

Advisory Board of Health Meeting Minutes

A special meeting of the Advisory Board of Health (ABH) was held on Wednesday, June 2, 2010, at 7:00 pm in room B-3 of Town Hall.

Members present: Kevin Cunningham, Chair; Mary Guimond, Clerk
Members absent: Dr. Jose Cara and Jennifer Geddes

Guests: David Knauf, Director of Darien Health Department

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chair Cunningham. Mr. Knauf provided a written report prior to the meeting and this report is attached to and incorporated into these minutes. A review of each item on the report ensued with some topics generating additional discussion, including:

Beach Water Sampling – Mr. Knauf has scheduled a meeting with Karl Kilduff and members of the Parks and Recreation Commission to discuss high bacteria levels found at Gorham’s Pond. Further evaluation is required to determine the type and possible source which is contributing to or causing these elevated levels.

Prescription Disposal Day – Coordination of many parties is required to implement Darien’s first prescription disposal day in October, including DEA and the Police Department.

Digital Health – Mr. Knauf expressed excitement about the testing of the Digital Health software program. Replacing Darien’s paper-based systems with this digitally-based system promises improved information access for the public as well as departmental time saving.

Emergency Preparedness – Mr. Knauf and Chair Cunningham anticipate the Health Department’s plan will be completed in the August timeframe.

At this time, Mr. Knauf was excused from the meeting. Chair Cunningham suggested that ABH meet with the Board of Selectmen to review ABH activities and discuss future projects. Ms. Guimond agreed to arrange such a meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted on June 3, 2010

Mary Guimond, Clerk

Advisory Board of Health

Date: Wednesday June 2nd, 2010
Meeting time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Town of Darien
Darien Town Hall Conference Room B-3 (Lower Level)



Keeping Darien Healthy

ABH Members: Kevin Cunningham, Mary Guimond, José Cara (apologies), Jennifer Geddes

AGENDA

Approval of Minutes - March 2010	Group
Health Department Update (<i><u>See Report Below</u></i>)	David Knauf
New Project Update (Pedestrian Safety)	Group

Food Service –

- Have issued 7 permits for new facilities in the past 3 months:
Harpers, Planet Pizza, Stop 'n Shop, Tasti D'Lite, The Goose, Whole Foods, Genji
- Plan reviews for 6 more facilities have been submitted:
Scena, Burgers, Shakes & Fries, Chipolte, Stop 'n Shop, Chunky Pam's, Drive Thru
- Have held four training sessions for 50 food handlers
- Held three hearings for establishments
- Conducted inspections of all seasonal facilities (snack bars at beaches, pools golf courses, farmers' market)
- Current with regular inspections.

Beach Water Sampling –

- Cooperated with Darien High School for an intern until the end of the school year to conduct daily water sampling at Weed and Pear Tree Point Beaches as well as Gorhams Pond to follow-up last year's study. The student is collecting samples, bringing them to the lab in Stamford and actually running the tests. As of today, we have advised the Parks Department that they may have to close part of Pear Tree to swimming at low / ebb tides.

Pools –

- There are nine facilities with a total of 15 public pools in Darien. Inspections of all pools will be completed with Permits issued by the end of this week.

Prescription Disposal Day –

- An unwanted/expired prescription and over-the-counter medication disposal day is being planned for Saturday, October 9th at Ox Ridge School.

Digital Health –

- Information from our current “system” has been imported to the new system in anticipation of going to “live testing” within the next week or two. New tablet laptop computers have been ordered.

Shellfish Regulations –

- Draft regulations were developed in 2004 but were never adopted. I have submitted them to Town Counsel for his review.

FOG –

- The “Fats, Oils & Grease” program becomes effective July 2011. This is a DEP regulation that requires food preparation facilities that are on public sewers to have effective grease removal equipment. We will cooperate with Public Works and the Building Department but will NOT be inspecting or approving the installation of these units. This applies to all 120+ food service facilities in Darien.

Budget –

- We will be very close to projected fee income (-8% with most of June remaining) and below budget in expenses. Significant cost savings have been realized by not hiring part time inspectors and reductions in “professional services.” In those two categories, we are well below what was budgeted by spending \$19,000 of \$63,000.

Emergency Preparedness –

- Meeting with consultants immediately prior to ABH meeting. Report to follow....

Respectfully submitted by David Knauf
June 2, 2010