

NEEDHAM BOARD OF HEALTH
June 16, 2017
MEETING MINUTES

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

STAFF: Timothy McDonald, Director, Maryanne Dinell, Tara Gurge, Carol Read, Dawn Stiller

GUEST: Chris Coleman, Assistant Town Manager

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

DISCUSSION:

Called To Order - 7:05 a.m. - Jane Fogg, Chairman

APPROVE MINUTES:

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the BOH meeting of May 12, 2017, were approved as amended.

The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Timothy McDonald

Mr. McDonald noted that Donna Carmichael is teaching the last CPR course for FY17 this morning. Catherine Delano is on vacation.

Mr. McDonald provided a brief update on the Environmental Health Agent position. He stated that his office had received over 148 applications. He also stated that he is pleased with the pool of applicants. Interviews would begin in a week. He described the interviewing process which would conclude with the Board meeting the preferred candidate.

Mr. McDonald updated the Board on second round interviews for the Public Health Nurse position. Mr. McDonald noted that this is the second attempt to fill this position. He spoke about the interviewing process. He stated that the interviewing team had reached consensus on a final candidate. Next steps involve checking references as well as a meeting with the Town Manager.

Mr. McDonald reported that the Program Coordinator position for the Council on Aging is filled. A job offer has been presented to the candidate. Mr. McDonald reported that the Assistant

Director position for the Council on Aging has posted. He stated that the Director of Youth and Family Services position has not posted. Mr. McDonald described changes to this position that will require input from additional town departments.

STAFF REPORTS

- **Public Health Nurses Report - Timothy McDonald reporting for Donna Carmichael**

Mr. McDonald presented a summary of the Public Health Nurses Report from Ms. Carmichael. The report included information on a case of ehrlichiosis associated with a 73-year-old male, a case of mumps associated with a 32-year-old female, and a case of pertussis associated with a 15-year-old male. The Board had a few questions regarding this information. A general discussion followed.

Mr. McDonald noted that summer camp applications have been submitted and are in the process of being reviewed for final approval. He added that there are approximately ten camps in all with a start date of June 26, 2017.

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

Ms. Dinell reported that the summer program would begin on June 26, 2017. She stated that the four women who had been hired last year reapplied and have been hired again for the summer season. Ms. Dinell reported that meal delivery is pretty steady. She noted that each month one or two clients are added to the program and in some cases one or two drop off. She stated that the clients that are on the program really need the service.

Mr. McDonald spoke about challenges regarding the affordability units at the Wingate Residences and access to meal plans for this population of residents. He stated that he is working with the Town to encourage a \$25/per day meal plan that would give access to meals with neighbors and encourage community engagement for this group. A general discussion followed.

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

Ms. Gurge reported on demolition reviews and approval. She noted that there were 17 demolition sign-offs for May. The Board had questions relative to the approval process and how new construction relates to the Large House Review Study Committee's recommendations. The conversation veered to a discussion on renovations and accessory dwelling units.

Ms. Gurge reported on an emergency call from the Needham Fire Department for assistance regarding an indoor air quality

concern in one of the units at the Charles River Landing. She stated that measurements of the air quality were taken and the tenants of the unit were evacuated. Ms. Gurge stated that her follow-up with building maintenance revealed a faulty water heater that was not venting properly. Ms. Gurge coordinated that replacement of the water heater and assisted with ensuring that the occupants had an alternate place to stay while the repairs were being made to their unit. Ms. Gurge reported that a follow-up inspection was conducted.

Ms. Gurge reported on the seasonal Farmer's Market food permit requests. She stated that with the assistance of the Public Health Intern, inspections were conducted on May, 28th and June 4th, and that inspection will continue each Sunday until the end of August.

Ms. Gurge reported on Food Plan Reviews for the #77A Street Café (Shark Ninja) and the Reveler Craft Beer Retail Store, and noted both Reviews had been approved. Ms. Gurge reported that a Food Plan Review for Goldberg's Deli and Grill is ongoing. She described some of the challenges associated with this review. The discussion veered to a conversation on preliminary plans regarding a new restaurant opening on Chestnut in the old Not Your Average Joes site and changes to the old New Garden site which will be the new home for the Crafts Beer Retail Store.

Ms. Gurge provided a brief update on three new Mobile Food Truck Plan Reviews for Dining Car, Capriotti's, and Rice Barn. Ms. Gurge described where the trucks would be located and explain that Mobile Food Trucks would use this space on a rotating bases. Ms. Gurge stated that she is working with Sandy Cincotta from the Town Manager's Office who is forwarding Mobile Food Truck applications to her for review. Ms. Gurge spoke about some of the challenges that have surfaced regarding this process which has resulted in some confusion for the vendors. Ms. Gurge stated that she has met with the Selectmen who have agreed to include the Health Department's checklist in the packet that is distributed to Mobile Food Truck vendors. A brief discussion followed. Ms. Gurge described the process for obtaining a Temporary Food Event Permit as well as Seasonal Food Permit and the differences between the two.

Ms. Gurge updated the Board on field flooding at Volante Farm and the West Street Pump Station. Ms. Gurge stated that a site visit was conducted by the new Animal Control Officer and Emergency 10-Day Beaver Trapping permits were issued to mitigate the Beaver population at both sites. Ms. Gurge stated that five Beavers were caught at the Volante Farm location and

the flooding has subsided. Ms. Gurge noted that the Conservation Commission is also in the loop.

Ms. Gurge referred to the pool inspections report. She stated that the request for a variance for having no lifeguards on site at the Rosemary Ridge Condominiums might not be needed. The complex is in the process of securing a certified lifeguard. This request is ongoing.

