

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

April 16, 2014

Town Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. John Straus called the meeting to order at 7:11 PM.

PRESENT: Dr. John Straus, Dr. Barbara Beck, Donna Moultrup, Interim Director of Health, and Health Officer, Dan Repella.

MINUTES: Dr. Barbara Beck made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2014 meeting and it was voted unanimously. The minutes of the March 19, 2014 meeting were tabled since Dr. Beck was not present at that meeting and Richard Arnold could not be present at this meeting.

Dr. Beck asked about the outcome of the 69 Elm St. case which was heard at the February meeting. The Board had closed the case at that meeting because the Health Department orders had been complied with, but Fire Department issues remained. Donna Moultrup stated that she had not heard from Captain Igoe in the Fire Department but she would contact him for an update.

164 Galen St. – Roy Der Manuelian, tenant at 164 Galen St., could not be present at this meeting. Dr. Beck made the motion “that the order letter for 164 Galen St. be continued until the next meeting since the tenant is not available for this meeting.” It was voted unanimously. For the next meeting, the Board requested copies of the notes submitted by the organizer who has been working with this resident.

Farmer’s Market – MaryCat Chaikin from “Relish” in Somerville and the Watertown Farmer’s Market Manager, and Carolyn Reckman from athenaHealth gave a presentation to the Board regarding the new market planned for Watertown on the athenaHealth property. The Board was given a copy of the current list of vendors and a map of the general location of the market. MaryCat stated that they are working with the Licensing Board to obtain a special farm winery license for the sale of “hard cider” at the market. They will be offering one ounce samples and everyone will be asked for identification.

The market will be able to accept WIC coupons, SNAP (formerly known as food stamps) and Senior coupons. There will be a kiosk where customers can exchange these coupons for market tokens which will be given to the vendors as payment and they, in turn, will be paid by the market. Those using credit cards will also use this same kiosk so there will be no way to identify those who are using coupons.

There will be a Market Coordinator and Assistant onsite during the open hours of the market, every Thursday, 3 to 7 PM, June 5th through October 30th.

Donna Moultrup discussed her rationale for suggesting that the permit fee for vendors who have prepared food be \$50 for the season. Those vendors with just produce and other agricultural items such as honey and eggs would not get a special permit from the Health Department, but that all vendors at the market will be inspected by the Health Department staff. There was discussion of including meat and fish in the licensing process to be consistent. Dan Repella described a meat truck that comes to Town regularly and that truck is licensed by the Health Department.

After that discussion, Dr. Beck made the motion, “that the fee for a Farmers’ Market vendor permit be \$50.00 for the season and \$5.00 for guest vendors.” It was voted unanimously.

The Board members encouraged MaryCat and Carolyn to have good signage at the market and maps available. MaryCat stated that there will be a website available with all of the information including a list of vendors and the schedule of guest vendors.

Tobacco Discussion – The tobacco discussion was opened with a checklist from the model local environmental tobacco smoke regulation. Of the list of activities that are possible to ban, the Board chose the following to research and make decisions in the near future:

- 1) Buffer zones around municipal building entrances
- 2) Municipally owned parks, playgrounds and athletic fields
- 3) Bed and Breakfasts
- 4) Outdoor restaurant/bar seating
- 5) Public transportation, bus and taxi waiting areas

Discussion then turned to the new Draft Watertown “Regulations Regarding Smoking and the Sale and use of Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Products.” The following issues will need further research and refinement:

- 1) The definition of E-Cigarette is inadequate. It seems more appropriate to call it a “device” instead of a “product.”
- 2) The word “hookah” needs to be defined.
- 3) “Public Place” needs a better definition; it is too broad.
- 4) We need to discuss smoking in parks, tot lots, athletic events, bleachers, etc. with the Recreation Department.
- 5) “Smoking” definition needs further refinement; “creating smoke of any kind” might be clearer.

Donna Moultrup will report on the comments by Wesley Chin, our Tobacco Consultant, and D.J. Wilson, the attorney for the Massachusetts Associated Health Boards, on this draft at the next meeting. She will also try to work on the issues listed above so that a final version can be ready for a public hearing.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 18, 2014.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 9:16 PM

Respectfully submitted by Donna L. Moultrup, Interim Director of Health

+