

Public Health Detailing Update: Fluoride Varnish

Kindra contacted Jefferson County for information on fluoride varnishing, as they were selected by the state as a pilot program. Steve Jennings has provided us general slides, resources, and the keys players to engage all needed partners. Mr. Jennings also recommended Melinda Clark, an MD at the State to provide training for the practitioners. Our goal is by the next Board of Health meeting we can provide a brief demonstration of an initial visit to receive feedback.

Richelle Cisco will be the PH Detailing Nurse who will provide statistics on fluoride varnishing, training tools for providers, and requirements for reimbursement. Noted fluoride varnishing is a very simple process, but has a long lasting effect – topically is the best process. Dr. Terrence suggested Potsdam Pediatrics as a second interested provider. Dana noted she hopes that there will be a template for how the process will work – hopeful once we get the practice down it will pave the way to roll out other topics. Dana asked members if they had reviewed the draft fluoridation letter.

Upon motion by K. Terrence, seconded by J. Burke, and unanimously carried, members agreed to sign the fluoride vanish letter that will be sent to the Village of Potsdam.

John discussed an article written by Legislator, Joe Timmerman, regarding the use of power equipment by children with disabilities at BOCES (his son attended this program). He is not sure if the Board of Health should be involved, but wanted to address Mr. Timmerman's concerns. It was discussed to send a letter to Tom Burns, District Superintendent, for information and/or action on the matter. John will draft a letter and send it to Dana.

Rabies Clinic uses CDMS (Countermeasure Data Management System) to prepare for POD (Point of Dispensing):

Wil shared the CDMS was used during the last rabies clinic and it was handled well, but was hectic. Registering was done on computers and rabies certificates were printed. This process would have been more efficient if the space was larger and more technology was available. There were (3) registrations laptops, (1) checking out and Wil had his tablet. What normally would have taken approximately 10 minutes inputting information, took about 4 minutes. Individuals seemed to like the process – we will move forward for our upcoming clinics. Hoping to implement for other towns next year.

Wil shared there have been a lot of sanitation cases – mostly garbage so far – which ends up on voluntary compliance. Currently, there is a basement sewage issue in Gouverneur and he is working with the Code Officer. However, we have no authority to enforce recommendations should we need to. He is looking for guidelines which would be enforced by the Board – with stricter guidelines we could enforce more. Noted the Board of Health is legislative, judicial and executive = powerful.

Dana noted she spoke with the County Attorney about writing a law(s) – the process would take about 2 years to enact a new law. St. Lawrence County Public Health is a partial health department. Steve Button would like Dana to explore code from other unchartered counties. We need to find another county with the same to go by. Dana will get data for the next meeting.

POD Update – Volunteers are rolling in:

The POD takes place next Thursday, April 26, 2018. There are volunteers coming to assist with vaccination process and as “patients.” Emails have gone out to County Staff – we have about 40 volunteers already – some individuals may have to go through twice. POD job assignments are set. Dr. Healey is unable to assist with the POD, so our Nurse Practitioner will take his place. Supplies are either here or on the way. Monday we will receive notification of the disaster topic – we cannot preplan until then. This will be a controlled participation – an email will be sent to volunteers so they can preregister. An invite has been extended to the Bridge to Wellness partners, university partners, and the regional state DOH.

Immunization Action Plan:

Rochelle attended a Consortia meeting. Dr. William's office will be used as the provider for adult immunization awareness to increase vaccination rates. The School Nurse teaching day takes place on Tuesday, June 26, 2018 – there will be a review of updated policies, including exclusion criteria and vaccination updates. Dana will meet with Superintendents on Wednesday, May 16, 2018 to discuss exclusion criteria, how we can assist in the process, and the other programs our department can collaborate on. AFIX visits are starting – it will be provider agencies for this quarter – then daycare and school visits. Letters will be sent to the Amish for their follow up vaccinations.

Walk with a Doc moves forward:

The Subcommittee from Bridge to Wellness met last Wednesday to discuss how we can hold the walks and what different locations were available – aiming for (6) locations. Dana spoke with headquarters and there will be an additional \$35 fee for insurance for the additional locations (after the first). There was a discussion of how we can recruit doctors and providers – locations with wheelchair accessibility (flat), etc. - looking at the Canton loop to begin with. Brigitte is waiting to hear back from Partridge Knoll. We will need to submit a resolution – the walks will begin in June, 2018.

Lunch and Learn Education Series:

Presentation will begin with county employees and then go out to the community. Public Health will co-sponsor with the EAP committee. Brigitte noted the first topic is Rabies – future topics will include: diabetes/hypertension and Spring into Healthy habits/nutrition. The EAP committee is excited and is willing to share topics – noted interest was financial planning and health care proxy.

2018-2019 Community Health Assessment Survey Development:

Dana is working with the Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization to review and look at questions we would like to add to the survey. Noted Goals and Strategies might not be the same for all (3) counties. We need to be an active part in this development – make sure we have a voice. We should not be rewriting questions that have already been written. There has been one meeting and the discussion was not finished. Dana is hoping for another meeting soon.

Student Interns:

We are working on internships (there is no guide book in place) with SUNY Potsdam. Beginning June 4, 2018, an intern from the St. Lawrence University Public Interest Corp (PIC) program will be working in the Public Health Department and will help design a webpage for the Emergency Preparedness Program as a way to get information out to the community. There were (3) students interviewed and a selection was made. This internship will be 9 weeks in length beginning June 4, 2018.

OTHER BUSINESS

No Other Business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

*At the next meeting Ron Sheppard from the Regional Office will give a short presentation on what his office offers.