

MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH

November 18, 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)

Absent: None

Staff Members in Attendance: None

Guests: Timothy McDonald, Tufts Student; Nisha Gurung, Cambridge College Student
Steven Azar, SPCD Office

Meeting Called to Order: by Dr Green and seconded by Ms. Machado at 5:08pm

Previous Minutes: On a motion made by Dr Green and seconded by Ms. Mello:
“The October 21, 2010 Minutes were approved as circulated.”

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Alcohol and Energy Drinks: Mr. Mashburn, Director of SCAP, was asked to appear in front of the Board of Alderman’s Public and Safety Committee on November 18, 2010 to discuss the concerns of Four Loco and other alcohol energy drinks and to educate the community. Fifty percent of the Somerville retailers licensed to sell alcohol are selling these beverages, though there are some liquor stores who are choosing not to sell these alcoholic energy drinks. They come in a 23 1/2 oz can which is made up of 5 servings of alcohol and 5 servings of caffeine. It is inexpensive, and retailers are targeting this product toward the youngest population and women. Effective Monday, November 22, 2010 Massachusetts will ban all alcoholic energy drinks. It will not be available to the public.

Food Establishments Violations for October: Maureen Lee and the Health Director are continuing the enforcement work of the allergen awareness regulations. Signage is being made in different languages to distribute to restaurants. We also have labels for restaurant owners to put on their menus. There was a closure of a supermarket on November 17, 2010 due to improper refrigeration. They reopen on November 18, 2010 and will be reinspected in 14 days. As Ms. Lee’s current contract comes to a close the City has issued an RFP looking for a Food Health Inspector to work 3 days week.

Health Department Updates for October: The Health Department was asked by Proctor and Gamble to provide a presentation with the Mayor on the health and wellness efforts associated with Shape-up-Somerville. The Winter’s Farmers’ Market will start in January and Shape-up-Somerville will facilitate it first. Flu Vaccines Clinics have been steady. Clinics will continue here at the Annex on Thursdays from 5-7pm through January. The Vote and Vax at Somerville

High 25% of people who came to vote during the hours of the flu clinic also got vaccinated. The Health Department now has a Vaccines Registry up and running. The first edition of the Somerville Health Department Newsletter was passed out to the board members. This newsletter is primarily for our medical reserve corp. (MRC) members though it is widely distributed. The FY12 Budget preparations will begin in January. The Snow Committee has increased their membership and they have a pamphlet on the city's website.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Biotechnology Update: The Board of Health will schedule a public hearing to adopt regulations and requirements associated with construction and operations of biotechnology facilities in Somerville next month.

Old Business: Nothing to Report.

New Business: Nothing to Report

Next Meeting: December 16, 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 6:00pm.

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