

City of Somerville
Board of Health Meeting
February 21, 2008

Present: Dr. Brian Green, Board Chairperson
Babette Mello, Board Member
Paula Machado, Board Member
Noreen Burke, Health Director
Kathy Henkle, Board Secretary

Meeting Call to Order:

Dr. Green. made a motion to call the meeting to order at 5:11pm.

Ms. Machado seconded it.

Accept Minutes:

Dr Green made a motion to vote on the January Minutes at the next BOH Meeting in March. Ms. Machado seconded it.

Accept Directors Report:

There was no motion made to accept the Director's January Report.

Updates on Emerging Public Health Issues:

Private Wells – The city has a law student, Arial Dunlap, who will be working on the private wells regulations. Ms. Burke sent her the existing Board of Health Regulations from Dedham, Wellesley, and Needham and she was provided with the model regulations from the state, which she will adapt for Somerville. After completion of the draft a meeting will be set up consisting of Carol Antonelli, Water Commissioner, Harry Vaughn, Sanitation Code Enforcement Inspector, Frank Wright, Assistant City Solicitor, to go over these proposed regulations before going to the BOH for final approval.

Smoking Definition and Legal Notice: The legal notice to amend regulations affecting smoking in certain places has been submitted to the Somerville Journal. Dr Green questioned why we don't advertise in both the Somerville News and the Somerville Journal.

Due to the cost of legal ads, we usually just use the Somerville Journal. Ms. Burke said she would contact John Long, the City's Clerk to see if advertising in the Somerville News is cheaper than the Somerville Journal.

Needle Kiosk: The Somerville Hospital does not want a needle kiosk at their facility. Dr. Green is looking into having the needle kiosk at Central Street if it meets the criteria on being indoors not outdoors, security etc. At Central Street the kiosk would not be accessible 24/7. The state is extending the needle kiosk pilot program till June 2009. Progress on finding a place for a needle kiosk is slow going.

Other: Ms. Maria Grasso sent a letter requesting a hearing for a permanent make-up establishment permit with the intention of being built next to her beauty salon. Dr. Green spoke a little about our relationship with the weather.

Dr. Green would like to try to make the City of Somerville a snow-friendly community. Would like to see the citizens enjoy the outdoors more during the winter months. We do not have a culture of going outside and doing things in the snow. Would like to see ice sculptures through out the city, have more people cross country skiing, etc.

Directors Report

Personnel – Maureen Monagle will be starting February 25, 2008 as our new full-time Public Health Nurse. Patty Contente was hired as our new Clinical Youth Specialist. Ms. Burke will have them come to a future BOH Meeting to meet and greet with the board members.

Strategic Planning – The Mayor would like to go in the direction of having a Health and Human Services Department.

Tobacco Control - Ms. Mello asked which establishment was fined \$100 in January. Ms. Burke said she would find out from Mr. Pungirum.

Announcements – Save the Dates from the MAHB on their 2008 Certification Program Nov 1, 15, and December 6, 2008

The next Board of Health meeting will be March 20, 2008 at 5:00pm

Dr. Green made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:05pm. Ms. Mello seconded it.

Kathy Henkle
February 25, 2008

