

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

January 16, 2024

The St. Lawrence County Board of Health (hereafter known as SLCBOH) met on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, in the Large Conference Room, Human Services Center, Canton, New York 13617.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rita Curran, Mark Deavers, Dr. Gregory Healey, Dr. Kathleen Terrence, Dr. Andrew Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nancy Potter, Dr. Jessica Scillieri Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Carly Zimmermann, Interim Director; Shannon Beldock, Administrative Assistant; Anne Marie Snell, St. Lawrence Health Initiative; McKenna Boula, St. Lawrence Health /Clinical Research Department/Clinical Research Coordinator; Autumn Thompson, St. Lawrence Health /Clinical Research Department/Clinical Research Assistant; McKailey Lyndaker, St. Lawrence Health /Clinical Research Department/Clinical Research Assistant; Professor Lori Clark, St. Lawrence University, Public Health Department.

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Andrew Williams, President, called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by G Healey, and seconded by M Deavers, the minutes from the October 17, 2023 meeting were approved. (November 21, 2023 and December 19, 2023 meetings canceled)

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

Slideshow Presentation (double click below): Carly Zimmermann



1 January 16, 2024
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Countywide Smoking Policy: Carly Zimmermann

Ruth requested the Board of Health review the current local law.

- Board of Health members will review.
- Suggestions were made to update the current local law resolution to have more inclusive language.
- Members will compare samples of what other counties (Wayne, Cattaraugus, and Nassau) currently have in place and review the New York State Clean Indoor Air Act

Lead Update: Carly Zimmermann

Graphs are included in member folders for review.

NYSDOH Health Advisory: recalled applesauce pouches potentially linked to elevated blood lead levels (EBLL) in children included in member folders for review.

Respiratory Illness Update:

A copy of the Press Release is included in member folders for review.

- Dr. Williams discussed St. Lawrence Health having a masking requirement in the healthcare environment. They do reassess the different areas every (2) weeks.

- Noted Paxlovid is to be given within (5) days of illness - out of pocket cost is \$1200. They have some issues with insurance companies requesting additional documentation. If denied, staff resubmits the additional documentation needed. Insurance companies give themselves (36) hours to respond. In some cases, this puts the individual at day (4) or even day (6).
- Asked if there were a county program for free Paxlovid, Carly to follow up.

Sanitarian Update: Carly Zimmermann

Graphs are included in member folders for review.

Environmental Health Calls	October 2023
Septic	1
Indoor Air Quality (Mold)	1
Living Conditions/Pests	1

Environmental Health Calls	November 2023
Water Quality	2
Bed Bugs	1

Environmental Health Calls	December 2023
Water Quality	1
Bed Bugs	1
Sewage	1
Living Conditions	1

There has been an uptick in requests for information on bed bugs. Public Health will send educational and resource information to the area school nurses. Mark Deavers requested some information/education/resources be provided to the community on what they should do if they have bed bugs via social media posts from public health.

Walk with a Doc (WWAD) Update: Anne Marie Snell

- **January:** The first walk scheduled at the Middle School in January, 2024 was postponed due to the weather and will be rescheduled some time in February (Brittany Terpstra).
- **Saturday, February 3, 2024:** In lieu of a WWAD, there will be a Ground Hog 5k(ish) walk/stroll at the Public Health Department (Patti Hogle/Jena Sloan).
- **Saturday, March 16, 2024:** Cheel Arena, Potsdam, 12:30-2:00 pm (Nutritionists).
- **Saturday, April 20, 2024:** Hammond School 10:00 am (Dr. Gardner). There has been a lot of work with the town on developing safe walking/biking routes to schools (rural). They have created a “Traffic Garden” this year on a space on the property for teaching students, etc. how to be safe when walking/biking to school.
- **Saturday, May 11, 2024:** Partridge Run, Canton 10:00 am (SLH Clinical Research Team).
- **June, 2024:** Nicandri Nature Center, Massena (TBD).
- **June, 2024:** Pride Day, Potsdam

*Walks are being planned for the 2nd half of the year, but have not been confirmed at this time.

Noted t-shirts have been ordered, but due to lack of funding to cover the costs they will not have screen printing. But, they plan to order postcards that will list the dates and times of the walks instead. The Public Health Department coordinates the advertising through the Bridge to Wellness Committee.

Dr. Williams asked about a previously used “Prescription Pad” where providers could “prescribe an exercise” to participants. Possibly have the WWAD logo on it and the dates and times of the walks on the other side. These would have boxes next to the exercise for the provider to check off. For example: 20 minute walk. Rita noted the County Print Shop could do something for us. Anne Marie noted she would speak with Ruth the next day and have Patti Hogle hold off on printing the postcards at this point.

Community Health Assessment/Community Health Improvement Plan: Anne Marie Snell

Presentation will be forwarded to members as there wasn’t sufficient time to present all slides.

NOTE: DUFB in the slide presentation stands for “Double up Food Bucks.”



Board of Health Bylaws Review/Update:

The bylaws were sent to members for review in November, prior to the December 19, 2023 meeting, which was canceled.

- Mark Deavers asked if there could be a virtual/Zoom option for the Board of Health meetings added to the bylaws.
- Dr. Williams asked that County Attorney, Steve Button review the Bylaws as well.
- There was some discussion regarding Page 3 – Appointment of Public Health Director.
- This item will be added to the February 20, 2024 agenda.

OTHER ITEMS AND QUESTIONS

Rita shared they had their first meeting regarding a Certificate of Need for Ambulance Services. This is due to being unable to handle the number of calls and transports for out of county.

Dr. Williams asked Mark Deavers to provide a brief presentation on the EMS crisis at the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm. Next meeting will take place on February 20, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

ACTIONS ITEMS FOR FOLLOW UP

N/A