**DEDHAM BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES**

**December 12, 2019**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Leanne Jasset, B.S.P., RPH Chairperson

Kathy Reda, RN., BSN Vice Chairperson

Mary Ellard, RN., Member

Lee Flanagan, Assistant Health Director

Fior Griffin, Administrative Assistant

**Meeting called to order at 5:33 PM**

**5:33 Open Discussion**

1. No one in the audience.

**5:33 Board Meeting Minutes Accepted**

1. Motion made by Mary Ellard to accept the minutes from the November 14, 2019 board meeting. Kathy Reda seconds the motion.
2. Minutes accepted.

**5:35 Assistant Director’s Report**

1. The Health Department have been working hard to complete all inspections and re-inspections before year end. Restaurants and establishments not correcting violations will be fined upon subsequent inspections. There are not currently any restaurants of concern.
	1. The kitchen at William Sonoma is still closed. They are in the process of correcting outstanding issues and their manager will be getting recertified in the necessary courses.
	2. Café Fresh Bagel continues to follow their maintenance cleaning procedure and weekly pest control is still in place
	3. Dunkin Donuts was fined for not correcting violations on first inspection report.  Dunkin Donuts had a recent change in management and now has a full staff again and are in compliance.
2. Jessica Tracy, the Health Nurse, has administered 890 Flu shots to date and continues to give flu shots as needed.

**5:50 D.J. Wilson Mass Tobacco**

1. On Wednesday November 27, 2019 Governor Baker signed an Act Modernizing Tobacco Control into law. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has promulgated an emergency regulation, 105 CMR 665: Minimum Standards for Retail Sale of Tobacco and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems, to implement these sections. The emergency regulation is effective as of December 11, 2019. The full text of the regulation is available at: mass.gov/NewTobaccoLaw.

Upon review of the Dedham Regulations, Mr. Wilson suggests the Board look at and rewrite some of the definitions used in their regulations. Examples include blunt wrap definition, e-cigarette wording and the prohibition of sales of flavor enhancers. Dedham does not have any smoke bars. Dedham is not issuing any new tobacco permits. Permits are not transferable upon the sale of a store from the current owner to the new owner.

Chairperson Jasset asks Mr. Wilson if he thinks it would benefit the Board to implement any changes to the Town’s regulations concerning flavored electronic nicotine delivery systems and the sale of tobacco products that have a characteristic flavor. Mr. Wilson suggested the Board wait until the spring, when the State changes go into effect. For now, he would like to review and update the wording of our current tobacco regulations. He informed the Board that there are currently 7 towns being sued for not allowing the sale of flavored tobacco. They are suing on the grounds that extending their flavor ban to mint and menthol is arbitrary because they are leaving behind Marlborough Reds in the same stores. Mr. Wilson also shared with the Board that Canton, MA has banned all sale of e-cigarettes not just flavors.

Mr. Wilson will tentatively be back with any suggestions and updates for the Board on Thursday March 12th.

 **6:23 Old Business**

1. **Research Study**

Maeve Lawlor is seeking approval from the Board to complete a fact-finding research project regarding food handler courses. This fact finding research study is part of her Practicum needed to complete her Master’s program in Public Health. The project will look at correlation between the number of violations per restaurant and the requirement of towns to provide a training program to the restaurants. It will also look at how the issuance of fines by the town affects the number of violations. She wants to know if the lack of proper food handler knowledge can lead to an increase in food born illnesses. There will be 3 towns in the study. She is seeking approval from the Board of Health to begin this research project. In Dedham, the Health department does not provide a food handler course for restaurants and their employees, but they do issue fines for violations. Middleborough is the second town that will be part of the study. Middleborough currently has a program in place to help train restaurants and their employees but they do not issue fines for violations. Maeve is currently looking for a third town to be apart of the study. This town would be the control. They will not have a food handler program in place nor will they issue fines for violations. Towns that are being considered as the control town are: Avon and Milton. During this Fact-based research study, Maeve would not be going into any restaurants or acting as an agent of the Board. She would review inspection reports, which are public record.

The Board motions to approve the project proposal contingent that the Board receives weekly updates from Jessica, the Health Nurse, on her time demands, help given would not qualify for overtime, confirmation of a 3rd town willing to participate and that Maeve would not act as an agent of the Board nor enter any restaurants to perform surveillance. The Board maintains the option to revisit the motion if the project is too time consuming on our Health Dept.

1. **New Food Code**
	1. Assistant Health Director Flanagan presented the Board with the handouts the Health Department intends to hand out to restaurants regarding the 2013 Food Code changes. Training for our staff will take place on Wed Jan 8th. The training will be administered by Lisa Berger from the Berger Firm. They will receive on-site inspectional training and follow-up assistance.

No Executive Session

Motion to adjourn @ 7:25 PM by Kathy Reda. Motion seconded by Mary Ellard.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Correspondence/Exhibits:

1. Correspondence from DPH
2. Inspection reports (3)