



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

PAULETTE RENAULT-CARAGIANES
DIRECTOR

MINUTES BOARD OF HEALTH

Regular Meeting

November 20, 2014

5:00pm

Conference Room @ Somerville Hospital
236 Highland Avenue

Present: Dina McCarron Interim Health Director
Dr. Brian Green, Board Member (Chair)
Babette Mello, Board Member
Paula Machado, Board Member
Kathy Teixeira (Recording Secretary)

Absent: None

Staff Members in Attendance: Ben Lipman, ISD Health Division, Ellen Collins, ISD Health Division, Bonny Carroll Tobacco Control, Cory Mashburn, Office of Prevention

Guests: Lt. Michael Marino, SFD, Lea Ruscio, Armory, Keith Pooler, Bergamot Restaurant

Meeting Called to Order: by Dr. Green and seconded by Ms. Mello @ 5:00pm.

Previous Minutes: On a motion made by Ms. Mello and seconded by Ms. Machado: "The October 9, 2014 Minutes were approved as circulated."
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Tobacco Control: Bonny Carroll our newly hired Tobacco Control Director was introduced to the board members. The Board of Health members signed an approval letter for the director to perform the necessary duties to work and enforce compliance for the City of Somerville. Ms. Carroll respectfully requested to come to the next board meeting in December to give the board an update on the tobacco regulations.

Ebola Update: Lt. Marino of the Somerville Fire Department was appointed as the point person/lead for any Ebola situations. The Somerville Fire Department has written a policy about entering a suspected residence if Ebola is a concern. According to the policies, Lt. Marino was asked to come to the board to have the board appoint a contact person for any suspected concerns surrounding any Ebola issues. The Board authorized that Ms. McCarron be the contact person in case the Fire Department needs to call 24/7.

ISD/Heath Updates: Ms. Collins respectfully requested to come to the next board meeting in December. They want the board to review the policy of temporary food permits and to clarify some issues around the permits.



Variance Requests – Mr. Pooler came in front of the board to request a variance for Reduced Oxygen Packaging for his restaurant, Bergamot. Dr. Green made a motion to vote on and to grant a variance for Bergamot Restaurant. It was seconded by Ms. Mello. All were in favor.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Restaurant Inspections – October 2014: Restaurants were reviewed by the board. Kitchen Inc. wants to start up a program where they can have pop-up restaurants. Pop-Up Restaurants, like food trucks, are an effective way for young professionals to gain exposure of their skills. Mr. Lipman asked the board how supportive they would be with this type of concept. Mr., Lipman said he liked the concept because it is good for business in Somerville. Dr. Green made a recommendation that Kitchen Inc, would have to be accountable for the use of their space as Pop-up=Kitchens when it comes to inspections and/or violations. Policies/guidelines would need to be in place first before Kitchen Inc. can embark on this endeavor.

Review 911 Emergency Calls – The data was reviewed by the board.

Health Department Updates:

Public Health Nursing – of the 780 state allotted doses, 548 have been administered through the cities clinics. Two clinics will be conducted at area churches on Sundays to reach out to the immigrant population. On November 23, 2014, a flu clinic will be held at St. Benedicts, the second one will be at St. Anthony’s, date to be determined. Ms. McCarron also mentioned that she has already started conversations with the City’s Auditors to potentially set up a revolving account for vaccinations for next year.

Office of Prevention - Mr. Mashburn spoke about trying to get the salaries that typically are charged to grants to have the city pay for the grant staff salaries so more grant funds can be paid for the actual services of the grants that are awarded to the various programs at the Health & Human Services Department.

Ms. Mello made a motion to accept the department’s updates and seconded by Ms. Machado.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meetings: December 18, 2014

Location - Somerville Hospital – 236 Highland Avenue Conference Room – 1st Floor@ 5:00pm.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Dr. Green to adjourn the meeting at 5:47 pm and seconded by Ms. Mello

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Teixeira (Recording Secretary)
November 24, 2014