



TOWN OF VERNON

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Daniel A. Champagne
Mayor

Michael J. Purcaro
Town Administrator

Dawn R. Maselek
Assistant Town Administrator

APPROVED MINUTES

Town of Vernon Recovery and Reopening Advisory Committee
Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 11:00 AM
Via Zoom Audio Teleconference

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Pauline Schaefer, Town Council Member; Shaun Gately, Economic Development Coordinator and Recovery Officer; James Kenny, Chief of Police; Attorney Lou Spadaccini; Dan Wasilewski, Fire Marshal; Andy Marchese, Zoning Officer; Steve Prattson, Building Official; George McGregor, Town Planner; Patrice Sulik, Director NCDHD; and Michael Purcaro, Town Administrator and Emergency Management Director for the Town of Vernon.

Members Absent: Julie Clay, Town Council Member; Bruce Kloter, President of Swiss Laundry; Russell DeBella, General Manager of Reins New York Style Deli Restaurant and Jeff O'Neill, Finance Officer.

Additional Attendees: Guest Speaker Dr. Alyssa Sexton, EMS Medical Officer for ECHN and Diane Wheelock, Recording Secretary.

Roll call was performed at 11:02 AM by Diane Wheelock

2. Public Comment

NONE

3. COVID-19 Incident Command Update

We are actively tracking expenses for Storm Isaias and COVID and we are nearing the threshold in Tolland County for access to federal funding. We are encouraging flu shots. This year will be even more challenging than years passed due to COVID. We are working to include flu shots at our testing facilities. All are welcome. Mr. Purcaro asked for questions or comments. None were offered.

4. Introduction of Dr. Alyssa Sexton, ECHN's EMS Medical Officer

Michael Purcaro introduced Dr. Alyssa Sexton, ECHN's EMS Medical Officer. Dr. Sexton shared her background and her experience both here and at her previous assignments. She is originally from the Detroit area. Detroit is the Opioid Capital and emergency rooms there are dealing with increased overdoses, COVID has made patients afraid to reach out to their health care providers and it has made

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it more difficult to treat. Also due to COVID isolation there has been an increase in Alcoholism related medical issues. Michael Purcaro asked if Dr. Sexton was aware that Tolland Dispatch is experiencing a decrease in 911 calls. Dr. Sexton acknowledge the decrease and shared that COVID has made people afraid to go to the hospital for treatment. We at ECHN are ready to assist the Town to get the word out about safety at the hospital and anything they can do, please ask.

5. Current Guidance and Orders

Shaun Gately, the Town of Vernon Recovery Officer shared Governor Lamont's latest Executive Order: 9C. This order amends the quarantine order for travelers. He also offered that the Town is continuing to issue permits for outdoor dining and waiving permit fees.

6. Local Recovery and Reopening Strategy

Patrice Sulik, Director of NCDHD updated the group that Opioid resource documents are being distributed to local hotels and motels relative to mental health stressors and options for those in need. Dr. Sexton offered to assist with distributing the resource information at ECHN if appropriate. Patrice also shared that now that students have returned to school she is happy to report that masks do not seem to be a problem for students at this time. The NCDHD continues to do contact tracing where appropriate as we see a slight up-tick in cases.

7. Next Steps

Michael Purcaro shared that this group would continue to meet weekly and continue to share information as it becomes available.

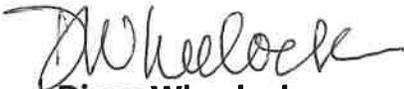
8. Approval of Draft Minutes of September 17, 2020

A motion was made by Council Member Schaefer and seconded by Dan Wasilewski to approve the September 17, 2020 minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Adjournment

A motion was made by Council Member Schaefer to adjourn at 11:32 AM seconded by Chief Kenny. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Diane Wheelock
Recording Secretary