

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES – January 16, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas McLaughlin, MD at the Senior Center at 7:00 P.M. Also in attendance were; Edmund Kowalski, Member; Dutrochet Djoko, Member; Judith Ryan, Public Health Nurse; Alicia Linehan, Clerk; Joyce Redford, Tobacco Control; and, Mark L. Carleo, Assistant Director of Public Health.

ADMINISTRATION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Board unanimously accepted the minutes of November 14, 2019.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

PUBLIC HEARING: CHERRY STREET MARKET VARIANCE REQUEST

Robert T. Kuhn, of Gienapp Architects is planning a major renovation at the Cherry Street Fish Market, and is requesting a variance to use polypropylene pipes for floor drains which collect salt water to avoid corrosion as currently exists. All other plumbing will meet the appropriate code requirements with cast iron piping. The project will include a loading dock with a second-floor addition. There will not be any work in the existing retail area. The back 2/3 of the building will be taken down to the slab, and replumbed to fix existing sanitation issues such as ponding water. In order to do so, there will be an aggressive slope added to the slab. A full plan review has not been conducted as of yet because this is still in the planning stages.

Carleo told the Board that the plumbing inspector reviewed the proposal, and they both recommended that they approve the variance request.

The Board unanimously voted to approve the variance request.

PUBLIC HEARING: 50 MAPLE STREET

In attendance was Nicola and Joyce Pasciuto, for an appeal and order issued on November 19, 2019 due to the overfilled dumpster at 50 Maple Street. Carleo explained to the Board, that this dumpster is located behind the square and has received many complaints over the course of years, since around 2008. The complaints center around the dumpster routinely overflowing, failure to maintain the area in sanitary condition, and near constant, significant rodent activity.

In the years prior, Carleo ordered that the dumpster be removed. It was appealed to the Board, and the order was sustained the order. The Pasciuto's came before for Board, a discussion and agreement were reached under the conditions that; the dumpster pad be repaired for cleanability and drainage, continue to provide pest control services, provide legs for the dumpster for cleanability, and maintain the area in a sanitary condition. These items ordered by the Board were never put in effect by the Owners.

Since issuing the November 19 order, Carleo has received additional complaints. Mr. Pasciuto is the responsible party as he is the property owner; however, the tenants are the ones creating the unsanitary conditions. The tenants are even throwing bags over the fence onto the Historical Society's property which Carleo himself took care to dispose of. He is looking for a more final resolution to this ongoing issue..

Carleo recommends to the Board that they uphold the order as this is very basic sanitation, that left unchecked will contribute to a decline in general environmental health.

Mrs. Pasciuto explained to the Board that they do have the dumpster emptied twice a week, and pest control every month. She did state that on a few occasions the hauling company never showed up. The businesses that use the dumpster are IPazzi, the new hair salon, and the now closed, Good Lickings.

Carleo produced pictures, showing the condition of the concrete pad, an empty dumpster with garbage, and litter on the top, and around the dumpster. He asked Mr. and Mrs. Pasciuto how they are going to handle this so that it doesn't continue, and the tenants realize it will no longer be tolerated by their landlord.

The owner and Board agree that a letter be distributed to tenants from owner warning them of the sanitation issues and explore the use of color-coded bags provided for each tenant, and possibly installing cameras.

The Board voted unanimously to continue this discussion until March, while Mr. and Mrs. Pasciuto work with the tenants and ensure more routine pick-ups for the dumpster.

PERMITS AND LICENSING UPDATE

Carleo informed the Board that since the last meeting, the majority of permitting for the year has been completed, 5 body art establishments were permitted with 2 still outstanding. They have been sent final notices, stating that they would be subject to additional action on January 17 if application and payment are not submitted. One came in today, the other is due in tomorrow. 10 body art practitioners' licenses were issued, 3 were still outstanding, but 1 came in today, another tomorrow and the third may not be working in town at this time. Compared to last year, there are now 7 body art establishments with 13 practitioners in town. There were 171 food permits issued, and only a handful are outstanding. This is a record because usually in January there will still be approximately 30 establishments that require permitting. The 4 manufactured housing communities, 2 tanning facilities and 4 garbage haulers were also permitted. Much of the credit goes to Alicia Linehan who handled the permitting this year. The Board thanked her for her efforts. Total revenue was just over \$38,000 in permit fees. This is the bulk of the permitting, except for summer camps and pools.

VIOLATIONS/NUISANCE REPORT

There were three emergency hoarding situation calls received after hours within days of each other. On December 27, 2019 Peter Mirandi was contacted and responded to an Andover Street address. The house is in squalid condition. Carleo is not sure what caused DPD and DFD to respond, but when they arrived the occupant was deceased. He was an elderly veteran, and currently with the medical examiner. Not aware of any next of kin, however research is ongoing by a public administrator. If one kin not found, then the Town may be responsible for the burial. The house was condemned and boarded up. The court will transfer the home to a third party, and it will probably be demolished if no next of kin can be found.

The following day, December 28, 2019 another call came to Mirandi for a resident in the Back-Bay area of Town. Carleo is familiar with the occupant, who he met in 2002 when called to his first hoarding case where she resided with her mother at the time. The dwelling was in extremely unsanitary condition and immediately condemned. The occupant vacated the unit. The owner who lives in New York happened to be in town at the time of the call. The owner had the dwelling completely cleaned out by a remediation company. Carleo lifted the condemnation on January 7th, due to the owner's quick response. Maureen

Howlett from the Senior Center was able to get her in a new apartment very quickly. There is a signed agreement between this woman, Carleo and the Sr. Center for regular inspections with 48 hours notice to continue routine inspections of her apartment on a quarterly basis. Her next steps should be seeing her physician or counseling.

