# Town of Easton CHRISTINE HALLORAN Safety and Health Committee TOWN CLERK EASTON CT

Minutes
March 13, 2014 Meeting
Library Conference Room

Present: Bernadette Baldino, Bruce Bombero; Suzette Bryan, Terry Calgreen, Vicki Cram, Althea Falco, Jay Festa; Martin Ohradan, Kay Oestreicher; Gary Simone

First Selectman Adam Dunsby attended the meeting as did Matthew Lipp from CIRMA and one member of the public.

The meeting was called to order at 10:09 a.m.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: move to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2013 meeting as submitted. Oestreicher/Simone. Approved. Unanimous.

#### SUPERVISORS' REPORT OF ACCIDENTS

- 1. There were two reports of injury from Helen Keller Middle School that involved students in the BASES program and employees working with them. Employees working in this program receive ongoing training and work closely with the Center for Children with Special Needs to develop defensive practices to avoid injuries. Sometimes it just cannot be help. One employee, however, was bitten by a student. This raised discussion about employees being properly vaccinated for Hepatitis. Vicki Cram will work with the school nurses to make certain employees are up to date with their vaccinations and, if they are not, to get them properly vaccinated.
- 2. There were two reports of injury on EMS employees who were both exposed to various body fluids while transporting a combative patient. Both wore gloves and eye protection.
- An employee at Helen Keller Middle School tripped over a scooter during a gym class and pulled a
  hamstring. The scooter was part of the equipment being used for the gym class. No recommendation
  other than to be more aware of surroundings.
- 4. A Helen Keller Middle School employee tripped over her own clothing and fell on the outside sidewalk, bruising left hand and knee. There was no recommendation to be made other than for the employee to be more careful.
- 5. A Helen Keller Middle School employee fell on ice on sidewalk near parking lot. The sidewalk is maintained by an outside contractor. Matt Lipp suggested that Vicki get the name of the contractor for follow up.

Suzette Bryan reported that there were several reports of injury on town employees where she was waiting for forms, "Supervisor's Report of Accident – Part B." These injuries will be discussed at the next meeting.

There was general discussion about the "Supervisor's Report of Accident – Part B" form and how much of the information on Part B is already filled out on Part A. Supervisors and/or school nurses who fill out these forms do not have a clear understanding of how the forms are used and often write "see Part A" when they are completing Part B. A sub-committee was selected who will review the forms for possible revision to omit redundancy. The committee members are:

Bernadette Baldino, Suzette Bryan, Vicki Cram, Althea Falco, Matthew Lipp, and Kay Oestreicher. They will meet on Wednesday, April 22, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the Easton Library.

### OLD BUSINESS

There was continuing discussion about parking and traffic concerns at the building that houses the Senior Center, Parks and Recreation, Easton Country Day, ER9 Boards of Education, and the Speech Academy. Selectman Dunsby shared that Planning and Zoning is doing a parking lot survey and that there is money in the proposed budget for fiscal year 2014-2015 to address these issues. Once approved, work will begin on improving the parking areas and traffic flow.

There was also a suggestion that more frequent police visibility in the parking areas during the pickup and drop off times of Easton Country Day and the Speech Academy might help with speeding issues.

# NEW BUSINESS

Selectman Dunsby expressed his concern about the cost for Workers' Compensation insurance which is tied to claims experience. Matt Lipp said that it is important to complete First Reports of Injury on employees to protect the employee's rights. These reports often just become a matter of record and do not affect premiums.

Matt Lipp also suggested that the committee begin discussing and determining the 2014 goals. Once these goals are decided, they will be reviewed with the First Selectman for approval.

There was discussion about holding the Safety Committee meetings at different locations around town, in particular at the EMS Station or Firehouse to allow EMS personnel an opportunity to attend a meeting.

# PUBLIC COMMENT

The committee chair invited the member of the public to comment.

Bert Webbe, Maple Road, Easton: Commented that he is trying to attend as many town meetings as possible. He said that he appreciated the concerns that every committee member has.

# **NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, June 12, 2014 (location to be determined – possibly at the Easton Firehouse)

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion: move to adjourn the meeting. Falco, Calgreen. Approved. Unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Vicki Cram, Secretary

on called a 2 3.59

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