

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES – February 1, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas McLaughlin, MD. at the Town Managers Meeting Room at 7:00 P.M. Also in attendance were; Edmund Kowalski, Member; Dutrochet Djoko, Member; Jean Marcotti, Animal Care Specialist; and, Mark L. Carleo, Assistant Director of Public Health.

ADMINISTRATION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

McLaughlin and Kowalski voted to approve the minutes of November 2, 2017 with Djoko abstaining as he was not a member of the Board at the time.

INTRODUCTION OF A NEW BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBER

Carleo formally introduced newly sworn in Member of the Board Dutrochet Djoko and asked that he provide the other members and staff in attendance with a summary of his qualifications and passion for Public Health. Djoko introduced himself as a Pharmacist, a Husband, a Father, and, also talked about his passion for Public Health Education, particularly on the subject of substance addiction. All welcomed Mr. Djoko to the Board.

TOBACCO CONTROL

Carleo requested that the Chair skip to Tobacco Control as we had guests in attendance for this agenda item. The Chair agreed. Carleo introduced Joyce Redford who manages our Tobacco Control program for the region.

Redford was present to discuss two potential actions the Board can take; prohibition of flavored tobacco products, and, capping the number of tobacco permits. Redford provided data showing approximately 109 communities in MA which translates to about 48% of the population of the Commonwealth is living under this law currently. She brought with her some examples of the flavored products meant to be captured under this regulation. She further discussed the capping of permits citing retailer density relative to recreational cannabis stores which may receive licenses later this year. Carleo informed Redford that on December 4, 2017 Town Meeting voted to prohibit recreational cannabis shops; therefore, capping of permits will not be necessary at this time.

Carleo asked Redford about how she sees the process going forward. It was generally agreed that DJ Wilson would be invited to the March meeting, a hearing held in April with a vote at the April or May meeting. July 1 would be a target date to have an enacted regulation. It was mentioned that some time to allow for stores to sell off current stock be provided.

A guest, Dennis Lane requested that the Chair allow him to speak. As he was the only individual in attendance, the Chair recognized Mr. Lane.

Mr. Lane was present representing the Coalition for Responsible Retailing. He believes that since 21 is the purchasing age, that these products are already adult only if stores are compliant with the regulation. He stated that in his 44 years of running the 7-11 in Quincy he has never had a violation. He suggested stricter enforcement of current law. He further stated that prohibition does not work and we should continue to regulate instead. He also questioned why possession of tobacco products by a minor is

allowed. Mr. Lane stated his business would be devastated if his community prohibited flavored items and that the results of flavor restrictions are minimal.

The Board took the above under advisement.

ANIMAL CARE

ANIMAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Present to introduce herself to Djoko, as well as to provide her monthly update was Jean Marcotti. Marcotti gave a brief overview of what services Animal Health provides as well as the role of the Animal Control Officer. Our primary concern in our Animal Health program is rabies. Carleo added to Marcotti's overview of our Animal Health program, stating that the number of contact in the form of emails, contact forms through danversma.gov as well as phone calls dwarfs all other calls we receive. It is a program in high demand in Town.

Marcotti then provided the Board an update since the November meeting. Since November 2, 2017 we fielded 30 animal calls. Marcotti provided a quick breakdown of the types of calls, the majority of which were to the Animal Control Officer. Wildlife calls were down to 9, a significant, albeit expected reduction since the summer months.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

PERMITS AND LICENSING UPDATE

Carleo updated the Board on the significant annual permitting activities that have occurred since the November meeting. In sum, 203 food establishments were permitted, 3 body art establishments, 3 body art practitioners, one tanning facility, and 4 permits to transport garbage, offal or offensive substances. The above permits brought in approximately \$41,196.00 in fees.

NUISANCE REPORT

Carleo summarized the nuisance investigations conducted since the last meeting. In total 51 complaints were received.

65 PURCHASE STREET

Carleo updated the Board on our activities at 65 Purchase Street. Since the last meeting, Carleo had attended a brief hearing at the District Court to have the budget for the receiver approved. After the budget was approved, the receiver began some of the work, particularly the clean out and pest control. Further updates to come as needed.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

DISEASE INVESTIGATIONS

Nurse Ryan reported that since the last meeting she has received 1 probable Hep C, 1 confirmed Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis, 8 suspect Lyme, 1 confirmed Salmonellosis and 1 suspect Varicella.

CANNABIS

Carleo reminded the Board that Town Meeting had passed a prohibition on recreational cannabis shops in Town. This will remain on the agenda for the time being so the public is assured that as this industry emerges in Massachusetts, that public health is still guarded.

Respectfully submitted for your approval,

Mark L. Carleo
Clerk for the Board of Health