

Bernadette Chirokas, Chair  
Leanne Jasset, Vice-Chair  
Emma Reidy, Member

Kylee Foley (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, August 13, 2024

**Location: HYBRID MEETING** (Town Hall, 450 Washington Street, Room 304 and via Zoom.)

**The following Board of Health Members were present:**

Bernadette Chirokas, Chair  
Leanne Jasset, Vice-Chair  
Emma Reidy, Member

**The following staff were present:**

Kylee Foley, Health Director  
Mavis Stephany Lopez Silva, Office Manager

**Meeting is called to order Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 5:32 PM**

**Public Comment** No public present for comment in person or remotely.

**Discussion & Vote: 06/11/2024 Meeting Minutes:** The Board of Health did not meet in July. Member Emma Reidy motioned to accept the June 11, 2024, Board of Health meeting minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Leanne Jasset. The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to approve the minutes as written.

**Discussion (& Possible Vote): Rowan Body Art Variance Request- Practitioner Permit for Shawna Kenney** Rowan is an ear-piercing business who has been operating at Legacy Place since spring 2023. The business is requesting a practitioner permit variance for Shawna Kenney, who does not have the required two (2) years of experience as outlined in The Board's Rules and Regulations for Body Art Establishments and Practitioners. A copy of the Boards' Body Art Regulations, as well as all required supplemental materials were included in the board's packets. Nicole Giannone and Rachel Cohen were virtually present at the meeting representing Rowan. Nicole stated that Shawna has been a licensed nurse for over a year and has undergone extensive training at Rowan. Vice Chair Leanne Jasset inquired if there have been any issues with any inspections or reports since Rowan opened. Director Foley stated there have not been any issues and clarified that the piercings at Rowan are limited to ears only. Vice Chair Leanne Jasset moved to approve this variance request. Member Emma Reidy seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to grant the variance contingent upon the training program outlined in Rowan's variance application.

**Discussion (& Possible Vote): Melty Way Variance Request-Grease Trap Cleaning** Melty Way, located at 290 Washington Street, will be a new food establishment opening soon. The establishment is a sandwich shop and focuses on serving melted sandwiches, salads and soups. The owner submitted a variance request for the requirement of monthly internal grease trap cleaning outlined in Dedham's local Rules and Regulations for the Maintenance of Grease Traps.

Richard Berry, owner of Melty Way was present at the meeting and offered additional information on the menu items, their preparation, and plans for the establishment. The Dedham location has not yet been permitted to open; however Melty Way does have other locations that follow a quarterly grease trap cleaning schedule, and Mr. Berry reported no issues.

Vice Chair Leanne Jasset made a motion to approve the variance request contingent on no issues arising from the quarterly cleaning schedule. The motion was seconded by Member Emma Reidy. The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to grant the variance.

**Discussion (& Possible Vote): Melty Way Variance Request-Garbage** Melty Way submitted a variance request from the Board of Health's Food Service Establishments Regulations requirement of garbage disposal. The establishment submitted a variance request application which was included in the Board's packet. Richard Berry, owner of Melty Way was present at the meeting. He stated minimal food preparation, dine in food service and raw food waste/disposal will be done at Melty Way. Additionally, the establishment has limited seating; due to these reasons, they are requesting a variance. Vice Chair Leanne Jasset inquired about their protocol for food waste disposal in place of the garbage disposal and their trash pick-up schedule. Mr. Berry stated he will confirm, however, he believed they are scheduled to have trash pick-up twice per week. Director Foley stated that as they are not yet permitted to operate, this matter will be reviewed and discussed during pre-operational inspections.

Vice Chair Leanne Jasset moved to approve the variance contingent upon twice a week trash removal and no pest or overflow issues reported. The motion is seconded by Emma Reidy. The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to grant the variance.

**Discussion (& Possible Vote): Family Dollar Outstanding Violations** The Health Department was made aware of a issue at the Family Dollar in April 2024. Assistant Health Director, Leontia Flanagan, has conducted numerous inspections and worked with store staff to address this issue since April 2024. The issue has been persistent and remains unresolved. The Board has been provided an outline of Assistant Director Flanagan's work with Family Dollar since April. These efforts include a request on July 16, 2024, for a corrective action plan outlining the store's plan to address this ongoing issue. Assistant Director Flanagan inspected the store on July 26, 2024, and observed unsanitary conditions and mouse droppings in the establishment as outlined in the included inspection report.

