

TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

MEETING MINUTES September 17, 2020

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ATTENDEES:

BOARD MEMBERS: J. Picco, DDS, President; T. Hills, DVM, Vice President; J. Raftis, DO, FACEP; M. Hawley, RN, BSN; W. Standinger III, Legislator, E. Haray-Butcher MS, CHES; R. Kapur-Pado, DO; T. Nytch, DVM; K. Millar, CRNA

ABSENT: STAFF:

L. McCafferty, R.S., MPH, Public Health Director

Call to Order: 7:38 a.m.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST Laura Bennett, Public Health Educator

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

None

OLD BUSINESS

- Meeting Minutes: Minutes of July 16, 2020 meeting were sent electronically to members for review. Motion to approve minutes made by Mr. Millar, seconded by Ms. Haray-Butcher; all in favor, motion passed.
- Enforcements: Brief discussion of enforcements; consequences for repeat offenders; educating local businesses on importance of wearing masks per New York State executive order.

PRESENTATION

Ms. Bennett presented on Cancer Prevention in Action Program (CPiA)

- Funded by State Department of Health; goal is to assist communities in obtaining resources they need to lessen the burden of cancer.
 - Strategies: policy implementation, environmental change, health education.
 - Key components of grant: sun safety, cancer screenings, and HPV vaccine promotion.
 - Four Tioga County organizations have adopted sun safety policies, received sun safety items of their choice (shade structures, tents, sunscreen, etc.)
 - Trying to have organizations provide allocated paid time off for cancer screenings for employees.
 - Educating the community on importance of cancer screenings with media posts and piggybacking on dedicated cancer-awareness months.
 - Promoting HPV vaccination: addressing myths, educating on what age to receive, work with dental providers, movie screening of "Someone You Love."
 - To partner with schools, to educate kids' parents.

NEW BUSINESS

 Arrangements made with Credentialing Committee to verify credentials of Dr. Sarnicola and Dr. Kapur-Pado (completed biennially).

INFORMATIONAL

- Ms. McCafferty went over highlights from July and August Agency Reports
 - Kudos to Environmental Health on proactively working with Tioga Downs regarding their reopening..
 - Updated on education and training seminars for onsite wells and septic systems in the Hamlet of Richford, reviewing results of the survey.

c/o Tioga County Department of Health ~ 1062 State Rt. 38 ~ PO Box 120 ~ Owego, NY 13827



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- Dental Van reopened September 1st; received high marks on audit from insurance company.
- o Have saved over \$450,000 due to lack of Early Intervention services during COVID-19.
- o Submitted budget to Legislature.
- Ms. McCafferty gave status update on COVID-19.
 - 131 Days since start of COVID-19 State of Emergency. 926 individuals have been tracked in Tioga County (tracked = under order of quarantine [mandatory, precautionary, or isolation]).
 - At end of each day Tioga Public Health provides a report of daily COVID-19 numbers, this count reflects a snapshot of the data at that point in time.
 - Recently posted Community Spread press release; starting to see more spread due to community spread/mass gatherings, especially with colleges and universities opening.
 - Having issues with New York State contact tracing system: gaps, reporting issues, lack of communication with county health departments.
 - State requesting that local Health departments plan for Influenza and COVID vaccination clinics.
 - As schools reopen, Tioga Public Health has had increase in calls from school nurses about students presenting various symptoms.
 - Newly implemented New York State school dashboard reports attendance of school district and how many established reported cases.
- Open discussion regarding nursing homes: have opened visitation but must get tested within seven days of visit and provide that documentation.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 a.m.; Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa McCafferty. Minutes approved November 19, 2020:

Joseph Picco, DDS; President

Lisa C. McCafferty, R.S., MPA; Secretary