

DEDHAM BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
January 11, 2018 at 5:30pm

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jason Brogan MS, CISSP, Chairperson
Dr. J Stephen Camer MD Vice Chairperson
Leanne Jasset, B.S.P., RPH, Member
Catherine Cardinale, Health Director
Renee Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Meeting called to order at 5:31

1) Minutes Accepted

2) First order of Business

Catherine Cardinale, shares with the Board we are applying for a “DRUG FREE COMMUNITY” grant. She explains that most communities get denied their first year applying, however the second year it usually is accepted. The grant will fund a full time and part time position to prevent and reduce youth substance abuse in the community, respond to local drug and alcohol use problems with effective strategies dealing with emerging drug trends.

A. Jason Brogan asks if the program matches the amount we are awarded?

B. Stephen Camer asks if the program will be therapeutic based vs creating a program executed and created by an executive, and finds it imperative that we plan what the vision is and based on what other communities have done.

C. Catherine Cardinale explains that working with other communities to guide us will be key in developing the program.

D. Stephen Camer expresses that we must distance ourselves from what the Federal Government is doing already.

3) The Board of Health will also be reapplying for the internship via our public health Nurse, Jessica Tracy, to aid in her project. It entails setting a comprehensive Board of Health childhood immunization program that includes current model standing orders, protocols and SOPs based on the child’s age vaccines, etc.

A. Leanne Jasset, believes that we did well with the interns last year.

B. Stephen Camer, wants to know how many “objecting” parents we have against vaccinations in the Dedham school system. Director Catherine Cardinale will get the information from our Public Health Nurse.

4) Catherine Cardinale informs the board that she is currently working on the Budget, and new benchmarking procedures. She shares a documents that lists all of the questions she is asking of the 15 communities, she believes that it will help us, to compare.

a. She shares the reports of the inspectors that list all of the inspections that office has completed in the last 3 years through our MetVerse system in 2016. She feels as though her numbers have been off in total inspections the office attends.

B. overall including follow up inspections are included, but she wants to work on getting more accurate results.

5) Catherine Cardinale wants to complete inspections on a point based system, Restaurants, that have sushi and nursing homes would be four points for example, however small convenience stores that sell candy would be a 2. Leanne Jasset asks about "Letter Grades" in lieu of a point based system.

Catherine Cardinale believes that letter grades are not fair, as we only see a snapshot of those places, based on when inspections are done. If anyone the community calls for an inspection report, the office will provide it. A town the size of Dedham, and the amount of restaurants it would be difficult. Leanne Jasset asks compared to the size of Dedham is the ratio of restaurants abnormal? Catherine Cardinale believes although we have a lot of changer over it does appear that we have a large amount of restaurants, the average inspector should do about 100 inspections a year, and based on the size of our inspector staff, we are way off.

Old Business

6) Stephen Camer reiterates his desire for a health fair in the spring, he wishes to hear from Catherine Cardinale about the best way to achieve this. He thinks that the health fair can be in conjunction with an already established event in Dedham. Catherine Cardinale would possibly interested. Jason Brogan states that St. Luke's is a possibility. Camer would like his contact information available to anyone who is interested.

7) The Board of Health's statement on recreational marijuana.

A. Leanne Jasset would like to know more about what is needed.

B. Stephen Camer states that he has very strong feelings on it. He views it the same as using alcohol or tobacco every day, however if we use the slippery slope of it being a gateway drug, that is when we play into the advocates of marijuana's hands. The real question is would you want your 14 year old grandson using? No.

C. Jason Brogan asks how they should draft the statement from the Board and inquires with the other members how they will work it out. Catherine Cardinale states that the Board will need it by next meeting.

8) Fee Schedule: Catherine Cardinale says that we are in line with the other communities regarding what we charge. She expresses that we need to really address the late fees. A lot of the area restaurants, let a while pass before they

renew. Currently after 3 months they are charged percentages by our Board of Health. Other towns, double the fee the day after the permit is due (January 1st) and not renewed. Catherine Cardinale feels as though we give them adequate time, she educates them upon opening restaurants as to what is expected. The office issues reminder emails in November. Stephen Camer is shocked to learn that the businesses let the time lapse, as most of them are in walking distance of our Town Hall.

A. Catherine Cardinale would like to enforce the January 2nd, late fee policy that double the original permit fee is due. The Board is all in agreement about raising the fees. Jason Brogan would like to see that if they haven't completed by the end of January that they are fined for operating without a license.

B. Catherine Cardinale will provide the Board of Health next meeting with a revamped Board of Health Fee Schedule for 2018.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:01.