

**Advisory Committee Meeting  
Juliani Room, Wellesley Town Hall  
Wednesday, November 13, 2019, 7:00 p.m.**

Those present from Advisory Committee included Julie Bryan, Todd Cook, Mary Gard, Neal Goins, Rusty Kellogg, John Lanza, Bill Maynard, Deed McCollum, Paul Merry, Lina Musayev, Patti Quigley, Betsy Roberti and Ralph Tortorella.

Todd called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**7:00 p.m. Citizen Speak**

There was no one present for Citizen Speak.

**7:00 p.m. Board of Health Overview**

Marcia Testa Simonson, Vice Chair, Board of Health (BOH); Shepard Cohen, Chair, BOH; and Lenny Izzo, Director, Health Department were present.

- The leadership team was introduced
- The difference between health and public health was presented
- Local public health responsibilities were reviewed
- An explanation of what a local board of health does is driven by federal, state and local regulations
- Priorities for Wellesley were presented
- The Wellesley Health Department's FY20 Organizational Chart was presented
- Environmental health and safety including legal required inspections, reviews and permits conducted were presented
- Food establishment inspections and pool inspection increase were discussed
- All inspections have increased
- BOH food establishment and other inspections for FY15 to FY19 were presented
- The increase in fees for inspections for the period FY13 to FY19 were presented and discussed
- Growth in meal tax presented
- Vaping increase and ban and the EEE risk were discussed. With the cold, the mosquitos have died and the EEE virus has died but it might be there again next year
- Rodent causes and clean up were discussed
- Flu Clinics for Wellesley residents
- Social Services Unit was discussed and the Health Department is in the process of hiring a licensed Social Worker as part of the Mental Health Initiative
- Department administration and community/volunteer programs were presented and discussed
- Community wellness programs and services were presented
- The Mental Health Unit was discussed

Questions included:

- Does the Health Department conduct inspections and permits for the colleges in town? Yes, and the colleges pay for their inspections
- Was there spraying for mosquitos in Wellesley? The state completed aerial spraying for half of the community. The 02482-zip code was sprayed. State sprayed when it determined EEE risk in

60 communities. Wellesley was in the flight plan of the sprayer. The spraying wasn't directed because of risk.

- What was the chemical used in the spraying? Anvil 1010 was used. The Health Department received more calls from the other side of town demanding that they be sprayed. There is not a plan to add adult mosquito control in town.
- What are the side effects from the spraying? There aren't any in the dispersion rate used. The spraying was intended for mosquitos that were flying.
- What is the affect on the mosquito? It attacks the central nervous system.
- Is there cross collaboration with the police departments? The work of the health department is 80% with every other town department and there is much collaboration between other departments in town.
- Is the shared social worker with Weston in place? Weston and Wellesley share a Riverside social worker and the contract was signed 2 months ago. There is no data on utilization at this point.
- With respect to the budget items is there a sense of how much the BOH does that is required and how much it wants to do? Environmental health rules and regulations and nursing are required but the social services and community services are important to the town.
- What keeps you up at night? With the staff we don't worry too much. But there is worry about the underserved population in the Wellesley Housing Authority and the issue of mental health services.
- The opioid epidemic is the number one health concern and is the BOH addressing it? It is related to mental health and social services and that is where it would be addressed. Addiction is a problem in the underserved community. Education is planned on the issue. But opioids in Wellesley are not as big a problem as vaping is in Wellesley.
- How much livestock does Wellesley have? There are 34 permits. Hunnewell Estate farm, horses and the Dana Hall stables make up most of the livestock permits.
- How much inspection activity is there on livestock? Any time someone pulls a permit, there is a conversation and inspection. A barn inspection needs to be completed. The BOH documents all livestock in the community and provides it to the state. Officer Sue Webb, Animal Control and Animal Inspector completes this.
- Is there a rabies epidemic? Rabies varies from year to year as does distemper. There is a growing rat problem in town. In an area off of Route 9, rat burrows were recently found. Secondary poisoning is also a problem when people try to put poison out and it gets scattered around the neighborhood. Pets and hawks have died from secondary poisoning.
- Budget presentation advice was provided to the BOH to be deliberate going from year to year and to provide information.

### **7:52 p.m. Review and Discussion of Advisory Considerations for Article 2 of STM Warrant**

A draft of the Advisory considerations for Article 2 was distributed and reviewed. The considerations were read with a request for edits to the commentary and then authorization to finalize the write-up of Article 2 for the Advisory Report for STM.

Comments included:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph – change to include swing space behind “Upham” and Hardy
- Additional editing comments to switch paragraphs
- Write up does a great job capturing the comments and perspective of Advisory as this is one of the most divisive things happening in town. The write up reflects the comments and questions the committee had
- The rest of the report will have a detailed history of the project
- Considerations are what Advisory discussed. There will be links to the rest of the history

- It is up to SBC and SC to justify the project
- Add dedicated websites to list of communications

Paul Merry made and Patti Quigley seconded a motion to authorize Julie Bryan to make the discussed edits/changes to the write-up of Advisory considerations for Article 2 of the STM Warrant. The motion passed unanimously (11 to 0).

There was a question about the delivery of the report and whether it could be emailed and not printed. The bylaws required printed copies be available in locations around town. The option of emailing to TMM will be looked at with Town Counsel for the future.

### **8:17 p.m. Administrative Matters/Liaison Reports**

#### Schools/Lina Musayev

- SC voted on guidelines of a 3.5% budget to be created on last year's budget
- There is concern that with contractual obligations it is a 3.57% budget
- SC also asked for a 4.2% budget

#### MLP/Ralph Tortorella

- Financial statement review at last week's meeting
- Director's objectives through the year 2020 were reviewed
- Pension OPEB is fully funded

### **8:22 p.m. Adjourn**

Lina Musayev made and Neal Goins seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

#### Items Reviewed During the Meeting

- *Board of Health, Presentation to Advisory, November 13, 2019*