

## **BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES – August 1, 2019**

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; Judith Ryan, Public Health Nurse; and, Mark L. Carleo, Assistant Director of Public Health.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

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

The Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of July 18, 2019 as written. Carleo apologized, but the minutes of June's meeting were not prepared in time for approval. They will be available for the September meeting.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

#### **CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING: 199 HOBART STREET**

Carleo re-introduced the Board to Grenville Thoron, owner of 199 Hobart Street who was present to request an extension of the deadline contained in the order issued by Carleo. He thanked Mr. Thoron for allowing the inspection of the interior of the dwelling and appearing before the Board again to work towards a remedy of this dilapidated property. Carleo then offered several photos from his inspection of the interior, and a summary of his findings.

Kowalski began by asking Thoron if he has spoken to any contractors since the last meeting. Kowalski asserted that Mr. Thoron may not be able to conduct all of the work needed in an acceptable time frame. Thoron agreed and stated he has spoken to contractors. He hopes to get them to replace rotted exterior components such as clapboards and fascia. Thoron began to speak to some of the details of the repairs and process that should take place. Kowalski urged Mr. Thoron to see the big picture, and rather than considering what is to be done with individual pieces of timber, to focus on getting a competent contractor to come in and get the job done.

Carleo asked Mr. Thoron if the condition of the property has improved, stayed the same, or declined in the approximately 7 years that he has been the owner of the property. Thoron feels he complies. Carleo asserted that with the collapse of the barn, infiltration of water into the structure and general degradation of the dwelling, that it has indeed become significantly worse. Carleo then requested a motion to sustain the order as he believes Thoron has not presented an adequate argument to delay the enforcement of the order.

Djoko motioned to sustain the order and close the public hearing. Kowalski seconded the motion and all were in favor.

#### **PERMITS AND LICENSING UPDATE**

Carleo reported on permits issued since the last meeting.

In sum, all recreational camps for children, semi-public swimming pools, and temporary food establishments received their permits. Temporary food establishments received a significant amount of attention as per usual during the summer months. Recreational Camps for Children were a bit challenging this year with some new requirements and making sure all camps were compliant.

## **NUISANCE REPORT**

Carleo provided the highlights from the previous month's investigations. In sum, rat complaints were down over previous years.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**

### **NURSE'S REPORT**

Nurse Ryan was present to provide her routine updates to the Board.

### **COMMUNITY HEALTH**

Nurse Ryan reported on some professional development opportunities she has had since the last meeting. This included a tour of the Hinton State Laboratory in Jamaica Plain, the H.E.A.T. (heroin education task force) conference, and a seminar on Lewy Body Dementia.

She continues working with the Social Seniors program which has been successful, blood pressure clinics are continuing, as is her attendance at DanversCARES where she is now the Co-Chair, as well as the RCA infection control committee and advisory board.

### **INFLUENZA**

Very early discussion and planning for flu clinics has already started for the coming season. ACIP recommendations should be released soon.

### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

The coalition is beginning the planning for an infectious disease table top drill. DPH will be conducting "checks" of the region's EP trailers. What they are checking for was unclear.

### **DISEASE INVESTIGATIONS**

Nurse Ryan reported on her investigations of reportable illnesses since the prior meeting. This included a case of campylobacter, cryptosporidiosis, and 3 suspect Lyme cases.

### **ANIMAL HEALTH**

Carleo provided the Board with a summary of the animal health and animal control issues since the last meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **ANIMAL HUSBANDRY**

As Carleo has alluded to a few months prior, the Town may be seeking a change to the zoning by-law at a future Town Meeting which would allow for the keeping of livestock animals on private residential properties. This of course raises concerns about nuisances and disease. Therefore, the Town has requested that the Board of Health undertake the development of relevant regulations. After much research, Carleo presented the Board with a model regulation that he believes would fit the bill quite well. The proposed regulation came from the MA Association of Health Boards, and the Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation Inc. He found it strikes a proper balance of protection of public health, but not so overly burdensome that it in effect, begins a new prohibition on the keeping of animals.

He asked the Board to take their time and carefully review this, and to be prepared to offer their thoughts on the subject at a later date.

With no further business at hand, the Board adjourned at 8:45PM.

Respectfully submitted for your approval,

Mark L. Carleo  
Clerk for the Board of Health