



Town of Boylston Board of Health boh@boylston-ma.gov

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MEETING MINUTES

May 23, 2016

Members Present: Sarah Scheinfein, Doug Kimmens, John Wentzell

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Dennis Costello (Sanitation Agent), see attached Sign-In Sheet

Recorder: Melanie Rich

GENERAL BUSINESS

Board Reorganization – Sarah Scheinfein made a motion to reorganize the board with Doug Kimmens as the Chair and John Wentzell as the Earth Removal Representative; John Wentzell seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved.

Doug Kimmens made a motion to approve the April 25, 2016 Meeting Minutes; John Wentzell seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved.

June 27th was confirmed as the next meeting date.

Cheryl Rawinski (Public Health Nurse) – Ms. Rawinski attended to introduce herself to the board and answer any questions. The Board of Selectmen entered into an Agreement with the Town of Sutton for Nursing Services in February. Ms. Rawinski gave the members copies of reports based on the diseases she reviewed; there were some tasks on the electronic surveillance system that were not listed on the reports. There were two communicable diseases, but they were ruled out; mumps and varicella (chicken pox). Sarah asked how much reporting and follow-up was involved with a diagnosis. Ms. Rawinski said it would depend on the situation. When a person is diagnosed, reporting goes electronically to Boston; Boston sends the reports to her or the town for investigation; after investigation, reports go to the CDC.

The flu season was briefly talked about but requires more discussion as to how the board will handle it this year. Ms. Rawinski also said she would be the representative for Region 2 if the board would like her to be. A letter would need to be written stating that she can vote on the board's behalf.

AGENT'S REPORT

Tobacco – Lester Hartman, MD, MPH, attended to discuss raising the tobacco age to 21. A bill in the Senate passed 32-2; the House bill will be more of a challenge. He talked about teen and young adult brain development; the younger people start, the more likely they are to become addicted; 80% of lifetime smokers begin smoking before the age of 18; 90%-95% before the age of 21. The IOM (Institute of Medicine) suggests that raising the minimum age of legal access to

21 would result in a 12% decrease in the prevalence of tobacco use among today's teenagers once they become adults; the tobacco revenue would result in only a 2% loss. E-cigarettes are the latest in an attempt to target the young. They come in flavors appealing to children (he brought samples from the Gulf station in town). They not only contain nicotine, but antifreeze and other ingredients. It's all about nicotine addition, not tobacco. The IOM report states that when you take the distributor out of the high school, the number significantly drops.

Dr. Hartman also said there is also a huge push for a tobacco-free military. The U.S. Army Surgeon General said smoking soldiers are less combat-ready, take longer to heal, are out of the field more often, and more likely to drop out of boot camp.

In closing, Dr. Hartman said if the legislation is not done by the end of July, it will be another three years before they can do it again. Sarah asked if someone would be available to come out and speak to the PTO. Dr. Hartman said he would be happy to help out in any way and also attend a hearing if needed. The board will continue to have discussions.

PLAN REVIEW

Request for Plan Extension – 48 Cook Street (Bryan Dunlavey) – Approved.

Request for Plan Extension – Lot 1, 165 School Street – Approved.

Request for Plan Extension – 39 Larkin Road (Estate of Chester Golas) – Approved.

Mill Road Map 1, Lot 129-1 (Shrewsbury Homes) – Approved.

15 Cook Street (Joanne Gulbicki) – Will require a two-bedroom deed restriction – Approved.

Lot 64 Sewall Street (Jim Haynes) – Approved.

Lots 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 Compass Circle (Jim Haynes) – Approved.

John Wentzell made a motion to adjourn; Doug Kimmens seconded the motion; all voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.