

54 Meadow Street, 9th Floor • New Haven, Connecticut 06519 • 203-946-6999

Justin Elicker, Mayor • Maritza Bond, MPH, Director of Health

**Board of Health Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2023**

Present: Dr. Frank Mongillo, Dr. Darnell Young, Gregg Gonsalves, Dr. Alice Forrester

Absent: Dr. James Hadler, Heather Reynolds

Staff: Maritza Bond, Director of Health

Call to Order:

Dr. Mongillo called the meeting to order at 5:37pm.

Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Gonsalves moved to approve the minutes from March 8, 2023, Commissioner Young seconded.

Minutes were approved with no edits or objections.

Public Comments or Statements:

No members of the public.

Updates:

Director Bond presented the following status updates:

General and Situational Updates:

- State DPH Commissioner Manisha Juthani, MD visited the Health Department on March 17, 2023. Director Bond and Commissioner Reynolds were joined by

Justin Elicker, Mayor • Maritza Bond, MPH, Director of Health

department supervisors during the meeting. Supervisors presented their section initiatives and what they are currently working on. Director Bond gave the Commissioner a tour of The Department.

- The Department is winding down COVID-19 Public Health response efforts. May 11, 2023, is the end of the Federal Public Health Emergency Declaration for COVID-19.
 - COVID-19 surveillance will continue. The commitment to keep the public informed will continue but will now be a part of the general respiratory viral disease reporting.
 - The State Department of Public Health (DPH) will continue to recommend mitigation strategies primarily focused on preventing severe illness and death.
 - DPH has a public facing website that provides daily COVID-19 updates. The website will go down as of June 1, 2023, and will relaunch October 2023 providing weekly updates of viable respiratory diseases.
 - As of June 30, 2023, schools and daycares will not be required to report COVID-19 cases unless there is an outbreak.
 - DPH will be ending contracts with external partners as of June 30, 2023, this includes mobile and homebound vaccines.

Administration Updates:

- A workforce development consultant has been hired. The consultant has begun surveying all Department employees and will be finalizing a plan to provide workforce development training for staff in the near future.
- The Department is anticipating receiving over \$500,000 in funding from the State of CT opioid settlement funds.
 - A notice will go out to invite members of the public to attend a Board of Health meeting where Director Bond will present the plan of expenditures and allow the public to comment and ask questions.
 - A discussion ensued on possible initiatives that can be funded.
- Director Bond led a discussion on a charter revision proposal that was submitted by local advocates. The proposal looks to increase the number of Board of Health Commissioners to 9 and to explicitly list qualifications of the expertise of the individuals that sit on the board. Board members agreed that they will reply to the proposal as a Board.

CITY OF NEW HAVEN
Health Department



54 Meadow Street, 9th Floor • New Haven, Connecticut 06519 • 203-946-6999

Justin Elicker, Mayor • Maritza Bond, MPH, Director of Health

Commissioner Mongillo moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:20pm. Commissioner Gonsalves seconded it. The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.**

Attest:

Damaris Velez

Damaris Velez
Office Manager

05/03/2023

Date

05/10/2023

Approved:

James Hadler

James Hadler, Chair
Board of Health Commissioners

Date

