

MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH

April 15, 2010

5:00 pm

City Hall Annex Conference Room

Present: Paulette Renualt-Caragianes (Health Director)
Dr. Brian Green, Board Member (Chair)
Babette Mello, Board Member
Paula Machado, Board Member
Kathy Henkle (Recording Secretary)

Staff Members in Attendance: None

Guests: None

Meeting Called to Order: by Dr Green and seconded by Ms. Machado at 5:12pm.

Previous Minutes: On a motion made by Dr. Green and seconded by Ms. Machado; *“The March 18, 2010 Minutes were approved as circulated.”*

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Unused/Expired Medications Disposal Update: The kiosk has been purchased and delivered to the Somerville Police Stations’ main lobby. Acting Chief Cabral is talking to his counterparts and other communities to find out if the DEA has to sign off. Once everything is in order, we will launch the program. The Health Directors’ goal is to have the needle disposal kiosk go along side the medical disposal kiosk. No updates on the kiosk that is located at CHA on its sustainability.

Food Establishment Violations: Maureen Lee, the sanitarian who is contracted out, had a computer programmer design a program that supports the state’s inspection form. Kathy Henkle went for an introductory training so we will be able to generate reports on food/retail inspections. Vendors have 7 days to comply before being shut down or face administrative hearing if they do not comply. It has come to our attention that a number of restaurants in the city should apply for variances. One particular practice is food left on their counters should have a variance. Ms. Renault-Cariagines would like to invite Maureen Lee to come to the next Board of Health meeting to explain some critical issues associated with the variance process. Ed Nuzzo was appointed by the Mayor as the new Inspectional Services Director.

Emergency Phone Tree Drill: Laura Carroll, our Emergency Preparedness Intern, conducted an emergency phone drill this month. Another drill will be conducted in a few weeks. Ms. Carroll will have cards made up for the staff and board of health members. The emergency tree drill took longer than expected, it went all right, needs a little more critiquing to get it working faster. The purpose of this drill is to get us ready for when a real emergency happens.

Health Department Updates:

Administrative: The state budget has not been finalized and the city is waiting to see how much local aid will be cut and what effects it will have on our FY11 budget. The first week in April was National Public Health Week.

Scap: Presented a social norm campaign at the Youth Peace Conference. They talked about the 79% of high school students who don't use marijuana, which was taken from the survey they conducted at the high school in February. They also went to the statehouse and met with Senator Jehlen and presented the tobacco advertising campaign. They applied for two grants - American Heart Association and the Corvidan who specializes health and wellness grants.

Public Health Nursing: held an ammonia clinic at the Council on Ageing. The attendance was low. They plan to hold another clinic in the fall. Due to the shortages of school nurses, we currently have 4 vacant positions, the public health nurses have step up to the plate and have been filling in when necessary.

Grants Administrator: Ms. Denise Holland has moved upstairs to support the grants employees and to have an office presence when other grant staff is out of the office at meetings, etc.

Clinical Youth Specialist/Trauma Network: Patty Contente and the Personnel Department co-sponsor a workshop on handling stress, which was held at the Library. Making Connections project is still on going. An art exhibit will be held to kick off Suicide Prevention Month. The schools has mandated reports of suspected bullying and Patty Contente will probably be called upon to act in a crisis management role.

Commissions: held their annual meeting and provided awards to the Early Childhood Group as the organization of the year supporting women and families and Lisa Brukilacchio from Cambridge Health Alliance for her work with the Somerville health agenda growing center as Women of the Year.

Tobacco Control: Mr. Dodd is finishing compliance checks and getting ready for next year.

Shape-Up-Somerville: plans are in the works to have a winter farmers market hopefully at the Armory. Ms. Corliss, Ms. Renault-Caragianes, and Jackie Rossetti from the Mayors communication office will be going to the annual grantees meeting in June at the University of North Carolina to talk about childhood obesity preventions.

Director's Report: On a motion made by Ms. Mello and seconded by Ms. Machado, *"The Director's March Report was approved as circulated."*

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Old Business: The Coup Regulations is still on going. Once finalized, it will come back to the Board of Health for review and approval.

New Business: Dr. Green said a meeting will be held in Somerville to discuss climate control and how global warming is affecting the earth. This meeting will be in June.

Next Meeting: May 20, 2010 at 5pm - 50 Evergreen Avenue, 1st floor Conference Room

Adjournment: A motion was made by Dr. Green and seconded by Ms. Machado to adjourn the meeting at 5:53pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Henkle (Recording Secretary)
April 22, 2010