

## **BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES – February 2, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas McLaughlin, MD at the Town Managers Meeting Room at 7:00 P.M. with the reading of the public notice, posted by the Town Clerk. Also in attendance were; Member, Edmund Kowalski; Member, Martha Swindell, Mark L. Carleo, Public Health Inspector; Judith Ryan, Public Health Nurse; and Melanie Dineen, Environmental Health Inspector and Clerk.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of January 5, 2017.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

#### **LICENSING & PERMITS**

Carleo informed the Board since the January meeting 20 additional Food Establishment Permits have been issued. Four applications or fees are still outstanding. Dineen commented that the Town now has 206 permitted Food Establishments.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

#### **NUISANCE REPORTS**

Since the last meeting, thirteen complaints were filed with the Office of the Board of Health. Most notable are the housing complaints, three of which were reviewed in detail.

#### **137 HOLTEN STREET**

Carleo reported that the general property condition is poor. The interior walls contain heavy nicotine stains. Carleo and the building inspector, Rich Maloney, recently inspected the property and Carleo determined that the property would pass from a health standpoint as soon as new flooring was installed. During the inspection Carleo discovered three unlicensed dogs living downstairs and one living upstairs. In addition there was two unvaccinated cats living on the premises. This matter has been turned over to Jean Marcotti. The building inspector's office is also following up on the fact that there is two complete kitchens in a single family home.

#### **65 PURCHASE STREET**

Carleo reported that this dwelling remains boarded up. The neighborhood will eventually start complaining about it as a blight. The owner's daughter is visiting from England the week of February 3 and Carleo has a meeting scheduled to discuss the future plans of this property.

#### **313 MAPLE STREET**

The town receives approximately two complaints per year regarding this parcel. Over the years there has been many attempts made to contact the Owner with no response. Currently there is a bank in control of this property that has not responded to Carleo's multiple inquiries. Under advice from Town Counsel Carleo notified the board of the intent to board up the property. The town has approximately \$3000 budgeted for such an occasion. Carleo will draft an affidavit and petition for the appointment of a receiver. Carleo will then work with the building inspector to assess the extent of damage in order to determine future steps. There was a general discussion and the board approved the steps to be taken.

## **FOOD PROGRAM STANDARDS**

Carleo reported that the Health Department has an ambitious goal to meet many of the Food Retail Program Standards in 2017. Carleo provided the Board with his self-assessment worksheet for Standard 1 – Regulatory Foundation. This was achieved due to the adaption of the 2013 Food Code by the Board in August of 2016.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES REPORT**

Judith Ryan reported that the Greater North Shore Public Health Nurses met in January and discussed the incidence of flu virus in the population. In general the nurses are concerned about the high levels of flu in the population and the trend of people not willing to get the flu shot. To combat this trend, the public health nurses have drafted a press release encouraging people to get the flu shot and to tell them that it is still not too late to do so.

### **DANVERS CARES**

In conjunction with Danvers Cares there will be a presentation from Dr. Ruth Potee on Feb. 9, 2017 about addiction and the adolescent brain. This will take place at the Danvers High School.

### **WELL CHECK PROGRAM**

Liisa Jackson from the Medical Reserve Corp is working with Ryan and the Council On Aging to develop a daily well call program. This program is conducted by volunteers and is reportedly working very well in Salem.

### **SOCIAL SENIORS**

Ryan reported that this program is doing very well. There are at least 12-13 seniors attending daily, which is the program limit. Ryan currently has a waitlist. The program is working to extend the intergenerational programs between Danvers residents. The next event will be at the DHS, with a meal program called Seniors Serving Seniors.

### **DISEASE INVESTIGATIONS**

Ryan reported that MAVEN shows 11 confirmed cases of influenza since the last meeting. The majority are from Influenza Type A. Most notably however was a single suspect Mumps case in a 40 year old male. The suspect was isolated to his home for 5 days at which time blood-work returned negative.

Carleo shared a memo from DPH with the Board and Ryan reminding them that Norovirus cases, outbreaks or suspected cases are reportable to DPH. He tied this reminder in with the outbreak reported from the last meeting. As he had expressed, DPH was quite zealous in that investigation, largely due to their CDC grant for norovirus surveillance. Not being cynical though, Carleo stated that the impacts from the number of norovirus cases nationally is staggering. Dr. McLaughlin agreed.

## **ANIMAL CARE**

### **STRAYS IN NEED**

On behalf of Jean Marcotti, Carleo informed the Board that since the last meeting, Strays in Need has one cat about a year old and an older, very sweet female pit that are in need of homes.

### **ANIMAL COMPLAINTS**

Carleo informed the Board that since the last meeting Marcotti investigated two animal health complaints. Both complaints were in regards to dog bites. This led to a discussion of the Danvers animal control program, leash laws and the lack of a dedicated animal control officer to patrol for violations.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **REGULATION OF MARIJUANA**

Dr. McLaughlin initiated a general discussion about the possibility of towns in MA voting to prohibit licensing establishments in their communities. Carleo had only heard of one community which passed a moratorium while they work to create Zoning By-Law, but agreed to conduct research and add marijuana regulation as a regular item to the BOH agenda under Public Health Services.

With no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:10PM.

Respectfully submitted for your approval,

Melanie Dineen  
Clerk for the Board of Health