

NEEDHAM BOARD OF HEALTH

July 29, 2016

MEETING MINUTES

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

STAFF: Timothy McDonald, Director, Donna Carmichael, Catherine Delano, Maryanne Dinell, Tara Gurge

GUEST: Kevin Mulkern, Aquaknot Pools, Inc., Keith Mulkern, Aquaknot Pools, Inc., David Friedman, Wingate, Paul Humphreys, Michael Tomasello, Callahan, Inc.

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

DISCUSSION:

Call To Order - 7:06 a.m. - Dr. Cosgrove, Chairman

APPROVE MINUTES:

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the BOH meeting of June 17, 2016 were approved as submitted.

The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Timothy McDonald

Mr. McDonald's report for June 2016 included an update on the Healthy Aging Through Healthy Design Project. Mr. McDonald stated that he expects to have a final report, in draft form, available for the Board's consideration by Monday, August 8. He added that the Board of Selectmen would receive a presentation on this project in early September. Mr. McDonald stated the project includes information from the Qualitative Assessment with 21 Key Informant Interviews, Four Focus Groups, a Regulatory Design Review, a Quantitative Survey, and Research and Best Practices. Mr. McDonald stated that findings show that seniors want to stay in Needham but many cannot because of either fiscal constraints or physical movement within their homes. Mr. McDonald stated that the town might want to consider ways to help people to modify their homes so they can stay in their homes.

Mr. McDonald reported on water safety at the Hillside Elementary School. He reported that more extensive water quality testing of all drinking water sources in the Needham Public Schools was conducted in mid-June and returned a clean bill of health for every Needham Public School with the exception of Hillside

Elementary School. Two samples at the Hillside Elementary School did test above the EPA action-level of 15 parts per billion on the initial sample but were found to be slightly below the EPA action-level on the second sample (the one taken following a 30 second flush). Mr. McDonald pointed out that this highlights the importance of having "fresh" water to consume (that is, not water which has been sitting overnight in a water fountain or sink faucet). Mr. McDonald has held several informational meetings for parents of the Hillside School community who nevertheless remain very concerned.

STAFF REPORTS

- **Public Health Nurses Report - Donna Carmichael, RN & Alison Paquette, RN**

Ms. Carmichael presented a brief review on communicable diseases and animal bites. Ms. Carmichael reported on one situation with a bat exposure. She expressed concern about not receiving reports from Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital in Needham and Newton-Wellesley Hospital.

Ms. Carmichael stated that she had a follow-up visit with a family in Needham whose house was damaged by fire. She stated that she worked with the Fire Department and the Red Cross in getting the family shelter.

Ms. Carmichael reported on the number of sunscreen dispensers that have been placed throughout the town.

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

Ms. Dinell report included an update on meals deliveries and the contract with Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital Needham. Dr. Cosgrove asked if there would be a price increase. Ms. Dinell stated that there will be no increases this year, but an increase will occur next year.

Mr. McDonald stated that Traveling Meals delivered 21% more meals this year. He added that this was due to Ms. Dinell's retaining very dedicated volunteers, as well as being responsive to non-traditional situations. Mr. McDonald stated that the program is for clients that truly have a need but allows for flexibility. He added that in July the Traveling Meals program provided meals to two young residents who had a very challenging situation and did not have regular food access. A brief discussion followed.

- **Environmental Health Agents Report - Tara Gurge**

Ms. Gurge reported that Volante Farms had closed its doors after the 4th of July weekend because of a strong odor. The odor came from a product that was used by a contractor for

an exterior floor application but was applied as an interior application. The farm opened in a limited capacity mid July and returned to full capacity the end of July.

Ms. Gurge reported on two emergency calls that the Fire Department had received for two restaurants, Sweet Corner and Not Your Average Joe's. Ms. Gurge stated that Sweet Corner experienced a malfunction in their freezer unit that caused a small fire and minimal damage. Not Your Average Joe's experienced a malfunction with one of their wood fire ovens. Ms. Gurge stated that she conducted follow-up inspections for each restaurant.

Ms. Gurge also reported that she received a call from the Fire Dept. to inspect a home on Pershing Road due to housing concerns. Ms. Gurge added that an inspection was conducted with the Building Department and an Order Letter was sent. She is still working with the resident and will conduct a follow-up inspection.

Ms. Gurge reported on the Pool Plan Reviews for Wingate and Rosemary Pool. Ms. Gurge stated that the Wingate Pool Plan Review is still in process. Ms. Gurge presented a brief overview on what the project would entail.

- **Senior Substance Use Prevention Coordinator – Catherine Delano**

Ms. Delano's reported on the Poster Campaign project and her work with Mr. McDonald on the budget for the Drug Free Communities (DFC) grant. Ms. Delano stated that some of the funding from this grant would be used to hire an intern who will also work in a part-time capacity.

Ms. Delano stated that the conversation continues with the MetroWest Adolescent Survey questions in terms of getting more questions on the bi-annual survey, specifically about access to marijuana and edibles.

Ms. Delano reported that Kerrie Attwood, a Social Worker from the Needham Council on Aging, contacted her to speak to the Council on Aging in September on substance use by older adults.

Mr. McDonald stated that the Superintendent of Needham Public Schools has withdrawn his commitment to administer the MetroWest Adolescent Survey to grades 6-12. Mr. McDonald stated that by withdrawing his commitment continued funding from the State is in jeopardy. After some discussion, Mr. McDonald stated that if the Public Health Department does lose the grant the Board would need to

involve the Finance Committee and the School Committee on next steps.