On January 2, 2019 another call came in from Elliot Street. His file goes back to 1994, and is an extreme hoarding situation. The residence doesn't have a strong odor but when entering, it is like walking into a tunnel of papers. He is highly educated, but extremely difficult, and verbally combative. The Danvers Fire Department responded to an emergency medical aid and had to cut down a tree blocking his porch, then rip out a second floor window in order to get him out of the home as his first floor and stairs were too dangerous for first responders to carry the occupant out. Carleo met with the wife and both of his daughters. A few cleaning companies were brought in to look at the home and provide quotes. There are no plans of him returning to the home which has been condemned and clean-up will begin.

Carleo expressed to the Board that we use a supportive approach to these situations that often leads to success. His hope is that we begin to address these situations before they reach such a crisis point. He will be looking to pull in stakeholders for meetings to discuss strategies to this end.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

NURSE'S REPORT

Nurse Ryan reported 30 confirmed cases of the flu, all but 5 were reported between December 25th and January 16th. Reports are majority Type B influenza, and reports of Type A have been lower than typical for this time of year. Reports of pediatric cases are up as well. Nurse Ryan's investigation typically consists of contact with the case or guardian, and inquiry into vaccination status. Approximately half of the cases are vaccinated. Nursing homes and schools are currently quiet. One elementary has seen 9 cases. She reported that she has seen two physicians, one of which is an allergist, who have recommended two flu shots and found this highly unusually, questioning its efficacy. Dr. McLaughlin states he does not feel this is a bad idea as it will cause an increase in immunity, however insurance will likely not pay for this.

Gastrointestinal illness has been reported from a nursing/rehab facility in Town. Nurse Ryan has contacted the facility; however, discussion was delayed as the MA Department of Public Health had entered the facility for a routine annual inspection.

There were 30 flu clinics held this year, either in Danvers or regionally. The Town Hall, Senior Center, RCA, and all schools hosted clinics. One regional clinic was held with Public Health Nurses from various towns at YMCA on Pickering Street. Nurse Ryan helped at 7 clinics in other communities. She thanked Djoko for helping out at the flu clinics.

After-action information from the tabletop emerging infectious disease tabletop drill, which will help with the grant, has been submitted to DPH. There are mandatory deliverables every year, and this qualified as the largest deliverable.

Earlier today, Ryan met with police and Maureen Howlett to discuss installing a prescription disposal at the Senior Center. It was denied for security reasons. The Danvers police station has a box, and all CVS locations have them. There is an outside company that picks up within 24 hours after call from pharmacist.

There are 3 places for emergency dispensing at the Senior Center, YMCA and Danvers High School. Danvers High School is for larger measures. It is not for weather issues, but for handing out countermeasures, so the need for a generator is not that imperative because Danvers doesn't buy a quantity of vaccine. Carleo did mention that the Senior Center has been used for warming and cooling purposes which in that case a generator would be useful. He has spoken to public works in the past about purchasing one and will revisit this conversation with them.

Ryan is working with the Police Department through Danvers Cares and have purchased of 25 doses of Narcan that will be handed out to those who should carry them. All public buildings will have them, located near the AEDs. A great number of Town employees have been trained on how to use them. Next, Nurse Ryan will work to expand Narcan distribution to the community at-large and provide a 30-minute training on use and care.

Ryan continues to conduct stop the bleed trainings and has done so in other communities as well.

ANIMAL HEALTH

ANIMAL CONTROL

The Animal Control Officers approached us recently due to an influx of calls involving cats. Their issue was due to the lack of laws authorizing an ACO to respond to a call involving a cat and taking possession of it. After the meeting, it was determined that the ACO shall ensure that a cat left in a dwelling alone has food and water available, and that the cat is not to be left alone for a period of more than 48 hours. During that time, they will work to identify someone responsible. At the end of this period, the cat can be collected and brought to Danvers Animal Hospital for safe-keeping, dispatch will be informed, and if needed, a referral to the state Division of Animal Health.

OLD BUSINESS

TOBACCO

Carleo suggested to the Board that we begin exploring additional requirements for tobacco stores after their first violation. This would be a requirement for additional education on tobacco compliance, or youth access measures. These measures would be in the spirit of avoiding future violations. The Board agreed this sounds worthy of exploring and will do so in the following months as time allows.

Carleo began the discussion on "The Act on Modernizing Tobacco Control." He does not see the requirements as too significant for Danvers because there was already a flavor restriction in place, but now we will see mint and menthol removal as well. In June there should be no flavored tobacco in Danvers because they must be consumed on site in smoking bars, and the Town has banned smoking bars years ago.

The 21+ stores will be able to sell regular tobacco flavored products including unflavored vape products over 35 milligram per milliliter concentrations. Convenience stores can only sell tobacco flavored vape products if they are under 35 mg/ml and have manufacturers documentation stating what the concentration is. Joyce Redford came across literature in one of the stores from JUUL stating that they can't guarantee it is above or below 35 mg/ml. If it can't be documented, then they need to remove all JUUL products.

Carleo briefed the Board on his recent presentation to the Board of Selectmen on tobacco policy. The BOS had invited Health, DanversCARES and the Police Department to inform them on what activities each agency is undertaking to address vaping among youth. Carleo provided a broad overview of tobacco policy which was well received.

With no further business at hand, the Board adjourned at 8:50PM.

Respectfully submitted for your approval,

Mark L. Carleo
Assistant Director of Public Health