

Board of Health  
Meeting Minutes  
June 18, 2019 – 6:00 P.M.  
Ashland Town Hall, 101 Main Street, Ashland, MA

*Diane Mortensen, Chair*  
*Judith Teller, Clerk*  
*Mark Oram, Agent/Director*

*Chris Daniele, Vice Chair*  
*Ronald Etskovitz, Member*  
*Koduvayur Narayana, Member*

**Members Present:**

Diane Mortensen, Chris Daniele, Judith Teller, Ronald Etskovitz, Koduvayur Narayana

**Others Present:**

Mark Oram, Health Agent/Director  
Laura Clifford, Administrative Secretary  
Caeli Teagan, Board of Health Intern

**Call to Order**

Ms. Mortensen called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM and announced that the meeting was being audio recorded.

**Reorganization of the Board**

**Motion:** Mr. Narayana nominated Diane Mortensen as the Chair for the Board. Mr. Daniele seconded the nomination.

**Vote:** The Board voted unanimously (5-0) in favor of the nomination.

**Motion:** Mr. Narayana nominated Chris Daniele as the Vice Chair for the Board. Ms. Mortensen seconded the nomination.

**Vote:** The Board voted unanimously (5-0) in favor of the nomination.

**Motion:** Mr. Narayana nominated Judi Teller as the Clerk for the Board. Mr. Etskovitz seconded the nomination.

**Vote:** The Board voted unanimously (5-0) in favor of the nomination.

Ms. Mortensen noted we will move up on the agenda the update from the Food Inspector, Tom Curran.

**Food Inspector Report / Update**

Mr. Curran distributed to the Members a report of inspections conducted from April 1, 2019 to present and noted:

- There were 72 full sanitary inspections conducted including many temporary food events such as the Farmer's Market and the Against the Tides event.
- Three complaints/issues that occurred during this date range were discussed, all have been addressed and rectified.
- A new directive has been issued by the Mass. Department of Public Health pertaining to Cannabidiol (CBD) in foods, it is no longer allowed, although hemp seed is allowed.

- Mr. Curran reported that during this timeframe, he also assisted Mr. Oram with a Housing Code violation.

Mr. Narayana thanked Mr. Oram and Mr. Curran for their work at another temporary food event, Showcase India. Mr. Oram noted it is helpful to have an additional team member present during certain types of inspections. Mr. Narayana noted that he would like to see additional hours for food inspections. Ms. Mortensen noted these Food Inspector reports will be helpful, as well as a review of the fee schedule, when the Board begins their budget review in September.

Mr. Curran discussed the progress at Dulce D'Leche, a bulk production facility to produce gelato. The owner will be obtaining a catering and retail license from the Town as well as a State wholesale license. Mr. Curran noted they have been working closely with the owner regarding equipment and equipment layout. The Board thanked Mr. Curran for his report; Mr. Curran left the meeting at 6:18 PM.

Ms. Mortensen noted there are no residents in attendance for Citizen's Participation.

Mr. Oram introduced Caeli Teagan who is interning with the Board of Health for the summer, she will come back to present her project at the end of her internship. Ms. Teagan is the seventh student intern; Mr. Oram expressed the importance of mentoring students, particularly in the public health field.

#### **Review Framingham Board of Health's 2020 Regulations Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Smoke Accessories**

Mr. Oram discussed the recent Board of Health meeting at which Framingham Health Director, Sam Wong, was in attendance. The Board discussed Framingham's Regulations, it was noted that these Regulations require a 500 foot distance between Adult Use Tobacco Stores and Tobacco Retailers in an effort to prevent a concentration of businesses. Mr. Oram noted the Board may want to consider looking at similar regulations. There is one available tobacco permit that is within 500 feet of another tobacco retailer, Mr. Oram noted that as of January 1, 2020, this permit dissolves.

Framingham has also passed a Regulation that includes an age requirement for the purchase of smoke accessories; the Board discussed whether to consider an age requirement, or possible ban. Mr. Daniele will research surrounding towns to see where other towns stand on these issues and report back to the Board.

#### **FY2021 Budget Review / Preparation**

See Below.

#### **Acknowledgement of Donation of Funds for Purchase of Medical Freezer from KG Narayana**

Mr. Oram noted that a medical freezer will be purchased with funds received through a donation by Mr. Narayana, Mr. Oram thanked Mr. Narayana for the donation.