PROPOSED PLASTIC BAG BAN - Christopher Thomas, Needham Resident

Mr. McDonald stated that this issue will be discussed during the Annual Town Meeting. Christopher Thomas wanted to learn more about what the Public Health Department's role is on this matter. Mr. McDonald stated he invited Mr. Thomas to present his ideas to the Needham Board of Health. Mr. Thomas was not present for the discussion. Mr. McDonald will reschedule this discussion item.

BOARD OF HEALTH PUBLIC HEARING - 7:45 a.m.

POOL PLAN REVIEW

Ms. Gurge summarized the details of the New Pool Plan Review for Wingate. She stated that Wingate would like to install a 4' indoor swimming pool in their new building. Part of the swimming pool design includes an alcove area that contains a treadmill. Ms. Gurge described the setup of the treadmill. She reported on the State regulations governing safety regarding this request. Ms. Gurge stated that, in order to allow the treadmill to be installed in the pool, a variance is needed. A discussion followed on the design of the treadmill, which is in a strictly designated area, not electronically powered, but hydraulically powered. A discussion also followed on the design elements of the pool.

Motion and Vote

Stephen Epstein moved and Edward Cosgrove seconded the motion to approve the variance as outlined in the Pool Plan Review for Wingate.

The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. McDonald stated that the Board should consider staffing ratios. He explained that although it is appropriate if the physical therapist is in the pool supervising a person on the treadmill, it is not appropriate if someone is swimming in the pool while the physical therapist is supervising someone on the treadmill. Mr. Friedman stated that the Aquatic Director will have lifeguard certification and would oversee the general pool area. He added that anyone working on the treadmill would be under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist.

Ms. Gurge point out that the only other issue with this Pool Plan is decreased water flow. Ms. Gurge noted that Wingate has agreed to put in additional water supply and return outlets, which will increase the water flow.

Mr. McDonald stated that he and Ms. Gurge would work with a representative from Wingate to draft a detailed variance for the Board's review to ensure its alignment to what the Board has agreed to, which would then be forwarded to the State.

Motion and Vote

Edward Cosgrove moved to amend the previous vote. Jane Fogg seconded the motion. Edward Cosgrove moved to approve the variance as outlined in the Pool Plan Review for Wingate subject to a review of the draft that Mr. McDonald and Ms. Gurge will prepare.

The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

PROPOSED NEW OR AMENDED BOH REGULATIONS:

Body Art, Synthetic Drug and Drug Paraphernalia

Mr. McDonald presented a brief update on the regulations for Body Art Establishments and Practitioners, Restriction of Synthetic Drugs, and Restriction of Drug Paraphernalia. Mr. McDonald pointed out that the regulations include all changes as discussed by the Board at the June meeting. Mr. McDonald stated that a Case for Change Memo has been prepared for each regulation. He also stated that the Public Comment period has been extended to early September. The Board would review, discuss and vote on this item at the September meeting.

BOARD POLICY POSITIONS -

The discussion included a conversation on the Registered Marijuana Dispensary (RMD) located at 29-37 Franklin Street. Mr. McDonald presented a map of the surrounding area. Mr. McDonald pointed out that this area encompasses the entire buffer zone, which, is 1000 ft. Discussion continued on the mixed-use overlay that was voted on by Town Meeting, May 2016 He spoke about his meeting with Chris Coleman and Lee Newman relative to the Board's concerns. A brief discussion followed on the buffer zone and the Board of Health's role regarding the variance. The Board will continue the discussion on this matter with the Board of Selectmen at their September meeting on September 19.

Mr. McDonald stated that the Board of Selectmen would like to discuss the consolidation of the Public Health Department into a Health and Human Services Department. A brief discussion followed regarding support for this plan. Mr. McDonald stated that funding for the DSR4 second Environmental Health Agent position will be on the Special Town Meeting Warrant in October.

OTHER ITEMS

Mr. McDonald presented an update on the Park and Recreation Commission's decision, relative to the Rosemary Pool design, to cancel the 2017 swimming season at Rosemary Lake. Mr. McDonald

noted that based on the information Ms. Gurge had sent to them the Board might agree with their decision.

Mr. McDonald briefed the Board on efforts to create an additional Revolving Account to fund substance use activities. Mr. McDonald explained some of the obstacles he faces regarding this initiative.

Mr. McDonald outlined a list of items he is preparing for the Board's consideration. These include the Healthy Aging Final Report draft, the Case Study on purchasing Narcan from pharmacies, and a revised map of the overlay mixed-use district.

Mr. McDonald stated he has hired a part-time intern to assist with additional research on traffic emissions. Mr. McDonald also stated that Somerville has a draft ordinance on set back requirements on roads. Mr. McDonald described a few of the setback requirements. He stated that he is looking to get the working materials they used in developing the draft ordinance.

Mr. McDonald reported on the bids received for developing the concussion database. He noted that the bids came in too high for the budget. Dr. Epstein stated he would contact his Information Technology regarding their ability to take on this project.

Mr. McDonald stated that, working with the Community Council he has applied to the Cardinal Health Foundation for the Medication Disposal Grant. This is an award of \$25,000 to work on disposal and signage. Ms. Delano and her team will be working on this project.

Dr. Epstein spoke about the Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital Needham, Community Health Grant. The grant award is \$1,500 and would go to the FRIENDS of Needham Public Health to support Traveling Meals.

Dr. Fogg stated that the practice she started 12 years ago will be become part of Atrius Health in October.

Dr. Cosgrove stated that at the last meeting of the Mass Association of Health Boards he was elected to the Executive Board.

Adjournment -

Upon motion duly made and seconded, that the July 29, 2016 BOH meeting adjourn at 8:45 a.m. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Next meeting is scheduled for, Friday, September 9, 2016

Respectfully submitted: Cheryl Gosmon, Recording Secretary

