

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF HEALTH**

October 15, 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  
Kathy Henkle (Recording Secretary)

**Staff Members in Attendance:** Jason Dodd, Tobacco Control Director

**Guests:** Whitney Patterson, College Student (observing meeting)

A motion was made by Dr. Green and seconded by Ms. Mello to call the meeting to order at 5:08pm.

**Previous Minutes:** On a motion made by Ms. Mello and seconded by Ms. Marchado; *“The September 17, 2009 Minutes were approved as circulated.”*  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Previous Director’s Report:** No motion was made to accept the Director’s Report for the month of September.

**Introductions:** Jason Dodd, our new Tobacco Control Director, was introduced to the board members. Mr. Dodd comes from the SPCD Office.

**Tobacco Control:** A motion was made by Dr. Green to deputize Jason Dodd as an agent of the Somerville Board of Health for the purpose of enforcing tobacco regulations. Seconded by Ms. Mello.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**H1NI/Seasonal Flu Vaccines Updates:** Ms. Renault-Caragianes gave praise to the public health nurses on the tremendous job they are doing with the vaccines and the flu clinics. The Health Department has received flu mist vaccines, which will be given out to school age children. They will hold these clinics at the schools. The H1NI vaccines are expected to be shipped to us by December. We currently do not have the seasonal flu vaccines and we are awaiting shipment from the state.

**Snow Removal Committee Update:** They had their 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. In attendance was a member from the general public, a Tufts Medical Center employee who works on fall prevention, and Shape-Up-Somerville, and Carlene Campbell from City Hall. Ms. Renault-Caragianes met with John Bruschi from Cambridge Health Alliance who was concerned about fall prevention. The purpose of this committee is to educate the public on how to shovel their sidewalks so the residents can navigate the sidewalks during the winter months without falling.

**Trans Fat Update:** Ms. Corliss from SUS said the survey on trans fat for restaurants has been suspended because they are working on a survey for the farmers market.

**Health Department Updates:**

Personnel: Jason Dodd was recently hired as our Tobacco Control Director. We also hired 2 new school nurses.

SCAP: has applied for a mini grant for youth group and tobacco control which entails the sales of tobacco in pharmacies, and the other one is on tobacco advertisement. SCAP has been interviewing youth candidates for their SPF100 (Somerville Positive Forces 100%), which has 3 vacancies, and they received over 100 applicants.

SUS: The CDC released stimulus monies on healthy eating; healthy living and the SUS will fill out the plimany application and submit it. They also have been approach by CBS and public radio to be part of news stories on community wellness and childhood obesity.

Clinical Youth Specialist: Trainings are being held periodically for residents to educate them on mental/suicide prevention.

Commissions: A candle light vigil for domestic violence was held in Davis Square.

Public Nursing: There are 8 TB cases that the nurses are working on.

Emergency Preparedness: Emergency response money, which will be, used toward general emergency preparedness. The emergency preparedness group is headed by the Fire Department monthly meetings will be held.

**Needle Kiosk Update:** Dr Green informed the board that the clinic will be moving in November and that the kiosk is being used and emptied. Ms. Renault-Caragianes told the board that they were thinking of using the H1NI monies to have a bio-harzaoudous disposal company disposed of sharps needles.

**Other:** It has been a growing trend that people keep chicken coops in their backyards and the CDC said there is no problem with keeping chickens in backyard, but seems to be neighborhood nuisances. The question came up will we need to establish chicken coop regulations?

The next meeting will be held in the Health Director's Office located on the first floor at 50 Evergreen Avenue at 5:00pm. on November 19, 2009.

A motion was made by Dr. Green and seconded by Ms. Mello to adjourn the meeting at 5:58pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Henkle (Recording Secretary)  
October 21, 2009