

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF HEALTH**

March 19, 2009

5:00pm

City Hall Annex Conference Room

**Present:** Paulette Renualt-Caragianes (Health Director)

Dr. Brian Green (Chair)

Babette Mello, Board Member

Paula Machado, Board Member

Jessie Baker, Aide to the Mayor

Kathy Henkle (Recording Secretary)

**Staff Members in Attendance:** Cesar Pungirum (Tobacco Control Director), Robert Jensen (Tobacco Enforcement Officer)

**Guests:** Frank Wright (Asst. City Solicitor) Monica (Student Regis College)

A motion was made by Dr. Green and seconded by Ms. Mello to call the meeting to order at 5:07pm

**Previous Minutes:** On a motion made by Ms. Mello and seconded by Ms. Machado; *“The February 19, 2009 Minutes were approved as circulated.”*

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Previous Director’s Report:** On a motion made by Ms.Mello and seconded by Ms. Machado; *“The February’s Department Updates were approved as circulated.”*

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Tobacco Control:** On a motion made by Dr. Green, Robert Jensen was appointed as an agent of the Somerville Board of Health for the purpose of enforcing tobacco regulations and the appointment is for the duration of Mr. Jensen employment with the city.

Ms. Machado seconded it.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The board members were handed a new tobacco product alert called Ariva. A tobacco product, which comes in the form of a small, flavored tobacco pill, that dissolves in the month.

**Private Wells Regulations:** Ms. Renault-Caragianes will contact the Water Superintendent, Carol Antonelli for any clarification regarding the proposed private wells regulations. The board will schedule a public hearing at their next meeting.

**Needle Kiosk:** The needle kiosk issues have been tabled till next meeting. Ms. Renault-Caragianes will follow up with the public health nurse, Ms. Monagle on her research and send updates to the board members.

**Health Department Updates:**

Shape-up-Somerville: is working on hiring a new SUS Director, and the director will travel to Chapel Hill, NC for the Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities grant conference in early April.

Somerville Cares about Prevention (SCAP): is working on their executive board to try to get renewed interest in what they do.

Commissions: has given out an award to the Best Service Provider. The winner was Somerville Homeless Coalition. Ms. Renault-Caragianes, along with Sonja Darai, the Commission Director, will work on more awareness on domestic violence among our young teens.

School Nurses: Gay Koty, the school nurse leader, has added to her pool of sub-nurses and feels that coverage will get better. Trainings for nurses are ongoing.

Public Health Nursing: Maureen Monagle will go over with the director the implications of public health nursing and how the director can get involved.

Tobacco Control: Mr. Pungrium went over the program with the director regarding his tobacco control strategies.

Other: Overall, the new director has set up one-on-one meetings with all health department staff to get a sense of what they do, and what their programs are all about.

Dr. Green made a statement that physical inactivity during the winter months is still an on-going problem. Dr. Green mentioned that the Armory on Highland Avenue is now open and residents should check it out. The city should educate its citizens on what is available to get more people active during the winter months.

**Announcements:** Shape-Up-Somerville, along with the Recreation Department will be holding a Road Race on May 3, 2009.

The next meeting will be held in the City Hall Annex Conference Room, 50 Evergreen Avenue at 5:00pm. on April 16, 2009

A motion was made by Dr. Green and seconded by Ms. Machado to adjourn the meeting at 5:46pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Henkle (Recording Secretary)  
March 23, 2009