



**Town of West Boylston**  
140 Worcester Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583

## **The Board of Health Meeting Minutes**

<b>Date / Time / Location of Meeting</b>	<b>12-14-2021 / 6:00pm / Conference Room 120 at Town Offices</b>
	<b>Meeting available to view at <a href="https://www.westboylston-ma.gov/wbpa-public-access-tv">https://www.westboylston-ma.gov/wbpa-public-access-tv</a></b>
<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Robert Barrell, John Sullivan, Tracy Gagnon, Michaun Fowler</b>
<b>Members Not Present</b>	
<b>Guests</b>	<b>None; note that Karyn Clark was not able to attend this meeting.</b>
<b>Welcome – Call to Order</b>	<b>Time: 6:00 pm</b>
<b>Approval of Previous Minutes</b>	<b>November 16, 2021 meeting minutes, reviewed via email by members, were approved and signed.</b>
<b>11-16-2021 Minutes - Motion to Approve</b>	<b>Dr. Sullivan</b>
<b>Motion Seconded</b>	<b>Ms. Fowler</b>
<b>Result</b>	<b>Approved unanimously.</b>

### **Board of Health Complaint Response**

For the record, Mr. Barrell read the email response from the MA Attorney General's office to the complainant, Cara Cullen, dated 12-03-2021.

- **COVID-19 Update**

Mr. Barrell invited discussion on the current mask requirements. Dr. Sullivan detailed information from a recent report of cases in Worcester County, noting a 92 percent increase in positive COVID cases in just 14 days. He also noted that the majority of cases resulting in death were those of persons over the age of 65, yet the vaccination rate of this age group in West Boylston is very good and a protective factor. He provided various other data related to increases in COVID cases, including the recent uptick of positive cases in West Boylston.

A Mobile vaccine clinic may soon be scheduled to take place at one of the Town Schools, but there is no definite information at this time.

It was requested that the Board Administrative Assistant post on the Board's webpage, information on vaccine clinics taking place in other towns in the area.

The Public Health Nurse who is subcontracted to handle West Boylston's public health needs has agreed to continue contact tracing, as the State has eliminated the Community Tracing Collaborative, and all contact tracing has been assumed by local Boards of Health, beginning 12-01-2021. \$14,000.00 will be available through the city of Worcester for Contract Tracing. It

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was noted that funding for COVID related needs may also be available through the American Rescue Act.

Covid Test Kits – the Board was informed yesterday that it will be receiving an estimated 1098 self-administered test kits via Worcester, with two tests per kit, to be distributed to the highest at-risk low-income residents, including the homebound, group homes, housing authorities, and elder services.

- **CMRPHA Reports (Local & Regional)**

Mr. Barrell provided a summary of Local inspections completed since the last report by Julie VanArsdalen and Micah Blondeau. The inspectors continue to follow up on complaints related to mask violations.

There was no new CMRPHA report received this month.

- **Bill approval, Financial report**

Ms. Lee provided a brief summary of the most recent financial report, noting invoices received since our last meeting. She noted that the account balance is lower than it typically has been in past years at this time, however not all 2022 permit applications have been received.

- **Office report**

Ms. Lee noted no significant changes in the Title 5 report since last month. She reported that the sewer hook-up for 45 and 49 Central Street seems to be moving forward, however there still seems an unresolved boundary issue between the two lots.

Ms. VanArsdalen has been reviewing permit applications and Mr. Barrell asked the Board to approve her signing the permits to help facilitate the process. The Board agreed, and stated that there is no need to vote to approve her signing permits.

**Body Art Regulations clarification**

In relation to our Body Art Regulations, Ms. Lee asked for additional clarification around the hours for Body Art Practitioner and Piercing Practitioner. It was suggested that Ms. VanArsdalen be consulted regarding Worcester's regulations, and perhaps consult with ZAZA Ink about what is included in training for these two disciplines.

- **Other business**

Regarding the recent Tobacco Sales violation –

Ms. Lee asked the Board for a decision around the \$1000.00 fine levied by the Tobacco Inspector for sale of products not allowed by the regulations. The Board agreed that a warning is sufficient and a fine shall be issued for any further violations.

They also suggested that we request the Tobacco Control officer meet with the proposed new owner to educate him on the regulations. The proposed new owner of the establishment is meeting with the Select Board at their next meeting to approve the transfer. The Board asked that Ms. Lee send the recent violation documentation and the Police report for sale of controlled substance at this business to the Select Board at the request of Chris Rucho, Select Board Chair.

- **Board member resignation**

Michaun Fowler announced that she is resigning from her position on the Board, effective after tonight's meeting, due to personal reasons, noting her time with the Board has been a great opportunity.

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**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

<b>Motion Originator</b>	<b>Ms. Fowler</b>
<b>Motion Seconded</b>	<b>Ms. Gagnon</b>
<b>Result</b>	<b>Approved unanimously</b>
<b>Time of Adjournment</b>	<b>6:27 pm</b>

**Signatures**

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Robert J. Barrell, MPA, Chairman

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John Sullivan, MD

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Tracy Gagnon, MEd

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Michaun Fowler, BSM

<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Margaret Lee</b>
<b>Date Submitted:</b>	<b>01-12-2022</b>

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