



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

The Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Date / Time / Location of Meeting	08-17-2022 / 6:00pm / Room 120, Town Offices
	Meeting was not recorded so not available to view at https://www.westboylston-ma.gov/wbpa-public-access-tv
Members Present	John Sullivan, Robert Barrell, Christopher Whelan
Members Not Present	Tracy Gagnon, Thomas Mullins
Guests	Julie VanArsdalen, CMRPHA Public Health Inspector
Welcome – Call to Order	Time: 6:00 pm by Chair Dr. Sullivan
Approval of Previous Minutes (Postponed)	July 13, 2022 meeting minutes – Review and signatures postponed until September meeting.
06-08-2022 Approved Minutes	Signed by those in attendance; remaining signatures at next meeting.
Body Art Regulation Signatures	Signed by those in attendance; remaining signatures at next meeting.
Authorized Signature Form	Authorized for FY 2023 in March meeting; signed at June meeting – no change.

- **COVID-19 updates**

Mr. Barrell reported a COVID-19 outbreak at Oakdale Nursing Home as reported by the Public Health Nurse, noting 23 infected individuals; the Commonwealth of MA is overseeing the issues.

Dr. Sullivan reported that variants BA 5 and BA 4 are still prevalent, noting Biobot reports indicates ongoing impact with recent numbers varying from 800 RNA copies per ml to over 1500 copies per ml. He emphasized that the virus is still active, and while vaccinated individuals can still be infected, those fully vaccinated are protected from serious disease and hospitalization unless experiencing co-morbidities.

Mr. Barrell announced that there are free COVID test kits available to the public at the Town Offices building - at the Board of Health, Town Clerk, and Tax Offices. Boxes of 90 test kits have been provided to the Housing Authority, the Fire Department, and the Food Pantry.

- **PH Coordination / Regional Report**

Ms. VanArsdalen reported that Zachary Dyer, the CMRPHA interim PH Director would like to attend our next Board of Health meeting along with a CHIP Representative.

Ms. VanArsdalen provided an overview of inspections completed since the last meeting and updates on Title 5 work at 13 Winthrop Street and 41 Campground Road.

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	The Board voted to approve Ms. VanArsdalen and Mr. Blondeau, our inspectors, to sign Board of Health permits as needed.
Motion Originator	Mr. Barrell
Motion Seconded	Mr. Whelan
Result	Approved unanimously

- Tobacco Regulation update

Ms. Lee reported that the updated regulation notice was published in the Telegram & Gazette on 07-24-22 with the effective date 08-25-22, and copies were mailed to all vendors. Inspector Cherry Tangri will follow up with vendors.

- Opioid Settlement Funding

Mr. Barrell reported that he listened in on a presentation regarding this funding. The Commonwealth of MA received over 251 million dollars to be distributed to municipalities to help combat the opioid dependence epidemic. West Boylston is slated to receive \$250,000.00 over a 15-year period. Mr. Barrell recommends a joint meeting with the Select Board, Fire and Police Chiefs, and Town Administrator, to decide how funds will be utilized for associated programs for prevention. These funds also must be used toward increasing funding to support ongoing prevention programs.

Ms. VanArsdalen noted that CMRPHA will provide guidance to West Boylston around utilizing funds appropriately.

- Office report

Ms. Lee provided a brief update to last month's office report citing new and ongoing projects. There was some discussion around specific Title 5 situations. She noted 131 permits entered to date, noting that one for Tee's Deli has not yet been issued (renovations not complete and inspection not yet done) and noted a new body artist has been approved for his permit at the Heritage Rose. She also noted that Ms. VanArsdalen was following up with Heritage Rose regarding the apprentice application.

Wachusett Estates will not be opening their pool this year and requested a refund of their application fee. The Board approved this request.

Motion Originator	Mr. Barrell
Motion Seconded	Mr. Whelan
Result	Approved unanimously

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion Originator	Mr. Barrell
Motion Seconded	Mr. Whelan
Result	Approved unanimously
Time of Adjournment	6:23 pm

Signatures

John Sullivan, MD , Chair

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Not in attendance

Tracy Gagnon, MEd, Vice Chair

Robert J. Barrell, MPA

Christopher Whelan, MEd

Not in attendance

Thomas F. Mullins, MD

Submitted by: Margaret Lee
Date Submitted: 09-07-2022

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