



MEETING MINUTES BOARD OF HEALTH

August 16, 2023

140 Worcester Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583

In accordance with the provisions of MGL 30A §§ 18-25

Approved 3.13.24

Date/Time/Location of Meeting:

8.16.23.2024/6:00pm/Town Offices

Members Present:

John Sullivan, Robert Barrell, Tracey Gagnon, Thomas Mullins, Christopher Whelan

Members Absent:

None

Other Attendees:

Soloe Dennis, Director of Public Health CMRPHA, Amelia Houghton, Public Health Nurse, Cherry Tangri, Public Health Prevention Specialist, Karina Scott, Shared Services Coordinator, Jessica Prichard, BOH Admin. Asst.

Call to Order

Chair Sullivan called the West Boylston Board of Health meeting of Wednesday, August 16, 2023 order at 6:00pm. All boards members were present.

Review and sign Board of Health Minutes

Chair Sullivan made a motion to accept and sign the minutes of June 14, 2023. Ms. Gagnon seconded. Vote 5 to 0. Motion carried.

Smoking Regulations

Chair Sullivan asked the members if they review the Smoking Regulations received by email prior to the meeting and if any members had any concerns with the document. He asked for a motion to accept the Smoking Regulations.

Ms. Gagnon made a motion to accept the Smoking Regulations. Dr. Mullins seconded the motion. No discussion. Vote 5 to 0. Motion carried.

Mr. Dennis, Director of Public Health CMRPHA asked for an update on the public hearing for the Smoking Regulations, asking if a date was set, legal ad published, and retailer made aware of the hearing.

The public hearing process and procedures were discussed. It was determined that the hearing would take place during a regular schedule Board of Health meeting at 6:30pm. The legal notice is required to be published 14 days prior to the hearing date and retailer will receive letter from the office. The public hearing will take place in October.

Cherry Tangri, Public Health Prevention Specialist asked the Board review the Tobacco Sales definitions as there are some that are in conflict with the Town's Smoking Regulations definitions. She stated that enforcement could be challenged if the definitions are not the definitions are not consistent in both documents.

After a discussion. A motion was made

Mr. Whelan made a motion to adopt the Tobacco Sales definitions as discussed into the Town's Smoking Regulations. Ms. Gagnon seconded. No further discussion. Vote 5 to 0. Motion carried.

Chair Sullivan informed members that he and Soloe Dennis, Director of Public Health CMRPHA met with the Jennifer Warren, West Boylston Town Administrator and made an agreement that the Town will receive monthly updates from the Alliance.

Central Massachusetts Regional Public Health Alliance Updates

Nursing Updates

Amelia Houghton, Public Health Nurse introduced herself to the board and stated that she along with Regional Nurse Mollie will be serving West Boylston. She is reaching out to the Senior Center for input on needs and desired clinics. She would like to have blood pressure clinics. She hopes to have a Health Fair in the Fall at the Senior Center. And set up outreach programs. Ms. Houghton stated the nurses can work with the schools on flu clinics and other programs. Ms. Houghton concluded stating that the nursing program can provide outreach and presentation/information sessions, concluding that the nursing services are open to ideas on how to best serve.

Local and Regional Updates

Karin Scott, Shared Services Coordinator introduced herself to the board. She said she is the point person for all things such as the grants, events, Great Worcester Community Health Assessment. The Alliance provides health topics monthly via social media and paper flyers on topics of interest to the community. This month is Mosquitos. The topic can be provided in other languages if a community would like.

Community Health Survey

Ms. Scott is running a survey in West Boylston to assess the needs of the community. The survey has been sent to residents, is available on the Town website and the community leaders are scheduled to be interviewed. There have been 709 surveys returned, they include both residents and people that work in Town. Ms. Scott thinks the response is pretty good, but would like more, the return date has been extended to August 25th.

Ms. Scott was asked to work with the Town Administrator's office to see where else the survey could be available for Town residents. The members received paper copies of the survey.

Inspections

Soloe Dennis, Director of Public Health CMRPHA informed the board that he and Jessica have been meeting on Monday mornings for inspections that need to be done. He continued saying the process has been smooth and all inspections are up to date. The inspections have been done by the City of Worcester inspectors. Phil Leger is still inspector for septic.

Vacant Health Inspector Position

Mr. Dennis informed the board that last interviews are being conducted for the vacant Health Inspector Position. He hopes to be making an offer and an inspector in place for August/September.

Vaccine Clinics

Chair Sullivan explained that the new COVID variant should have a vaccine available in the fall. His position on a vaccine clinic is to wait until the new vaccine is available. He said that those that have received their COVID vaccines should be protected from the last variant. The new vaccine will be similar to getting your annual flu shot. He would like to see a clinic scheduled at the Senior Center in the fall.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Updates

Dr. Mullins stated the last meeting was mainly administrative business. The meetings have changed from ZOOM to Teams.

Office Report

The board was asked to vote and sign appointment of a Board of Health approver/signer for invoice/ payments approval for FY24.

Ms. Gagnon made motion for Chair John Sullivan be the designated approver/signer for Board of Health invoices for FY24. Dr. Mullins seconded. No discussion. Vote 5 to 0. Motion carried.

Chair Sullivan accepted the appointment.

The board was asked to vote and sign appointment for the designated speaker on behalf of the Board of Health.

Ms. Gagnon made a motion for Chair John Sullivan be the designated speaker on behalf of the Board of Health. Dr. Mullins seconded. No discussion. Vote 5 to 0. Motion carried.

Title 5 Projects:

- 114 Lee St has received their Certificate of Compliance
- 23 Shady Lane passed Title 5 inspection
- 205 Fairbanks St passed Title 5 inspection
- 6 Lancaster Meadows passed Title 5 Inspections

Inspections/Permits

- Wachusett Estates passed their semi-pool inspection/permit has been issued.
- 137 permits have been issued to date

Violations

- Casella Waste Management was in violation for dumpster pick-up times. A letter from Environmental Health Specialist, Micah Blondeau was sent communicating the violation. Casella Waste Management will continue to be closely monitored.
- There are no Tobacco Violations to report.

The board was made aware of that the West Boylston's 2022 Drinking Water Quality Report is now available and can be viewed at www.westboylstonwater.org

Bill Approvals

- Worcester IMA, including Nursing Services (July and August 2023)
- Sutton Nursing Services (last pay period of FY 2022),

Next meeting

September 13, 2023

Adjournment

Christopher Whelan made a motion to adjourn at 6:42pm. Tracey Gagnon seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 5 to 0

Signatures

John Sullivan, MD, Chair

Christopher Whelan, MEd

Tracy Gagnon, MEd, Vice Chair

Thomas F. Mullins, MD

Robert J. Barrell, MPA