

NEEDHAM BOARD OF HEALTH

June 12, 2015

MINUTES

PRESENT: Stephen Epstein, M.D. Chair, Edward V. Cosgrove, Ph.D. Vice-Chair, Jane Fogg, M.D.

STAFF: Timothy McDonald, Tara Gurge, Maryanne Dinell, Alison Paquette, Carol Read, Anne Clark

Guests: Phil Droney, Needham Police Chief; Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager; and Christopher Coleman, Assistant Town Manager

CONVENE: 7:00 a.m. - Public Services Administration Building (PSAB), 500 Dedham Avenue, Needham MA 02492

DISCUSSION:

I. Call To Order - 7:10 a.m. - Dr. Epstein

II. Approve Minutes:

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the BOH meeting of May 8, 2015 were approved as submitted. The motion carried. Unanimous vote.

III. Environmental Health Agent Report - Ms. Gurge Gurge

The Environment Health Report included an update on the Animal Permit Plan Reviews, including a new permit that is needed for 2 mini horses and 7 chickens at 674 Webster St., Needham, MA. Mr. McDonald, Ms. Gurge, and Ms. Landry, animal control officer, have visited the property. The property owner has requested certified letters of support from her neighbors, as instructed. Two neighbors have written in support, so far. The horses are fenced in around the property. She has approximately 0.80 acres and is seeking a variance as she needs to have 1 acre lot per Needham regulation. She has 4 chickens and would like to have 7 chickens on site. The chickens are kept separately from the horses. Dr. Cosgrove indicated that he would like to wait for more neighbors to weigh in on the issue.

The Farmer's Market is going well. More vendors are expected to start selling at the market this weekend. The street fair last weekend for the Needham Business Association also went well.

The Final Inspection for the Trip Advisor world headquarters is scheduled for June 29. New Garden

restaurant inspections are likely to occur in July. As they are opening up in a new location, this is a good time to start fresh with inspections, training and re-training staff on regulations regarding serving alcohol to minors and over serving customers. French Press Bakery is to open week of June 15.

The majority of the pool permits have been issued for the season. Pre-operation water sample testing is pending at Rosemary Lake Pool. The Board agreed that an additional sample should be tested as well. Therefore, two tests for bacteria should be performed before opening day. The Board would like Ms. Gurge to look into testing for mercury and heavy metals as well.

IV. Bodyworks Regulations

Ms. Fitzpatrick spoke to the Board of Health regarding the draft bodyworks regulation. Ms. Fitzpatrick clarified that the CORIs would be performed by Christopher Coleman, Assistant Town Manager, and only accessible to authorized viewers. The initial plan would be for Mr. Coleman, Ms. Fitzpatrick, Mr. McDonald, and Chief Droney to be those authorized viewers.

The Town would keep the records, not the Public Health Department. The Police Department and the Town would like to control the hours of operation, to ease enforcement. The Board asked for a list of operating hours for similar type establishments, massage or spas, in the area to use as a basis for establishing hours of operation. Finally, the Town Manager Ms. Fitzpatrick and the Board of Health agreed that inspection would be a joint operation, between State inspectors, staff from the Public Health Department, and Needham Police officers.

Next steps in the development of the Bodyworks regulation will be to apply the above mentioned edits, have Town Counsel Dave Tobin review the revised draft, review local spa/massage hours of operation, have a public hearing, and ensure that the bodyworks practitioners are informed and invited to this meeting.

IV. Director's Report - Timothy McDonald

Mr. McDonald indicated that Needham was awarded a MA Department of Public Health (MDPH) mini-grant to fund the purchase of a replacement Sharps Disposal Kiosk at the

Town's Recycling and Transfer Station.

Mr. McDonald has also submitted a proposal to receive funding to develop plans and opening criteria for warming and cooling centers in the NC-7 area.

The technical support grant for the online concussion training documentation was funded by the MetroWest Health Foundation. The Public Health Department should receive the funding on July 1st. Mr. McDonald will work with Director of the Town's IT Department to start creating the IT solution.

Mr. McDonald is working with the Council on Aging to develop a speakers series for the fall focusing on wellness and healthy aging for the adult population.

The Council on Aging did not get the grant funding for social worker for the Center at the Heights. Mr. McDonald and Ms. Gutner are going to find out more about how they could have strengthened their application.

Mr. McDonald attended three-day Public Health Housing Inspector Training, and is completing the field experience portion of the training before being certified. He will be available to conduct Housing Inspections as a third or fourth option after Ms. Gurge, Mr. Flynn, and Ms. Carmichael.

