

City of Westfield, Massachusetts

Health Department

Board of Health Meeting Room 220 April 11, 2018 RECEIVED

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10:57 AM

WESTFIELD CITY CLERK

Present:

Juanita Carnes, Chair

Teresa Mitchell, M.D.

Ms. Carnes opened the meeting at 6:10 p.m. The Minutes of the March 14, 2018, meeting were accepted as printed. There was no one present wishing to speak during the public participation portion of the meeting. The Board began discussing items on the agenda.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None Scheduled.

PUBLIC HEALTH:

<u>Nursing Division Update</u> – Because the influx of refugees into Westfield has diminished, the demand on the City's nurses has also decreased, giving them more time to focus on promotional events, the Noble Health Fair and childhood wellness.

<u>Upcoming Promotions/Events/Trainings</u> – Inspectors Steve Cipriani and Thomas Hibert recently attended a Community Sanitation Seminar and Inspector Hibert will be attending a Lead Poisoning Prevention program next week. The two nurses are scheduled to attend several training sessions over the next month as well as a two-day MAPHN conference in Hull, MA. Joseph Rouse is enrolled in the Managing Effectively in Today's Public Health Environment sponsored by MHOA.

<u>Substance Abuse and Prevention Position and Funding</u> – The City has received the second payment of \$12,500.00 from HEKA Health. It was determined that the Health Department can use the \$25,000.00 received thus far to immediately fund a Substance Abuse Coordinator, guest speakers, programs, etc. The Substance Abuse Coordinator will be a part-time position reporting to the Health Department.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH:

<u>Tobacco Compliance Checks</u> – The FDA has been conducting random tobacco compliance checks throughout the City. They do not issue fines, nor do they notify the Health Dept. of these checks. Simple warning letters are mailed to establishments not in compliance. These checks are interrupting the current system of the Health Dept. and Mr. Rouse has asked them to stop. In a conversation with Tobacco Control, Mr. Rouse was told that the FDA would not discontinue their checks because the City was an "unfunded community." Mr. Rouse will continue to work

with Tobacco Control to ensure that the Health Dept. can continue its compliance process. During the next round of checks, the focus will be on electronic delivery devices. The newest devise is known as "Juul" and resembles a USB drive, making it easy for minors to conceal and use it in school. These can be purchased online; however, if a minor were to make this purchase, an adult signature would be required upon delivery by MA law. This product was not designed to be popular with minors, but, rather, as a mechanism for adults to quit smoking. These devices contain nicotine salts; and one Juul cartridge contains the equivalent nicotine of one pack of cigarettes. Questions arose as to whether or not these items could lead to smoking. Mr. Rouse will provide samples to the Board at the next meeting for the members' review.

Private Wells – A letter was mailed to residents informing them of the closing of Well 2. As a result, many phone calls have been received by the Health Department. The DEP has been testing all areas which may have been affected; and residents are being advised that, if their wells are located in the designated areas, DEP will test their wells. Should high level of contaminants be found, DEP will filter their water and provide bottled water. It should be noted that bottled water is not tested for PFOA's or PFC's as these compounds are unregulated.

INSPECTIONAL SERVICES:

Food Service Establishment Inspections Update – Health Inspector Thomas Hibert reported that the results of a re-inspection of McDonalds on N. Elm St. were much improved due to the establishment's regional manager's involvement. The Health Dept. will conduct a follow-up inspection to ensure the restaurant's continued compliance.

Rose & Dagger Body Art Aftercare Instructions – The Board members were presented with a copy of Rose & Dagger's aftercare instructions. The City's regulations state that a body art facility may use the current version of instructions issued by the Board of Health or submit their own to the Board for review and approval. It was noted that the only significant difference between the two was that the application of Bacitracin, an antibiotic, was not included in the Rose & Dagger instructions. Inspector Hibert stated that, in a conversation he had with the state, the antibiotic was not necessary as long as the client cleans and treats the area as instructed. In addition, Rose & Dagger recommended the use of A&D ointment, which is acceptable. The Board members reviewed and approved the Rose & Dagger aftercare instructions as submitted.

NEW BUSINESS:

9A King Street – An emergency condemnation was conducted on April 10th. The female resident was taken by ambulance to Baystate Noble. The EMTs involved informed the Health Dept. of the emergency situation at this residence and, as a result, the resident was served the condemnation notice by the police, a copy of which was provided to the Board members. The living conditions were such that the resident could not return to the home and will be placed in alternate housing by a case management worker upon her release from the hospital. The resident's brother agreed to clean the apartment and, upon completion, the Health Inspectors will return to re-inspect.

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April	11,	201	8
Page I	3		

With no further items on the agenda to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Minutes approved by:

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Next anticipated meeting date: May 9, 2018