

Wellesley Board of Health
90 Washington Street
Wellesley, MA, 02481
Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2020

Present:

Board:

Shepard Cohen, MPA, Chair
Marcia Testa Simonson, PhD, Vice Chair
Linda Oliver Grape, Secretary
Carol Hannenberg, MD, Associate
Lloyd Tarlin, MD, Associate

Staff:

Ann Marie McCauley, Public Health Nurse Supervisor
Deadra Doku-Gardner, Administrator
Leonard Izzo, Director
Cheryl Lefman, Community Health Coordinator

In attendance:

Regina LaRoque
Erika Johnson
Leslie Richman, resident

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 am.

The Board of Health approved the following meeting minutes: December 12, 2019.

1. Administration

a) Chairman's Report

- Shepard Cohen reported on his meeting with Leonard Izzo and John Lanza (Advisory) reviewing the FY21 Budget.
- Mr. Cohen reported on the Townsman Article nominating Florence Capobianco, Health Department volunteer to the Wellesley Top Ten.

b) Directors Report

In addition to the agenda items, Leonard Izzo provided the following updates:

- Mr. Izzo reported on his meeting with Alison Cross. Alison has been in contact with a Regis College student interested in an internship creating a waste diversion project at the restaurants on Linden St.

c) Advisory and FY21 Budget

The Board of Health reviewed their upcoming Advisory Committee presentation scheduled for January 15, 2020.

As had been requested by the Advisory Committee, Mr. Izzo had forwarded the finalized template to the Board of Selectman on the due date, Monday, December 2, 2019. The FY21 operating budget was submitted at guideline.

d) NRC and Climate Change

Regina LaRocque, Chairman of the NRC was present requesting a statement of support from the Board of Health indicating that climate change is a public health emergency.

Marcia Testa Simonson explained that Massachusetts Boards of Health generally do not make proclamations as their jurisdictional authority comes from Commonwealth mandates.

After much discussion the Board of Health will take the suggested proclamation under consideration and report back at a later date.

e) Human Resources

At the meeting of 11/14/19, Linda Oliver Grape and Leonard Izzo reported on their meeting of the Human Resources Board on November 13, 2019. The Human Resources Board approved the newly hayed Administrator position as a Job Group 53. Linda Oliver Grape noted that the Board of Health and Mr. Izzo had requested that the job be upgraded and reviewed as a Job Group 54. Ms. Oliver Grape had reported that the Human Resources Director, Mr. Scott Szczebak, had become extremely agitated and rude during the meeting. Ms. Oliver Grape had reported that as a tax payer, resident and an elected town official that Mr. Szczebak's responses and behavior had been unnecessarily aggressive, offensive and discourteous.

At the meeting on 11/21/19, Ms. Oliver Grape reported that she had contacted the Human Resources Board Chair, Mr. John Hussey, as well as the Board of Selectmen notifying them of Mr. Szczebak's attitude and behavior.

f) Staff Reports

The Board of Health has requested that the Director and staff provide a monthly meeting and program report. A draft template was submitted for review. The first of these templates will be due for the next meeting covering the month of January 2020.

The Board has requested that these templates be completed monthly and be submitted in advance of a board meeting for review.

g) Staff Positions and Job Descriptions

Leonard Izzo reported on the following:

The offer made to one of the two candidates for the position of Senior Community Social Worker was accepted. The start date is expected to be January 29, 2020.

Mr. Izzo reported that a position posting has been made for the part-time social worker position.

As noted at previous meetings, the Human Resources Board approved the newly hayed Administrator position as a Job Group 53 however the Board of Health is awaiting a second review to a classification of a Job Group 54. The position continues to remain in limbo. Additional information will be provided at the next meeting.

2. Community Health

a) Community Programming

Cheryl Lefman reported briefly on late winter/early spring programming: CPR/AED, First Aid, Hazards in the Home, cardiovascular prevention, Mental Health First Aid etc. Additional information and specific dates will be provided at the next meeting.

Per the Board of Health's request Cheryl will be working with Ann Marie McCauley and Linda Oliver Grape to increase the Health Department's health and wellness services at the Tolles Parson Center. This will include expanded programming based on the recent survey results taken during the clinics.

3. Public Health Nursing

a) Update

Ann Marie McCauley and Leonard Izzo reported that the nursing division is currently supporting any issues pertaining to social service needs. Ann Marie and Heidi Harper have been able to assist or direct anyone needing assistance.

b) Shingles

Ann Marie McCauley reported that she has scheduled the next round of shingles clinics for January 16, 2020.

c) Flu

Ann Marie McCauley reported that she continues to offer flu vaccine to residents. Flu reports have had limited activity to date. Ms. McCauley provided a yearly comparison sheet of influenza cases.

4) Environmental Health

a) Food For Free

The program continues at Mass Bay Community College. There is an on-going issue that has been discovered by Vivian Zeng regarding post-consumer food waste. There has been a two month trial period and the program wants to expand the trial period to May 2020.

b) Boston Sports Club – Pool

Leonard Izzo reported on a near drowning incident of a member.

The Board of Health agreed that the management of the club will be asked to attend an upcoming board meeting to review policy and procedures.

c) Food Establishments

Mr. Izzo reported operation improvements at Alta Strada with the new manager in place.

Singh's Café changed ownership in the last six months and continues to have a mouse problem. They have hired a consultant to assist with operational issues.

Jin's Restaurant is considering expansion.

The Great Wok (formerly The Wok) still has no opening date.

The following establishments have closed:

- Convenient Mart
- Upper Crust
- Dunkin Donuts, Central St.

d) Vaping and e-cigarettes

As reported at previous meetings, on September 24, 2019, Governor Charlie Baker declared a public health emergency in response to confirmed and suspected cases of severe lung disease associated with the use of e-cigarettes and marijuana vaping products in the Commonwealth.

Marcia Testa Simonson updated the Board of Health: There will be no retail sales of flavored vaping products.

Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

5) Emergency Preparedness

To be reviewed at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Board of Health is scheduled for January 30, 2020, 9:30 am.

The Board of Health meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Deadra Doku Gardner
Administrator

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

- Flu graph
- Townsman 10:Florence Capobianco
- Youth Mental Health First Aid flier
- The Secret Lives of Teens and Tweens
- Staff template
- Proposed Resolution