

Wellesley Board of Health  
90 Washington Street  
Wellesley, MA, 02481  
Meeting Minutes  
January 30, 2020

Present:

Board:

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

Staff:

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

In attendance:

Linda Corridan, Director of Nursing, Wellesley Public Schools  
Alison Cross, Food Recovery Program Facilitator  
Mark Kline, Executive Director, Human Relations Services  
John Lanza, Advisory Committee Liaison  
Shannon Mackey, Assistant Director, Human Relations Services  
Ryan Moran, Intern, Regis College  
Beth Sullivan Woods, Board of Selectmen

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

The Board of Health approved the following meeting minutes: January 9, 2020.

**1. Administration**

a) Directors Report

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

- Mr. Izzo introduced the new Senior Community Social Worker, Joyce Saret.

- Mr. Izzo introduced the new intern from Regis College, Ryan Moran. Ryan will be working with Alison Cross and staff members on the food rescue and recovery efforts.
- Mr. Izzo elaborated on Coronavirus (see below).

b) Human Relations Services

Mark Kline, Director and Shannon Mackey, Assistant Director were present. Dr. Kline provided an overview of the FY20 YTD report (dated 1/20/20).

Dr. Kline reported that HRS continues to see an increasing number of town residents. He stressed that thus far it has been a very challenging school year for administrators, teachers and social workers struggling to manage mental health needs in the schools. Wellesley Public Schools continues to have increasingly troublesome and worrisome cases.

Dr. Kline reported that HRS has had a request from the Temple Beth Elohim administration to hire a part-time outreach worker (several hours a week) who can work with members in need of triage, evaluation and referrals. Dr. Kline will provide additional information as it becomes available.

Beth Sullivan Woods requested information as to whether HRS has had sufficient time allocation to work with town employees requesting and requiring help with mental health issues. Dr. Kline reported that he had a meeting with Scott Szczebak (Wellesley Human Resources Director) and Mark Waldman (Wellesley Town Treasurer) to discuss the contract that is specifically for Town of Wellesley employees and their families. Dr. Kline reported that there is a need for additional funding to support the program for employees. Additional information will be provided at a later date.

Dr Kline reported that Metro-West Hospital will be closing their emergency room operation and will be moving toward a behavioral health facility. Additional information will be provided at the next meeting.

c) FY21 Budget update

John Lanza reported on the recent Advisory Committee meeting noting that the Board of Health presentation was well received.

d) School Wellness Advisory Committee (SWAC)

Linda Corridan reported that SWAC is focusing on the following four topics:

1. Mental Health
2. School start times

### 3. LGBTQ

### 4. Vaping

#### e) Riverside Contract

Beth Sullivan Woods requested information on the Riverside Public Safety contract that went into place July 2019. Leonard Izzo reported that to date there has been no report.

Mr. Izzo reported that he met the Riverside clinician Kathleen (Kate) O'Donnell.

The Board of Health agreed that the original mental health task force (Police, Fire, Health, Schools and Selectman) meet prior to Town Meeting.

Additional information will be provided at a later meeting.

#### f) NRC and Climate Change

At the meeting of January 9, 2020, Regina LaRocque, Chairman of the NRC requested 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 discussion at the last meeting and at today's meeting, the Board of Health will take the suggested proclamation under consideration. Shep Cohen is working on a statement for Board of Health approval. Marcia Testa Simonson will edit the document.

Additional information will be provided at the next meeting.

#### g) 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.

The Board of Health intends to follow up with the Human Resource Board.

Additional information will be provided in regard to the position at the next meeting.

h) Staff Reports

Staff monthly meeting and program reports for the month of January 2020 were submitted by the following employees: Cheryl Lefman, Holly Detroy, Ann Marie McCauley and Vivian Zeng. The Board of Health reviewed the reports and requested reports be completed for the month of February. The reports are to be submitted in advance of the next meeting and forwarded to the board prior to the meeting.

i) Town Meeting

The annual Wellesley Town Meeting is scheduled for March 30, 2020.

Beth Sullivan woods reported that the Board of Selectmen has several warrants to be voted on. Warrants include the restriction of the sale of fur, televised public meetings for all Wellesley Boards, and a warrant addressing climate change.

j) Camp Transportation Funding

Lenny Izzo and Beth Sullivan Woods will be working on a plan for camp transportation funding for the coming summer.

k) Staff Positions and Job Descriptions

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) Coronavirus

Leonard Izzo reviewed the current status of Coronavirus as presented by the CDC and MDPH.

Mr. Izzo reported that the local colleges and private school students have begun to return to Wellesley following their winter breaks. Mr. Izzo

has been in touch with the medical providers at Babson and Wellesley Colleges, as well as with Dana Hall, to address the possibility of students returning from affected countries. Institutions are aware of protocols and are on alert.

Cheryl Lefman has been working with the Town's Communication Manager Stephanie Hawkinson to provide appropriate messaging to the public.

Linda Corridan reported that fourteen Wellesley Public School students attended a United Nations Conference in China and that the Chinese New Year is currently taking place with many families traveling. Ms. Corridan reported that DPH has not changed how schools are to manage the children and families that participated in the China program. A letter from Wellesley Public Schools has been forwarded to all parents as a precautionary measure and to keep the community informed.

b) 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.

### **3. Public Health Nursing**

a) 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 Diversion

Alison Cross reported on her most recent restaurant project located in the Linden Square area. There are approximately 15 locations.

Ryan Moran will be working with Ms. Cross and Vivian Zeng. Ms. Cross is in the processes of developing a survey which will identify

what waste diversion practices, if any, are being used by the food establishments in the Linden Square area.

b) Food Establishments

Jin's Restaurant is considering expansion.

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

c) 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.

There continues to 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 February 27, 2020, 9:30 am.

The Board of Health meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deadra Doku Gardner  
Administrator

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

- Novel Coronavirus(2019-nCoV) Fact Sheet
- Staff reports: Lefman, Detroy, Zeng, McCauley
- HIPPA notes: Disclosures for Public Health Activities
- Proposed Resolution