

Leanne Jasset, Chair
Noreen Guilfoyle, Vice Chair
Bernadette Chirokas, Member

Kylee Sullivan, Director
Mavis Stephany Lopez Silva,
Office Manager



450 Washington St
Dedham, MA 02026
(781) 751-9220
www.dedham-ma.gov

TOWN OF DEDHAM BOARD OF HEALTH

Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Location: Town Hall (450 Washington Street) Room 304

The following Board of Health Members were present:

Leanne Jasset, Chair
Noreen Guilfoyle, Vice Chair
Bernadette Chirokas, Member

The following staff were present:

Kylee Sullivan, Health Director

Meeting is called to order Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at 5:30PM

Discussion & Vote 01-10-2023 Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair Noreen Guilfoyle requested minutes reflect her voting as present. Vice Chair Noreen Guilfoyle made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Member Bernadette Chirokas. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as amended.

Outdoor Dining Working Group Update

In Fall 2022, the Dedham Select Board voted to create an Outdoor Dining Working group in response to the outdoor dining on public property that became popular due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This Working Group is comprised of members of the Town Manager's Office, Health, Public Works, Building, and Planning Departments. Elected members on the Working Group include Leanne Jasset (BOH), Jim MacDonald (Select Board), and John Bethoney (Planning Board). Some members of the Working Group met with Dedham Square Circle to discuss the proposed Outdoor Dining Regulations and possible questions and concerns. Concerns raised during the meeting included outdoor dining costs and barrier requirements. Director Sullivan will continue to update the Board as new information becomes available.

Update from Health Director

Emergency Calls:

As a result of the extremely low temperatures last weekend, frozen water pipes burst throughout Town. The Health Department responded to emergency calls from several food establishments, including Brickhouse Café due to a pipe issue. The establishment ceased operations temporarily while the issue was rectified. Atlas Kebab and Grill had a significant pipe burst in their kitchen and walk in freezer, and is still currently closed due to the resulting damage. The Department is working with them to ensure all necessary repairs are made to the facilities, electrical and plumbing before re-opening. The Health Department will need to conduct an inspection before Atlas Kebab re-opens for service. Similarly, East Dedham Pizzeria experienced significant damage to their physical facilities due to a burst pipe. The Department has also been working with East Dedham Pizzeria and will must conduct an inspection

before they are able to re-open for operation. The timeframe to reopen for both these establishments is currently unknown. Director Sullivan also reported to a call on Saturday night due to an interruption of hot water from a burst pipe at the Residence Inn. The hot water was restored that same night.

Townwide Summit:

The first town wide summit will be hosted at the Dedham Middle School, on Tuesday, February 28, 2023. This summit will include various Town boards, committees, and commissions to come together and provide updates. Director Sullivan recommended providing updates on changes to housing regulations and biotech regulations. Madam Chair Leanne Jasset recommended providing an update on the lifting of COVID-19 federal emergency declarations. Director Sullivan will work with the Board to put together a presentation for the upcoming summit.

Permit Renewals:

The Health Department sent out letters recommended by Town Counsel to establishments that failed to renew their food and/or tobacco permit applications. All establishments submitted the required permit renewal information and permits were issued. The Health Department will continue to work on supporting and increasing communications to establishments regarding the importance of timely permit renewals.

14 Arbor Lane:

A court hearing for the condemned property at 14 Arbor Lane was held on January 20, 2023. The judge ruled in favor of appointing a receiver to bring the property into compliance with applicable public health, building, and nuisance regulations. The Abandoned Housing Initiative is in the process of filing a proposed order and a receiver will be appointed based on a list of eligible receivers from the court. Director Sullivan will continue to update the Board as new information becomes available.

127 Curve St:

A court hearing for 127 Curve Street was held on January 18, 2023. The judge did not make a ruling as it related to Town Counsel's petition to order occupant, and deceased property owner's relative, Steve Ashcroft, to bring the property into compliance with cited violations. The judge reported that since Mr. Ashcroft is not the owner of the property, the court cannot enforce a petition to order him to clean and unclutter the property. This matter is challenging to enforce because the owner of the property is deceased, the property has not gone to probate, and there is no known will of the deceased owner. The Department will work with Town Counsel to explore other options. Director Sullivan will continue to update the Board as new information becomes available.

rDNA Regulations:

Draft regulations were sent to Town Counsel for review. The Health Department is still awaiting feedback from Town Counsel. Director Sullivan will update the Board once feedback is provided.

MDPH Local Health Internship Program:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health's (MDPH) Bureau of Infectious Diseases and Laboratory Sciences announced this year's local public health internship program. The Department had an intern last year who assisted with regulation review and resource development for food establishments. The internship would run from mid-May through mid-August (approximately 160 cumulative hours.) MDPH screens applicants, then connects applicants with communities. The application deadline is February 17, 2023. The Department would like to apply to the program with the goal of having an intern assist with projects such as the creation of a tobacco training for retailers and social media content for seasonal health topics.

Norfolk County Mosquito Control District Annual Report:

Director Sullivan included Dedham's 2022 Norfolk County Mosquito Control District annual report.

Funding Secured for Emergency Shelter Supplies:

The Department was awarded funding in the amount of \$3,570.00 for emergency shelter supplies from the 4AB Public Health Emergency Preparedness group. The purchased supplies will include a 50-person shelter care kit, including 50 self-inflating mats, 50 blankets, 50 inflatable pillows, two first aid kits, one emergency weather alert radio, 50 personal hygiene kits, and a wire cart to store the supplies.

Body Art Regulations-Piercing:

A piercing establishment, Rowan, will be opening in Legacy Place. Director Sullivan has been working with the establishment to ensure their compliance with our local health regulations.

Public Health Nurse:

Member Bernadette Chirokas inquired about the number of reported TB cases in Dedham. Director Sullivan stated that this increase of cases may be due to testing repeat cases with repeat notifications but will confirm this with the Public Health Nurse. Public Health Nurse Jessica Tracy has been working closely with the state to monitor and investigate these cases.

Dedham COVID-19:

Dedham COVID-19 statistics as of 02/07/2023:

- Confirmed cases (positive PCR test): 6,539
- Probable cases (positive Antigen test): 826
- Deaths: 109

Old Business/New Business:

Cases of Listeriosis have been reported, the Health Department will work with the Town's Director of Communications to send out information to the Town.

Public Comment:

No public was present for comment.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vice Chair Noreen Guilfoyle at 6:03 PM. The motion was seconded by Member Bernadette Chirokas. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:03 PM on Tuesday, February 7, 2023.

This is to certify that the above is a true and accurate record of the minutes of the Board of Health's Meeting held on February 7, 2023, which minutes were approved on March 28, 2023.

Leanne Jasset – Chairman