

MINUTES
DEDHAM BOARD OF HEALTH
MARCH 23, 2016

IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Sarah Rosenberg-Scott, Chairperson
Leanne Jasset, B.S.P. RPH Vice Chairperson
Jason Brogan, MSM, Member
Catherine Cardinale, R.S., Health Director
Joan Conway, Administrative Assistant

Dr. Scott called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. The first order of business is to accept the minutes of January 27, 2016, Leanne Jasset made a motion to accept the minutes as written of January 27, 2016 Jason Brogan seconded all in favor yes opposed none. Minutes accepted. Dr. Scott asked if anyone was present for open comments which there were no one present.

Old Business

Cathy gave an update of a few things that have come up. We receive emergency preparedness money from the State. There are a lot of changes happening with this money they are implementing sticker rules for the use of these funds. Currently these funds pay for my and Lee's cell phone and my I-pad. It used to pay for Lees but hers broke and it went on the towns' budget. The extra money we would use for either over-time if we needed inspections done or to buy supplies or equipment whatever we needed. Now there are so many restrictions on the use of these funds. Last month we were told we cannot pay staff. Our group NC-7 (Norfolk County seven communities) is tired of the restrictions the drills and the reporting. I am giving it up it is \$7,000 I think \$3,000 of that went to cell phone and we can just jump on with the Town budget. I would rather work on the Drug and Alcohol Coalition where we got a huge grant with the Town of Needham. Leanne asked if we are giving up the Emergency Preparedness to which Cathy replied no we are giving up the funds not the preparations for an emergency, with other communities. It is just that I will not be mandated now to do reporting for the \$7,000 dollars and not be able to use the money. Leanne said as long as we are participating in Emergency Preparedness; Dr. Scott asked what are our guidelines or our mandates about maintaining our skills and up-dating of Emergency Preparedness planning. Cathy said all of our guidelines are written. We are working on a final one about sheltering. The Fire Chief is the one who is actually responsible for the Town of Dedham's Emergency Preparedness. I don't see anything changing when it switches over to HMCC Hospitals networking; they are getting the brunt of this money now. I see the funds dwindling for local public health, for what we will be able to do with the money and what they are going to do for us relating to training. I would say within the next two years we won't see any funds. This is what happened to the tobacco funds as well it dwindled to nothing. Leanne asked how the other towns were feeling. Cathy said they are also about to give it us Dr. Scott said she wanted to be sure we keep up our training without these funds. Cathy said we always have training in place with the Mass Health Officers Associations and the Fire Chief will keep us up to date in emergency trainings as well. The board of health will be front and center with any training available.

Tobacco Compliance

Certified letters went out to the vendors that failed the tobacco compliance check. They have been notified that they have a \$100.00 fine and a seven day suspension with the exception of the one establishment that will have a six month suspension. At the next Board meeting on April 13th we will have a hearing to decide what days the suspension will take place. The suspension will be at the same time because we are the ones that will be inspecting to make sure there is no tobacco product in the establishments. The next letter I send will inform them that a decision will be made and if they want to be heard they can come and plead their case on April 13th. They will probably ask you not to suspend and you have the option to do that if you wish. The problem I have is that we have granted grace to the worst offender and he continues to sell tobacco to minors. The others are first time offenders. I did talk to Mass. Tobacco Control and they do have a class that teaches employee the proper way to check for ID's. The board could require them to attend. But they will not come unless we have 5 attendees. We have four establishments and there must be at least 2 employees. We could give them the option of suspension or class. The biggest offender needs to have a suspension for a time. The tobacco regulations are for sale to a minor; first offense is \$100.00 with a 7 day suspension. The second violation is a \$200.00 fine with a 6 month suspension. Leanne said with marijuana we are doing 7 days. Cathy said this is totally different you're not going to find kids in there buying marijuana. The reporting that these people will have to do to Massachusetts is extensive. They have to have a data card from Department of Public Health. The person takes their data card to the store. They must have a photo ID the card goes into a data base for confirmation that the person purchasing it is in that data base. The system will tell them the amount of marijuana that the person can have. It is not as if you can buy one place and run to another location and buy there because it all goes into the same data base just like prescription drugs. Leanne felt if you go to a level of a second offense for selling 7 days is a little cushy. Jason said this is their primary business where cigarettes are not the primary business. Cathy said you cannot get into a medical marijuana store without the i.d. of a card. It is my understanding that you walk into a boxed area and show your identification before you get into the store. Dr. Scott said she was not concerned that kids or people without cards are going to get in. The level of training to work in this store compared with selling tobacco is extremely different and regulated. Not only are they going to be in trouble with us they are in trouble with the state which is even bigger, they can lose their license. Jason said if we find out if something happens we could come back here and change the policy. Dr. Scott said we would be reporting them to the state and that should be included in the regulations. Cathy said she has no problem calling the state with any violation. I will have a list of the violations that each establishment has committed. Cathy said all of the establishments that sold tobacco to a minor will be coming to the next board meeting. Cathy said we might want to require the offenders to attend the training class offered by Mass. Tobacco. Dr. Scott asked if there was any other old business which there was none.

Marijuana Regulations

Dr. Scott asked if anyone was present for open comments on the marijuana regulations; there was no one. She then asked if there was any discussion among the board members to change they were all in agreement with how the regulations were written. With that Leanne Jasset motioned to accept the Marijuana Regulations by the Board of Health restricting the sale of marijuana Jason Brogan seconded Dr. Scott asked all in favor aye opposed none. All of the members dated and signed the marijuana regulations. These regulations take effect immediately March 23, 2016.

Cathy said April 13, 2016 will be our next meeting I believe cryotherapy will be on the agenda for regulations. You have all received the draft regulations and I will send Max G. a copy of the draft regulations. I think he is planning on opening in May.

Gonzales Field

Fin-Com had some concerns about using turf on the field so I did some research on turf fields. There is no evidence of any specific cancer due to a turf field. The State calls for common sense practices such as if your hands are dirty after playing on the field you should wash them before you eat. I have not had a request from Fin-Com for an opinion so we should be prepared. Jason said he has had a conversation with Dan Hart and Jim Marh from Parks and Recreation. They sent me a study that I will forward to you Cathy. Leanne asked about the issues Needham had. I have emailed the director in Needham and he will do some research into that issue. I will forward the information to you when I receive it. Jason asked if we could agree to send a letter of findings to the Parks and Recreation. Leanne said she would be comfortable waiting until we hear back from Needham before we give it our stamp of approval. Dr. Scott asked if there was a motion to write a letter. Leanne made a motion that pending review of available data on turf fields the board plans to issue a letter of findings to Fin-Com regarding the potential turfing of Gonzales Field. Jason seconded all in favor aye opposed none.

With no further business to discuss Leanne motioned to adjourn Jason seconded all in favor aye. Dr. Scott adjourned the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

Dr. Sarah Rosenberg-Scott, Chairperson