

CONNECTICUT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Tuesday January 13, 2010

A meeting of the Executive Board of the Connecticut Environmental Health Association was held on Tuesday January 13, 2010 at the Wallingford Town Hall Wallingford, CT. The following voting members were in attendance: Scott Cook, Jennifer Eielson, Vicky Carrier, David Rogers, Sharon Antunes, John Deckert, Phyllis Amodio (12:30 P.M.), Eloise Hazelwood, Maryam Hosseini and Alessandra Litro (12:25 PM). Non-voting members present: Jessica Fletcher, Marco Palmeri and Don Mitchell. Guest: Ray Jarema, CT DPH

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 P.M. by President Scott Cook.

Approval of Agenda – President Cook noted that he would speak about Board vacancies during the Nominations & Elections report. Don Mitchell asked to speak about radon resistant construction during Workforce Development.

Motion by Sharon Antunes to approve the agenda as amended. **Second** by John Deckert. **Motion carried.**

President's Report – President Cook asked Eloise Hazelwood to report on the Governor's Council on Regionalization Public Health. She noted that the Council's report had just been released and most people have not had a chance to read it yet. The report is recommending that the qualifications for Director of Health in both municipalities and districts be made the same. Persons who have received a waiver from the Commissioner are allowed to remain in their position but cannot take that waiver elsewhere. Funding will be tiered based on whether and to what extent the health department meets the ten essential standards as defined by statute. She noted that DPH had assessed itself against the standards and given itself a score of "46". There is no definition as of yet as to what a "passing score" will be. Local health departments will be evaluated and score by DPH. Don Mitchell stated that CEHA should be represented on the Council when the evaluation process is being established.

President Cook has been contacted by NEHA to ask for help in promoting the NEHA AEC which will take place in Albuquerque, NM from June 6-9, 2010. It was agreed to provide NEHA with the CEHA mailing list and post information on the CEHA website. He has also updated the NEHA Affiliate information sheet with the names of the Officers of CEHA.

The Yankee Conference BOD has been sent official notice of the appointment of Joe Hock and Nancy Wheeler as CEHA representatives to the YC Board.

President Cook has been contacted by a student at McMahon High School who is doing a project on cleaning rivers of PCB by using nanotechnology. She is asking for input and comments from CEHA members on her project. President Cook will forward her e-mail to the Board.

Treasurer's Report – Sharon Antunes distributed a report for the period ending 12/31/09. She noted that the interest rate for the AEC account was very low (0.25%) so she will check around to see if a better rate can be had. Sharon also prepared and distributed a budget report for the first quarter of the CEHA fiscal year. This can be used to track income and expenses for budgeting purposes

Motion by Jennifer Eielson to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted. **Second** by Phyllis Amodio. **Motion carried.**

Secretary's Report - Approval of minutes.

Minutes of the December 2009 regular meeting were sent out to the members.

Motion by Eloise Hazelwood to approve the minutes as submitted. **Second** by Phyllis Amodio. **Motion carried.**

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education – Alessandra reported that the Disaster Field Manual Training will be done again by the YCPHP. She is not sure of the topics that will be covered and suggestions are still being taken. However since YCPHP is funding the entire training, the final decision will be theirs. Members suggested animal sheltering, mass feeding and setting up a mock dormitory. The training is likely to be in April or May.

She has received 71 responses to her survey on training needs. Top vote getters are environmental issues, legal issues and RS study assistance. There was another discussion about the state adopting the NEHA RS/REHS exam. President Cook will contact Ed Briggs, the NEHA Regional VP about this.

The series of training sessions with Judy Dicine is still pending and there may be something on Healthy Homes in the summer of 2010.

Legislative – No report

Membership – Maryam circulated 4 new member applications for approval. Renewals of memberships are still coming in and warning notices will be going out shortly. The revised CEHA membership brochure is almost done with only a few minor revisions to be made. Not all members have seen it however. The final version will be circulated before it is formally approved by the Board.

Nominations & Elections – Joe Hock was not in attendance. President Cook noted that there are still no nominees for the vacant positions on the Board. He urged everyone to seek out and nominate someone to fill the positions.

Publicity/Newsletter – David Knauf was not in attendance, however, photos of the Elected Officers were taken for the next Newsletter.

Scholarship & Awards – No report

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Housing/Lead & Summer Meeting – Marco noted that Healthy Homes is the new push at the federal level and there are many training opportunities available. For the Summer Meeting, he noted that the pavilion at Hammonasset must be reserved online. There is a \$50 charge.

Motion by Eloise Hazelwood to authorize Marco to reserve the location in late July or early August on a Thursday. **Second** by Jennifer Eielson. **Motion carried.**

Marco has been contacted by Fuss & O'Neill who would like to make a presentation on FOG/grease interceptors at the Summer Meeting. He will follow-up with them.

Food – Jessica Fletcher has been trying to recruit members for the Food Committee, but has not had much success. She would like to have some materials on the website for members to download and take into the field with them. She will prepare some samples and distribute them at the next meeting.

She also reported that the changes to CGS 19a-36 have been forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for an opinion, but nothing has been released yet. Most local health departments are continuing to do what they have always done, but there is no consensus.

SSDS - Don Mitchell discussed the forms needed to certify apprentice SSDS workers. The forms have added to the responsibilities of the LHDs, which is problematic. The issue will be discussed at the next Code Advisory meeting. The committee has also discussed repairs done under DEP jurisdiction, wastewater management districts and leaching credit for various products. He stated that no code changes are planned for 2010.

Water – No report

Policies & Procedures/Bylaws – Vicky Carrier reported that the committee met before the Board meeting and discussed a policy on advertising on the website, e-mail votes, the budget and an educational seminar report form. Some of these items will be ready for Board approval next month.

Eloise Hazelwood brought up the issue of guest attendance at CEHA meetings. She noted that guests should be CEHA members or non-members who are invited by the Board to present on a specific issue. For some time, Ray Jarema has been attending at the direction of DPH, but he is not a CEHA member. Ray was invited to join CEHA by several members, but he stated that he would have to do so at his own expense as DPH would not pay for his membership. President Cook will contact Suzanne Blancaflor about this.

OLD BUSINESS

Inventory – Lists of CEHA owned equipment have been compiled. Many items are old, outdated or not used anymore. There was a discussion about what should be done with those items. If some still have value, they could be sold or given to someone who would use them.

Motion – by Vicky Carrier to table any action on the items until the February meeting.

Second by Phyllis Amodio. **Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Workforce Development – Don Mitchell discussed a survey on continuing education needs being done by the Connecticut Partnership. Many of the topics on the survey are not related to environmental health and are not applicable to CEHA. Alessandra offered to forward the results of her survey to Don for his use.

Radon Resistant Construction – Don also reported that the Town of Portland has started a program to promote radon resistant new construction. He distributed a brochure on the program, which was funded by a DPH grant. He reports that there has been some progress in getting this done since the cost is relatively low when done at the time of construction.

Alessandra Litro leaves at 3:20 P.M.

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Eloise Hazelwood reported that she has recently conducted a survey of the number of food service establishment inspectors in various health departments and the number of establishments in each department. She will share the results of her survey once the data has been compiled.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 3:25 PM by Jennifer Eielson
Second by Phyllis Amodio. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,
David Rogers
Secretary
1/13/10 #1