V. Staff Reports

- **Traveling Meals Coordinator Report - Maryanne Dinell**

Ms. Dinell presented an update on meal deliveries. She is working on hiring part-time seasonal workers for Traveling Meals.

- **Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator - Carol Read**

The 2015 Needham Parent Survey is complete. It was a success as 839 people responded. Needham Public Health Department staff members are looking at the data now and a consultant will issue a report shortly.

Coalition members have created a sub-group focused on creating Healthy Communities, instead of just focusing on substance abuse. Parents are engaged in creating and maintaining healthy behaviors in all areas of life. They have an email group. Weekly or bi-weekly Tips are sent out to the group encouraging them to

engage their children in dialogue while they are young.

Ms. Read attended the Spring Symposium at BID Needham. ER screening could be a way to learn about youth interactions at the ER. Referrals are needed. Ms. Read is going to meet with the ER Head to share information and learn more about how the Public Health Department can help the ER.

The 2015 Needham Parent Survey is a companion to the 2014 MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey. The adolescent health survey data is very interesting and the interns and Mr. McDonald are working on creating summary data to present to the Board of Health soon.

The Community Forum was well received. Approximately 85 people attended the forum. There were excellent speakers and participation.

- **Public Health Coordinator Report- Anne Clark**

Ms. Clark researched local regulations developed in surrounding areas, such as Brookline, Northampton and Salem, for the latest development in Medical Marijuana Dispensaries. Salem's dispensary is now open. Ms. Clark spoke with the Health Director and Environmental agent in Salem: Both indicated that the city follows State regulations. No additional regulations have been passed. No food items are sold, as that would require food permitting. Brookline and Northampton will open by the fall, November time frame. Brookline is concerned about traffic flow in the Town. They are going to have ongoing community dialogue to ensure that safety, security and community needs are met. They will allow for home delivery from the cultivation site in Franklin, but not from Brookline, due to traffic congestion.

- **Public Health Nurses Report -Alison Paquette**

Ms. Paquette presented a brief report on communicable diseases and animal bites as well as an update on assistance programs, with a focus upon utility shut-offs and the town's Gift of Warmth account.

There was a bat that tested positive for rabies. A cat was exposed to the bat. The cat is going to spend three months in quarantine at the veterinarian's and three months in quarantine at its home. The bat did

not bite anyone. Dr. Fogg suggested that this might be an article of interest for the Health Matters column in the Needham Times. The article could cover items such as what to do when you or your pet is exposed to rabies? Where to go to get vaccinated? How to dispose of a dead animal? Animal Control Officer Danielle Landry might weigh in on this as well.

Summer camps are getting certified and inspected prior to opening up. Concussion awareness and training is being discussed.

VI. Brief Items of Interest

Needham Jr. Football and Cheer have been doing IMPACT testing for the past couple of years in the fall. The parents have been conducting the training with their own lap tops, to date. The WIFI hasn't worked very well and they would like to use the schools computers to do the testing this year. The superintendent is supportive of this. Custodial fees may need to be charged. This is a work in progress.

A new laboratory-grade vaccine refrigerator and a vaccine freezer were purchased with funds transferred from Salary Savings at Town Meeting. Currently in the Health Department office suite, there is only one electrical outlet tied to emergency back-up generators; Mr. McDonald will work with the Town's Public Facilities Department to have a second electrical outlet wired to back-up power for the new freezer.

July 1st, the funding starts for the IT infrastructure for Heads-up training database. We may need the Board's help to ensure that this work moves along smoothly. The program needs to be accessible to Needham public so they can log in, take the training, document the training, and keep the record in a local database. The Town's IT infrastructure may need to be modified to allow access to non-Town employees.

Sports leagues need to know about the status of the regulation and that the Public Health Department has secured funding for the database to be created. The Town may need to be pushed along in the process. A follow-up story with the Needham Times may help move the process forward.

Language restricting electronic delivery systems need to be added to the Tobacco Regulations to ensure that E-cigarettes are covered in the regulations, suggested Dr. Cosgrove.

MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey will be discussed at the next meeting.

Mr. McDonald would like the Board to consider allowing sanitation grades to be posted and electronic inspections, as opposed to paper, in the future. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

The Board agreed the next Board of Health meeting will be on July 29, 2015. Bodyworks public hearing will follow the Board of Health meeting on the evening of July 29, 2015. No meeting is planned for the month of August 2015.

Adjournment

Upon motion duly made and seconded, that the June 12, 2015 BOH meeting adjourn at 9:17 a.m. The motion carried. Unanimous vote.