

Minutes of the Southborough Board of Health

Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2018

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SOUTHBOROUGH, MA

Chair/Members Mary Lou Woodford, Daniel O'Rourke and Nancy Sacco; Public Health Director, Paul C. Pisinski; Public Health Nurse, Leslie Chamberlin; Sanitary Inspector, Dennis Costello; Administrative Assistant, Tammi Rice

Also in attendance: Heidi Davis of Lovers Lane

Opening

The meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 11:36 AM by Chair, Mary Lou Woodford.

Public Health Director, Paul Pisinski went over the agenda with the Board.

Topic: March 1, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Action: Ms. Sacco made a motion to approve the March 1, 2018 meeting minutes. Mr. O'Rourke seconded. All in favor.

Report: Chair, Ms. Woodford reported that she attended a conference Medical and Adult-Use Marijuana Forum for Boards of Health at Newton Wellesley Hospital on March 27th. Ms. Woodford shared the handouts from the meeting with the other board members and staff. Although Southborough was one of only a few cities and towns that have voted to ban the recreational use of marijuana, many of the issues are not relevant.

Ms. Woodford did however raise an issue about how the Board of Health may be involved in regulating and educating about the recreational use of marijuana among the residents of Southborough. She would like to the Board to work closely with the Selectman and Police Chief to participate in a plan for educating residents, including parents and the general public about the issues of concern as it relates to recreational use of marijuana. She stated that although a Southborough address may not be a location for recreational sales, many surrounding towns may be.

Ms. Woodford shared a copy of the agreement between the town and the medical marijuana facility scheduled to open soon and discussed that the Board should be involved in how the town plans to use the funds from agreement. Discussion with Mark Purple was relayed. No money has been assigned to a budget item in the town budget as of the date of the meeting. She will reach out to the Police Chief to discuss.

Topic: Discussion "...in support of a moratorium of 5G infrastructure until further study on long term health impacts...", Dr. Carpenter letter

Discussion: Heidi Davis provided the Board with more articles and reports regarding the impacts of 5G infrastructure. The Board would like to have some additional time to review this material prior to a vote and recommendation for a moratorium on the roll-out of any 5G infrastructure. The Public Health Director was asked to speak with Cheryl Sbarra from the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards (MAHB) and get her perspective of the issue. The Board feels it would also be helpful to find out how other towns are handling 5G Infrastructure.

Topic: Renew Director's FY2019 Employment Contract

Discussion: Mr. Pisinski asked the board if they would vote to approve pending review by Town Counsel his FY2019 Employment Contract which is essentially unchanged from last year's employment contract.

Action: Ms. Woodford made a motion to accept the FY2019 Employment Contract for Mr. Pisinski, Public Health Director as written pending Town Counsels review. Mr. O'Rourke and Ms. Sacco seconded. All in favor.

Topic: Sanitary Inspector – Septic Plans – 6 Lots on Deerfoot Road

Discussion: Mr. Costello reported that he is reviewing plans for 6 new lots on Deerfoot Road.

Topic: Public Health Nurse – Conference(s) Update – Immunization 2018 and Social Determinants of Health

Discussion: Ms. Chamberlin reported to the Board that at this year's annual immunization conference a new 2-dose shingles vaccine Shingrix for adults 50 and over was introduced. It is 90% effective in preventing post herpetic neuralgia vs. the original vaccine Zostavax which is only 60% effective. Patients are given the 1st dose and then, 2-6 months later the 2nd dose is given. Ms. Chamberlin went on to report that she also attended a conference at the MAPHN Annual Meeting in April in which the subject of social determinants of health was the topic. It was discussed that economic status is a major determinant of building a culture of health. Federal and State budget cuts have slashed public health departments with Public Health Nurses (PHN) sustaining the largest share of the cuts. Leveraging PHN that prevents diseases and promotes health is crucial to a promise of health care reform.

Topic: Other Business

Topic: Next Board of Health Meeting Date

Discussion: A Doodle Poll will be sent out to the Board members in order to schedule the next Board of Health meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 PM.

Respectively submitted by Tammi Rice, Administrative Assistant and edited by Paul C. Pisinski.