

**Wellesley Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2010**

Present:

Shepard Cohen, Chairman
Marcia Testa Simonson, PhD Vice Chair
Lloyd Tarlin, MD Secretary

Staff:

Deadra Doku Gardner, Administrator
Lenny Izzo, Environmental Health Agent
Loretta Jaksic, Public Health Nurse Supervisor
Cheryl Lefman, Health Communications Specialist
Mary Suresh, Director

In Attendance:

Carol Hannenberg, 81 Washburn Road resident

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

The meeting minutes for May 27 and June 3, 2010 were approved.

1. Administrative

a) Mental Health Contracts

The Board of Health approved, voted and signed the FY11 contracts with Human Relations Service and Charles River.

b) Annual Report

For the next Annual Report, Mr. Cohen requested that quantifiable objectives be developed for Community Health, Environment Health and Emergency Preparedness, to be matched by outcomes. Also, the next Annual Report should summarize some of the key community health needs data available through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (e.g., MassChip) and other data sources, as well as the perceptions of the Health Department staff and other community-based health care and human service providers .

c) Open Meeting Law (OML)

Mary Suresh reviewed the general guidelines of the OML for the Board of Health.

d) Burial Agent Appointment

The Board of Health voted and approved the after-hours Burial Agent. Marianne M. Burke of the Burke Funeral Home will be appointed and sworn in by the Town Clerk.

2. Mental Health

a) Fund for Wellesley Grant

Ms. Suresh reported that the WellesleyActs.org website is now operational. Announcements for the new website have been made in the Townsman's Community Commendables, The Patch, and the Swellesley Report. In addition, a Mental Health Resource Guide is being sent to every resident via their utility invoice.

b) HRS

The Board of Health reviewed the report provided by Rob Evans. The primary concerns for Wellesley residents seen at HRS are family issues and depression in part due to the current economic situations.

Mary Suresh will contact the PTO President to determine the outcome of the recent series of HRS meetings with the Parent Teachers Organization.

The Board of Health would like to include Rob Evans (HRS) and Maura Renzella (Youth Commission) at the next meeting, to discuss community mental health needs and appropriate Health Department responses. The Board would like to be updated on the activities and accomplishments of the school outreach workers.

b) QPR

Mary Suresh reported that there is a Department Head meeting scheduled for the end of October. Ms. Suresh will present a plan to offer QPR training to all Wellesley Department Heads. In addition Mary Suresh is scheduled to make a brief presentation about QPR and the WellesleyActs.org website to the Selectman at their next meeting.

Cheryl Lefman will be sending a letter to all QPR trained individuals to encourage them to schedule their own trainings by a specific date.

3. Community Health

a) Seasonal Flu

Mary Suresh reported that seasonal flu vaccine will be provided to Health Departments in October. Ms Suresh is in the process of planning clinics for all residents over the age of 5. As in the past, residents over the age of 65 and those at high risk will be vaccinated first.

b) Wellesley Public Schools – Seasonal Flu Vaccine Program

The Board of Health agreed that the Health Department should directly oversee the vaccination of school personnel, hopefully with assistance from school nurses. The Board of Health agreed that the School Department needs to have a much better process and system in place for storing and dispensing medication. The current practices are poor and dangerous. The Board of Health still finds that the schools are not in compliance with vaccine storage and medical supplies. Schools need to follow the procedures on storage and use.

Shep Cohen asked Mary to draft a letter to Bella Wong providing her with the Health Department's findings and recommendations resulting from the recent inspections of all public school buildings..

