

Wellesley Board of Health  
90 Washington St  
Wellesley, MA  
Meeting Minutes  
October 25, 2018

Present:

Board:

Shepard Cohen, Chairman  
Marcia Testa Simonson, PhD, Vice Chairman  
Lloyd Tarlin, MD, Secretary  
Carol Hannenberg, Associate

Staff:

Deadra Doku Gardner, Administrator  
Cheryl Lefman, Community Health Coordinator  
Ann Marie McCauley, Nursing Supervisor

In attendance:

Alison Cross, resident  
Mary Gard, Advisory Committee, liaison  
Beth Sullivan Woods, Board of Selectmen

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m.

The Board of Health approved the meeting minutes from October 4, 2018.

**1. Administration**

a) Chairman's Report

Shep Cohen reported on the following:

- Mr. Cohen reviewed his recent Board of Health strategic plan. The Board of Health agreed that additional work needs to be done on the plan draft.

b) Director's Report

Leonard Izzo provided an overview of the department activities:

- Mr. Izzo reported that Human Resources has completed a 33 town benchmark. Mr. Izzo will be reviewing the data with the Human Resources Director, Scott Szczebak next week.
- Mr. Izzo reported on the start date for the new social worker, Marie Palmier. Her date of hire will be Wednesday November 7, 2018.

- Mr. Izzo reported on an initiative to mandate recycling among Wellesley rubbish haulers. Additional information will be available at a future meeting.

c) FY20 Budget

Leonard Izzo reported that the FY20 Budget guidelines are 3% for the schools and 2.5% for all other departments.

Leonard Izzo again reported that the current FY20 budget template provided by Financial Services has incorrect information and that formulas need to be adjusted before any further work can be done on the FY20 budget.

The Board of Health thru Mr. Izzo will file an intent of a warrant article to establish a new revolving account.

Additional information will be available at the next meeting.

d) Salary Reviews

At the last several meetings, Shep Cohen reported that the Board of Health had requested a salary review of all department staff with the Human Resource Board. Mr. Cohen reported that he anticipates the salary reviews to be completed before the start of the FY20 budget season.

## 2. Community Health

a) Nursing Report

Ann Marie McCauley reported that flu vaccine has been delivered and that she has multiple clinics scheduled thru Thanksgiving.

b) Natural Resources Commission and Gas Leaks

At the May 24, 2018 meeting, Dr Regina LaRocque, Vice Chair of the Wellesley NRC, spoke to the Board of Health in regard to gas leaks. Dr. LaRocque has requested that the Board of Health prepare and send a letter to Governor Baker requesting that gas leaks in close proximity to school grounds be repaired. The School Committee has signed the letter.

At the June 7, 2018 meeting it was confirmed that Marcia Testa Simonson will create a Board of Health letter for the Board to review.

Today the Board of Health approved the letter dated 10/25/18.

c) Mental Health Awareness

At the last meeting, Shep Cohen and Cheryl Lefman reported on the mental health meeting which took place on September 12, 2018. Board members, department heads and staff were present from Wellesley Health Department, Police, Fire, Council on Aging, Wellesley Public Schools, Selectmen's office and Human Relations Services.

Blythe Robinson Executive Director of Government Services was to prepare a memo for distribution on Wellesley's mental health needs. Mr. Izzo reported that he is still waiting for the memo to be completed. Mr. Izzo reported that he has spoken with Blythe and that the memo is in the works.

Once completed another meeting will be held to review the results.

Additional information will be available at the next meeting.

d) Coleman Institute

At the last meeting, Carol Hannenberg and Leonard Izzo reported on the increasing town wide concern on the arrival of the Copeland Institute in November at 30 Washington St. Mr. Izzo reported that the Coleman institute will be a detox facility for those with opioid addiction.

Beth Sullivan Woods, Leonard Izzo and Carol Hannenberg reviewed the public meeting that was held on Monday, October 22 by the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Health commended Beth Sullivan Woods on her outstanding presentation to the community.

e) Narcan

Cheryl Lefman reported that Newton Wellesley Hospital has donated additional Narcan and supplies to the Town of Wellesley. Ms Lefman will be distributing the twenty-two doses as follows: ten doses to Police, ten doses to Fire and two doses for the Warren Building.

Ms. Lefman reported that she recently had a call from St Andrews Church who is interested in obtaining Narcan. St. Andrews is one of four Wellesley churches that offer temporary overnight sheltering programs for homeless families.

### **3. Environmental Health**

a) New Food Code

As noted at the last meeting, Leonard Izzo reported that the new food code is drastically different than the previous one. The Department of Public Health instituted the new food code effective on October 18, 2018

Mr. Izzo reported that the Food Protection Program has not provided any information until this week. There are dramatic changes, less restrictive in some areas and more restrictive in others. Mr. Izzo confirmed with Town Counsel that the Health Department is not in violation. Staff needs an opportunity for training on the new code.

Holly Detroy and Vivian Zeng will be attending an overview training of the changes next week.

b) Food Rescue

Alison Cross reported on her program presentation sponsored by Food for Free and the EPA held on October 24, 2018. There were several communities representing 70 schools present. Health Departments from Lexington, Natick, Weston, Needham, Waltham and Brookline were in attendance. Program information was very well received. Mr. Izzo reported that in the coming months they will organize a meeting just for Health Departments interested in the same programming.

c) Rodent

Leonard Izzo reported on the ongoing rodent problem in Wellesley. Mr. Izzo noted that Natick and Belmont are among the communities with a widespread rat issue. Both Natick and Belmont DPW offices have done "papering of information," to notify residents and businesses on how to assist in the prevention of a rodent infestation.

d) 900 Worcester St. Project

Mr. Izzo reported that the location was supposed to be opened in October however, now the delay in the construction is due to the gas leaks in the Merrimack Valley.

Additional information will be provided at a future meeting.

e) Food Establishment update

Mr. Izzo reported that the Wok Restaurant is changing ownership and will require a full renovation.

Whites Bakery will be opening before the holiday season. Door Seven is expected to open in the first weeks of December and a new location - Rice Burger is in the planning stages.

f) Wellesley Housing Authority (WHA) update

Mr. Izzo reported that the interim housing director has hired a new property manager. There has been a slow improvement in the management of the WHA.

Additional information will be provided at the next meeting.

**4. Emergency Preparedness**

a) Emergency Preparedness Programming

To be reviewed at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Board of Health will be announced.

The Board of Health meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deadra Doku Gardner  
Administrator

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Documents reviewed during this meeting and on file in the Health Department:

- Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Draft
- Letter to the Governor Baker office re Gas Leaks dated 10/25/18
- Shep Cohen: Mission and Board of Health Strategic plan Draft dated 10/25/18