- **Substance Abuse Prevention and Education - Carol Read**

Ms. Read reported that the Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative (SAPC) invited alcohol licensees to a TIPS (Training for Intervention Procedures) training and certification. She stated that of the four town collaboration, (Needham, Dedham, Norwood, and Westwood) ninety people registered for the event, 59 attended. Ms. Read noted that of the twenty-six licensees in Needham, eight businesses attended. Ms. Read noted that the TIPS Trainer has a four hour off site package store training. Ms. Read recapped survey questions and findings on alcohol related concerns that participants were asked at the training. She stated that the training was a good start and will open the door to doing more in the future.

Mr. McDonald stated that the Board of Selectmen is considering changes of licensure to the managers of licensed establishments and requiring the Licensees to be TIPS certified.

Ms. Read shared information on the Alcohol Task Force, which was appointed by State Treasurer Deborah Goldberg. Ms. Read stated that the Task Force has participated in hearings around the state. Ms. Read and her prevention colleagues have testified at hearings on known data and strategies to reduce excessive alcohol use, such as binge drinking, underage drinking, and drinking during pregnancy.

Ms. Read reported that she, Ms. Carmichael and Ms. Delano have been attending the monthly Crisis Community Intervention Team (CCIT) meetings. She added that the meetings are focusing on supporting Needham residents. Ms. Read spoke about the support the CCIT has received from Katherine Davidson, BIDN, CNO. Ms. Read spoke about data the group received from Newton-Wellesley Hospital regarding Needham residents in need of Mental Health Services and substance use prevention services. A brief discussion followed. Ms. Read shared that there are six Needham Officers trained in the CCIT model. She shared an update on the work they do.

opened from the previous meeting)

Bodyworks Regulations

Dr. Fogg resumed the discussion on revisions to Article 19, "Regulation Governing the Practice of Bodyworks." Dr. Fogg referred to changes discussed at a previous meeting that has been incorporated in the draft document. Dr. Fogg also revisited the administrative requirements. The Board engaged in a lengthy discussion on the proposed revisions. This is the second Public Hearing. After an extensive conversation on proposed changes, it was determined that the proposed regulations will require more time and research.

Motion and Vote

Upon motion duly made by Jane Fogg, and seconded by Edward Cosgrove, that the Needham Board of Health close the Public Hearing on Regulation Governing the Practice of Bodyworks at 8:38 a.m.

The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Tobacco Regulations

Dr. Fogg resumed the discussion on revisions to Article 1, "Regulation Affecting Smoking and the Sale and Distribution of Tobacco Products in Needham." Mr. McDonald outlined proposed recommendations to the current tobacco regulations. A brief discussion followed.

Motion and Vote

Upon motion duly made by Edward Cosgrove, and seconded by Stephen Epstein, that the Needham Board of Health Approve revisions to Article 1, "Regulation Affecting Smoking and the Sale and Distribution of Tobacco Products in Needham" as amended.

The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

CONCUSSION TRAINING AND WEBSITE

Mr. McDonald provided an update on his conversations with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) regarding concussion training and website. He stated changes made by the CDC to the Public Health Department's module. Dr. Epstein asked if the CDC would be will to give Needham their old system. Mr. McDonald replied that it is possible. Dr. Epstein stated that he would like something online as soon as possible. Mr. McDonald will contact the CDC regarding the Board's interest.

**RESIDENT CONCERNS ABOUT HEALTH IMPACT OF UTILITY WORK
(Electrical Line EMF & Cellular RF)**

Dr. Fogg noted that she will meet with Marianne Cooley, Chairman of the Needham Board of Selectmen after the meeting regarding the Board of Health's opinion on risk or lack of risk regarding this matter. Dr. Fogg thanked Ms. Tara Gurge, Assistant Public

Health Director for her excellent on this issue. A brief discussion followed. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that there is enough concern to warrant more studies. Dr. Epstein stated that he would be helpful to review the dispersion patterns per the Radiation Standards. The Board's discussion also included establishing frequency guidelines that could be modeled after the guidelines established in San Francisco. Dr. Epstein noted that research does not exist regarding harmful exposure to human health. The Board discussed the benefit of hiring an outside expert. Mr. McDonald will compose a letter to Kate Fitzpatrick based on the Board's review of documents, which the Board has determined does not deem to be a public health threat. Also that the Board is suggesting the hiring of an outside expert.

OTHER ITEMS

- Mr. McDonald provided an update about the Needham resident on Riverside Street. He stated that there is some progress regarding his six properties. The property on Highland Terrance has been sold and has been demolished.
- The RTS Superintendent and the Director of Public Works asked for permission to use a new technology in their composting. Mr. McDonald stated that because the request is not expanding the volume of materials or the type of materials he gave approval on behalf of the Board. He also stated that the Board would like to see a presentation by the Public Works Department on the operation of this process by the end of the next fiscal year. Mr. McDonald added that if composting could be done without attracting pets, the Board should hold a public hearing and modify the RTS Operation's Permit rather than having an additional pilot project. Dr. Epstein expressed concerns about the off gas. Mr. McDonald stated that he would send the Board information on the gas capture mechanism.
- Mr. McDonald spoke briefly about plans to develop a detailed assessment of fees charged by other departments. He stated that that fees would not be changed this year but would be changed next winter.

ADJOURNMENT -

Motion and Vote

Upon motion duly made and seconded, that the June 16, 2017, BOH meeting adjourn at 9:05 a.m.

The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Next meeting is scheduled for, Thursday, July 27, 2017

Respectfully submitted: Cheryl Gosmon, Recording Secretary