#### **Update, Nyanza Advisory Committee Meeting – May 9, 2019**

As the Board-appointed Member to the Nyanza Advisory Committee, Ms. Mortensen attended the recent Committee meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Mortensen reported that the meeting was televised and was a five-year review by EPA; it was a great presentation with a very thorough overview of the Nyanza site. The Board discussed any potential digging near the plume which Mr. Oram noted is being considered by legal counsel.

#### **Health Agent's Report**

##### **a. Budget FY19/FY20 Updates**

Mr. Oram noted that we are nearing the end of FY 2019, he has spoken with the Finance Director, Brittany Iacaponi, regarding the use of any remaining budget funds for the purchase

of a refrigerator for the childhood vaccine program. The State requires that the refrigerator be a pharmacy grade which will mean additional cost. This should be possible as long as there are no unforeseen issues within the budget.

Mr. Oram discussed the Howe Street Landfill Solar Project, including the installed monitoring wells; Mr. Oram will look into whether there are automated well monitors that could send an alarm if levels becomes elevated. We are currently in the second year of a three year contract with Envirotrac. Mr. Oram noted that we would still be required to contract a Licensed Site Professional to review the reports.

In regards to the revolving funds, Mr. Oram explained that the Tobacco Agent will soon be retiring; Mr. Oram is working with Human Resources in filling the position. We are also looking at creative ways to increase hours for the Food Inspector.

**b. June 13, 2019 meeting with DPW and School Officials on Organic Pest Control**

Mr. Oram noted that he recently attended a meeting which included personnel from DPW, the High School Athletic Department, Cobblestone Landscaping, and former Board of Health Member, Ed Hart, to discuss potential treatments for use on insects at one of the school's athletic fields. Mr. Hart had researched products prior to the meeting and found an alternative, organic pesticide, which would meet the Board of Health Pest Management Regulations.

**c. Public Health Emergency Funding for Supplies including Stop the Bleed Kits**

Mr. Oram noted that funding was available in the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program for Region 4AB. This year there was excess budgeting and Stop the Bleed Kits were offered, as well as personal care items for emergency sheltering. We will be receiving seven Stop the Bleed Kits, they may be located next to the AED's. Mr. Daniele requested that Stop the Bleed Training be put on the next agenda for discussion. Mr. Narayana would like an update as to the number of food vendors who need to renew their chokesaver training.

Mr. Etskovitz inquired as to whether tobacco vendors are aware of the new Regulations that will be in effect January 1, 2020. The Board discussed the best way to get the new Regulations out to the vendors; Board Members agreed they would like them sent Certified Mail as the first notification. Subsequently, the Tobacco Control Officer can deliver a copy to each retail location and answer any questions.

**d. Childhood Vaccine Administration and Status of Needed Equipment**

Ms. Mortensen would like the Board to receive a plan that overviews the implementation of the childhood vaccine program. Mr. Oram discussed the steps that are required by the State, and thanked Dr. John Reap for providing the written orders for the vaccines. Mr. Narayana wants to see a tabulation of the number of children that receive services. Mr. Oram said we are hoping to be ready to begin in August, but the School Nurse may not receive requests until the schools are open. Ms. Mortensen noted the program should be a collective service through both Health and School Departments with a protocol developed to include both Departments. Mr. Oram noted that, ideally, a good option would be to hold the clinics at the Head Nurse's Office at the School, particularly since the School has a backup generator.

**Review of Minutes – 5/28/2019**

Motion: Mr. Daniele made a motion to approve the Board of Health meeting minutes of May 28, 2019 as presented. Ms. Teller seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0-1. Motion approved (Mr. Narayana abstained).

**Discuss Future Agenda Topics and Meeting Dates**

Next meeting dates: July 16, 2019, at 6:00 PM, August 13, 2019.

Tobacco Regulation Review

Air Quality Report – Warren School

Glyphosate – Possible Ban – List of Towns that have banned Glyphosate

Stop the Bleed information

Community Chokesaver Training Program w/BAA Funds

2021 Budget Preparation

**Adjournment**

Motion: Mr. Daniele made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Narayana seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0. Motion approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.

ASHLAND BOARD OF HEALTH  
DOCUMENTS REVIEWED AT THE 6/18/2019 MEETING  
(All items stored in the Board of Health files unless otherwise noted)

1. Food Inspector's Report provided by Tom Curran
2. Framingham Regulations Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Smoke Accessories
3. YTD Budget Report, FY2019
4. Draft Meeting Minutes – 5/28/2019
5. Audio Recording of the meeting is available