

## MINUTES

Advisory Board of Health (ABH)

September 8, 2015

7:00pm – Town Hall Room 213

Attendees – Kevin Cunningham (Chair), Jose Cara (Vice-Chair), Andy Matthiesen, James Patrick, David Knauf (Staff)

### 1. Summer Water Monitoring Program

- **Beach water test results and “Save the Sound” report card** –A letter was sent by the organization “Save the Sound” to First Selectmen of all shoreline towns announcing the availability of a new comprehensive on-line database which rates water quality of all beaches on the Sound. A scoring system was established without input from local health agencies who actually conducted the sampling upon which this rating system was based. Since considerable water sampling was done after precipitation events to evaluate our existing protocol of closing beaches preemptively during and after rainfall, Darien beaches were rated “C” which clearly skewed the results. Generally speaking, during dry conditions – bacteria levels have been fine at all Town beaches and tend to “spike” after it rains. David to present results to the Board of Selectmen on Monday.
- **Microbial source tracking Study** – Grant funding has been secured from DEEP to perform DNA testing of bacteria in Goodwives River. This bacteria affects the water quality of Pear Tree Point Beach and shellfishing beds in the Noroton Bay. A sampling site has been identified upstream of the ongoing Upper Gorham Pond dredging project. DNA testing goal will be to type the source of the bacteria that is found after it rains and represents a cooperative venture with two other health departments.
- **Public Pools** – All inspections complete, checked all season – every other week, 18 total pools. No issues or problems.

2. **Noise Complaint Investigation** – Background: there is a newly rebuilt home with elevated AC units which became a basis of a noise complaint. Darien Town Code directs the Health Department to evaluate and the Police Department to enforce State noise Standards. Noise levels were found to be exceeded per a third party engineer hired by the complainant. The Health Dept. contracted with an acoustical engineer who verified sound standards for the air conditioning units did in fact exceed maximum day and night levels. Discussions with other town permitting agencies are planned to prevent one agency from granting approvals for a situation that violates another department’s standards.

### 3. Food Protection Program update

- **Re-inspections** – Re-inspection fee adopted in July. Still, failures are occurring in some facilities. Re-inspections will be performed in salons as needed.

- **Channel 79 inspection video** – Channel 79 filmed an inspection being conducted in the Senior Center to demonstrate what inspectors look for and how the inspection process works. It is now available on-line .
4. **Health Fair 2015** – Planning Health Fair to be held at the Mather Center on October 21<sup>st</sup> 2:30-6:30 – broadening scope of exhibitors this year. 30 exhibitors expected –Aquarion, PT, YWCA. Whole foods and Palmers will do raffles and giveaways. Flu shots will be made available. Post 53 will also be onsite.
  5. **Fall Flu Shot Schedule** – Residents can make an appointment for receiving a flu shot with the Nurse using the on-line scheduler. Clinics are also scheduled: “Vote and Vax” on Election day, 3 additional clinics will be at the Senior Center and one offered at the Health Fair. 400 doses of vaccine have been available; of that 150 are high-dose targeted for seniors. Last year we administered 300 doses
  6. **Reportable Disease Summary 2014-15** – Same top 4 diseases for the past 3 years 1.) Influenza, 2.) Chlamydia 3. ) Hep C 4.) Lyme. Trends have been fairly even from past years.

7. **Other Business**

None, meeting adjourned 8:00 PM