Attorney Jack Siegal, counsel for Family Dollar, as well as Francisca Perdomo, District Manager for Family Dollar, were present at the meeting representing Family Dollar. Chair Bernadette

Chirokas commented on the importance of this business to this neighborhood, and how concerned the families that frequent the establishment are with the sanitary conditions of the establishment. Attorney Siegal stated he advised his client to address these issues as soon as possible and implement plans, so these problems do not continue to arise. Assistant Director Flanagan met with the pest control operator for Family Dollar during the most recent inspection and Director Foley reviewed the inspection findings. These findings included excessive clutter, conditions that allow for presence and harborage of pests, pest droppings and general debris found in shelving units, along with various structural issues. Director Foley stated the pest control operator recommended cessation of food delivery until the mice situation has been brought under control. The pest control operator will be at the establishment every three days until there are no catches, and then will continue to service the establishment weekly. Vice Chair Leanne Jasset expressed concern as this is not the first time this establishment has been brought in front of the Board. Additionally, she expressed concern as the initial contact was made in April attempting to alert them of the issue. Attorney Siegal stated that while he is unable to change the amount of time that has transpired, he is working diligently to ensure immediate corrective action. He stated Family Dollar is committed firmly to resolving and adhering to the expectations and standards as applicable. Director Foley stated that the addition of a cleaning log and cleaning schedule should be part of the corrective action plan. Member Emma Reidy made a motion to order the cessation of food delivery at the Family Dollar contingent upon: 1) no more catches on the pest control operator's inspection reports and their service move to weekly, 2) successful weekly Health Department inspections and 3) resubmission of the corrective action plan to include concrete cleaning schedules, cleaning logs and a timeline to correct outstanding structural deficits of the building. The Board will revisit the matter at next month's Board meeting. Vice Chair Leanne Jasset seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously 3-0 to continue this matter.

### **Update from Health Director**

**Door to Door Inspection Program in the Manor Neighborhood:** The inspection program to determine illicit sewer connections that may contribute to sewage backups in the neighborhood began on July 15. Weston and Sampson representatives are conducting inspections on behalf of the Town. All inspections conducted up to this point have been prescheduled as many residents were proactive in scheduling their inspection. The Engineering Department has received overall positive feedback thus far.

**Opioid Abatement Task Force** Town staff started meeting to discuss the opioid abatement funding Dedham is receiving. Representatives include the Police Chief, Fire Chief, Assistant Town Manager, Health Director, Public Health Nurse, DOSA Program Director, Director of Communications, Youth Commission Director, School Director of Health Services Pre-K-12, and Dedham Housing Authority Executive Director. The group has met twice and will be meeting approximately every two weeks starting in September. Topics discussed include projects to utilize the funding, including the creation of a community grant program where organizations can apply for funding to support substance use programs. Member Emma Reidy inquired if

“NARCAN” (naloxone) is available to the town residents through the Health Department. Director Foley confirmed naloxone spray (NARCAN) is available at no cost through the Health Department, training from the Public Health Nurse and educational materials are also provided.

**CareCab Program;** The CareCab program is the rebranded BILH grant funded program made possible through BID Needham Determination of Need Community Health Initiative Funds. Justin Kelley was hired as the grant program coordinator and has been working diligently on creating materials and a framework for the program which will provide free taxi transportation to Dedham residents 18+ to mental health and substance use appointments/programs. Justin has worked closely with Amanda Smith, Director of Communications, to finalize all materials before the program’s launch on August 20, 2024.

**Public Health Nursing Events** The annual public flu immunization clinic will be held on Tuesday, October 8 at the Dedham Middle School, and the senior flu clinic will be held on Thursday, October 10. Public Health Nurse Katie Paciorkowski is working on a social media campaign for vaccine awareness as August is National Immunization Awareness Month. Homebound, Town Staff, and First Responder vaccinations will also be administered in October.

**\*Old/New Business**

**Goal Setting** Director Foley suggested planning for 2025 goal setting. The Board will keep this in mind to discuss at future meetings.

Vice Chair Jasset made a motion to adjourn the meeting 6:37PM. Member Emma Reidy seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously 3-0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:37PM.

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 August 13, 2024, which minutes were approved on September 17, 2024.

Bernadette Chirokas – Chair