Mary Suresh reported on her meeting with Ann Prinn, Director of Nursing for Wellesley Public Schools.

c) Wellesley Public Schools – Absentee Data

Mary Suresh reported that she has contacted Bella Wong and Ann Prinn asking them to continue reporting absentee data. Bella Wong notified Mary that the school department is piloting a program using its commercial software product. Meanwhile, Marcia Testa-Simonson agreed to continue contributing her time and her company's resources to provide absentee data reports.

d) Shingles Vaccine

Mary Suresh reported that the MDPH Vaccine Unit has provided the Health Department with free shingles vaccine. Loretta Jaksic and per diem staff have vaccinated approximately 220 residents. The Department is not eligible to obtain any additional free vaccine.

e) Public Health Nursing

Loretta Jaksic reported that there are a growing number of residents with mental health issues in public housing who are not senior citizens. The Board again recommended that intensified efforts be taken to assess the total health care needs of the Housing Authority residents. It was also strongly recommended that the Mary Suresh contact the BU School of Public Health, which sponsors two health and public housing projects: Healthy Public Housing Initiative and the

Partners in Health and Housing Prevention Research Center. Both of these projects focus on involvement of public housing residents in improving their health in collaboration with community health resources.

The Board of Health reviewed a sampling of client cards that are kept by the Keep Well Clinics. The Board asked that resources (both technical, manpower and financial) be sought to analyze the data collected through these records in an effort to assess the health and social needs of the senior community.

f) Senior Issues Meeting

Mary Suresh and Loretta Jaksic reported on the most recent meeting of the interagency senior issues group. The same issues are repeating themselves. Mary Suresh was asked to prepare a report on the challenges facing seniors, based on the issues discussed by this group.

g) Wellness Programming

Cheryl Lefman reviewed the programs which were conducted by the Health Department, with financial support from a CHNA grant, in 2010. These programs were a great success, included the following:

- 1) Healthy Food and Fitness for Busy Families (4/7/10)
- 2) Healthy Cooking for one or two (on-going)
- 3) Maintaining a Healthy Brain ((5/10/10)
- 4) Yoga, Train, Planes and Automobiles (5/18/10)
- 5) Tots, Tails and Trails (5/22/10)

At the last meeting, the Board of Health voted to approve using \$5,000 from the Healthy Wellesley funds to support the continuation of these programs in the coming year. Cheryl Lefman is currently planning the programs for the winter 2010-2011 season.

h) Grant

The Board of Health approved the use of unspent grant funds as follows:

- 1) Metro-West
 - CPR training
 - Alcohol programming in collaboration with the Youth Commission (up to \$5000).
- 2) Springwell

- Fall Prevention Programming

3) Mt Auburn

- Well Care/Keep Well clinic data analysis
- Senior Programming

4. Environmental Health

a) Wellesley Public Schools- Buildings

Lenny Izzo reported that the schools are in much better condition and were found to be clean during his most recent inspection. He reported that a great deal of work was done to clean the univent systems.

b) Wellesley Community Center

The Board of Health voted to require the Wellesley Community Center to obtain a food establishment permit. The Board of Health will waive the permit fee and offer the Center six months to come into compliance.

Ms Suresh will contact the state to obtain the inspection report for the daycare center housed at the Wellesley Community Center.

c) Camps

Lenny Izzo reported that approximately 40 camps were inspected and issued permits over the summer months.

d) Nick's Pizza

The Board of Health voted to approve the variance request (Time as a Public Health Control).

e) Allergen Act

The information has been provided to all food establishments. The state's new Allergen Act goes into effect October 1, 2010. The two Environmental Health Specialists have provided information and materials to all food establishments in order for them to come into compliance with the new law.

f) Tobacco Compliance Checks

Mary Suresh reported that compliance checks are being planned for the Fall.

The Board of Health approved the use of Health Wellesley Funds to continue the required Tobacco Compliance inspections. The Board also approved

using the funds to put an ad in the Townsman thanking Eaton/Walgreens and Andrews Pharmacies, for their voluntary discontinuance of the sale of tobacco products in their stores. Further discussion is needed by the Board and staff regarding tobacco sales at the CVS stores in Wellesley. Absent voluntary discontinuance, a regulation, as passed in Needham and in other municipalities will be considered by the Board.

g) National Take Back Day and Sharps Disposal

Mary Suresh reported that the Health Department will be participating in the National Drug Take Back Day sponsored by the Police Department and the DEA. The event is being held the last weekend of September and will give residents and opportunity to dispose of unwanted and expired medications. Ms. Suresh contracted with MWDC (Medical Waste Disposal) to provide sharps disposal services on this day.

Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Deadra Doku Gardner