

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
May 9, 2013

Attendees: Scott Garrison, Rita Hart, Lynn Jones, George Kellner, Dr. Kevin Ketring, Jean Hicks, Cammie Mitrione, Jim Squires, and Mayor Doyle Webster

The minutes of April 11, 2013 were approved.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC/NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM AND NARCAN OVERDOSE RESUE KIT PRESENTATION

Mrs. Mitrione introduced Dr. Judith Feinberg, Professor of Medicine, University of Cincinnati. Dr. Feinberg talked about the effects and costs of diseases such as endocarditis, a bacterial infection in the blood, HIV and Hepatitis C that are being transmitted by the use of shared and dirty needles by drug users. She stated the Syringe Exchange Program (SEP) reduces the transmission of HIV, HepB and HepC and does not promote substance abuse. It does not lead to increase in crime and does not increase the use of IDU (intravenous drug use). It does increase enrollment in treatment programs. The needle exchange helps get used syringes out of public places. A person must bring in a used needle in order to get a new one. Naloxone kits are used to prevent a fatal overdose. Through the program they offer referrals to drug treatment programs, rapid tests for HIV, HepC and pregnancy. They offer safer sex materials and condoms, abscess and wound care education and linkage to medical care. In order to start the program in a community the Health Commissioner issues an emergency order stating intravenous drug use has become a public health emergency. The communities who have the program do not arrest or prosecute users in the vicinity of the SEP. Dr. Feinberg said Sheriff Neill Strong is a support of the program and the Mayor of Cincinnati but not the Cincinnati City Manager. HB 92 will authorize a syringe exchange based on public health need. There are two bills to support good samaritan use of naloxone.

Mayor Webster asked Chief Mathis if he thought we had an emergency. Chief Mathis stated there is not an emergency situation in the City of Springdale but there is a heroin problem in Cincinnati. Drug seizures have gone up greatly in the last few years. He reported they have found 2 needles in the public bathroom at the Police Department and others at Tri County town Center.

Heath Waxman, Fire Department, said they have calls for respiratory arrest. They see it at the mall, Extended Stay America. They have not been called into residential areas. He said people come from all over and this may be where they stopped. He said there is a risk when they search the pockets of these people. Chief Mathis said that is also a problem for the Police Department.

Mayor Webster asked what funds the City would need. Dr. Feinberg said the public health part is clear. She hopes to get public funding from Hamilton County. She said she has grant money to start and if Springdale wants to do this she'll use her own funds.

Neither the Health Commissioner nor the Board of Health wanted to make a decision about this without Council's approval. Mayor Webster asked Dr. Feinberg if she would make a presentation to Council and she responded that she would.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Mitrione reported the Health Department received \$893.38 in vital statistics funding. She said she tried to get the program here but was not able to get a machine.

HEALTH COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Mrs. Mitrione stated the Health Department participated in a Gastro Gambit exercise. She said, Jean, Ella and she set up an area in her office. They were given situations to which they responded via computer. They had to work through a foodborne illness outbreak.

Mrs. Mitrione reported the Children's Health Fair is next week. She said there will be a medical helicopter this year. The Health Department has a bean bag toss game used to educate about rabies.

The Princeton School/Ohio department of Education Summer Food Program will be held June 3 to June 21 this year. Children will be given an opportunity to eat breakfast and lunch at school. Springdale Offering Support supplements SOUL Ministries so they can give extra food to families with school age children.

Dolce Mio yogurt shop opened in the mall.

NURSE'S REPORT

Because of the time Mrs. Hicks cut her report. She did say that a person from The Colony who speaks Spanish will be coming to the Hispanic Coalition meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Cammie Mitrione, RS
Health Commissioner