

WAYLAND BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
TOWN BUILDING
September 18, 2023

Minutes taken in December 2023 by Great Meadows Public Health Collaborative contracted staff member Russell Keith.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Present in person: Chairperson Dr. Robert DeFrancesco (RD), members Dr. John Schuler (JS), Dr. Robert Eyre (RE), and Jonathan Storer (JS2). Present via Zoom: None. Also present were Health Director Julia Junghanns (JJ) and Kimberly Garcia (KG) MPH Candidate at BU School of Public Health & Mass. DPH Local Board of Health Internship Program.

RD: Roll Call. RE: Yes. JS: Yes. JS2: Yes. RD: Yes. GA is not here.

6:30 p.m. Public Comment

None.

6:32 p.m. Harmful algae bloom project presentation by summer intern Kimberly Garcia (KG), MPH candidate

PowerPoint Presentation – 21 Slides

After slide 6 - RE: when you say the threshold was not met, did they find cyanobacteria but not above 70,000 or was it not cyanobacteria? JJ: This year or prior years? RE: Prior years. JJ: It wasn't a high enough concentration to warrant a closing. RE: So the lake wasn't closed by the state? JJ: Correct.

6:48 p.m. JS: I see toward Aug it seemed several species were going down, but one didn't. Why? KG: That may require more investigation next summer. An algae specialist could examine each genus. That's included in reporting from other Collaboratives like Worcester. They have specialists to interpret events on a bacterial level. JJ: If you want to look at the algae types we have the kits that were purchased by our PHE region. Kim checked this and provided notes. We need to decide how best to use this kit. Worcester may be our best resource - they have the most experience. RE: At the end of August I think everything is down thru September; they're all down to four thousand. Is that temperature related? KG: I thought because it was so hot in September that it would explode. I was shocked that it stayed, heavy rain can bring it down (dilute?) and there was some rain. JJ: The cycle of that bloom was near its termination. We saw it go through that cycle, after the advisory, like a green streak of paint & clumps of algae filaments. 2 days ago almost all of that was gone. It had probably gone through its cycle. RE: It might have consumed all the nitrogen. RD: Did this humidity trigger it, or the runoff? KG: The phosphorous from runoff can trigger. It's good that we caught it – at its highest levels – there was no visual observation at the time, to show something was going on. People were comfortable in the water. Two weeks later we observed an iridescent sheen, then streaks like green paint on the shore. We caught it before anything bad happened. JJ: We observed different colored water coming into Lake Cochituate from Snake Brook Culvert, which is full of

weeds and feeds the other side of the lake, and promotes algae growth, but testing there found no microcystins before we ran out of test strips. JS2: How close is the toxin to the surface? Is it throughout the strata of the water? KG: Birds can get the toxin from the surface, but fish from deeper. Both can be affected. JS2: How deep do you go for samples? JJ: We follow state sampling protocols. The kits provide the sampling equipment. RE: You say you need better cooperation from surrounding towns. What are they not doing that Wayland is doing? JJ: The other towns didn't have an intern as we did. Natick has the State Parks, so state employees monitor for them. On our side we have the Framingham beach, and we've been in touch with both towns' Public Health Directors. Resources are limited and it's a busy time of year for all health departments; we have this program for this year. We've become a sentinel site. They took our data and made their own visual observations and closed when we did. RE: Are they telling lakefront property owners to limit use of fertilizers? JJ: That's a new initiative. We've spoken to Rec. Dept. regarding including info for beachgoers. RE: Will KG be here next year? JJ: Unfortunately, no. She's done an excellent job. BOH thanked KG for her work.

7:00 p.m. Body Art Practitioner Permit Application, 25 Main Street, Business owner Phuong Le

Presentation by Mr. Phuong Le (PL) who was accompanied by & speaking for his mother Lily the intended operator. PL: Opening new beauty salon to be called Elegant Brow Studio. Ms. Le trained in a licensed business, Tip Top Salon, Orlando FL, starting in 2017. In April 2022 Ms. Le resumed her studies there. Services in Wayland will include microneedling, microblading, eyebrow extension, and lip filler. RE: noted how thorough the Wayland Body Art Regs. and Permit Application are. (<https://www.wayland.ma.us/health-department/files/body-art-regulations-application>) JJ: Our regional collaborative towns may adopt them. JJ: Do you want to go over the certifications involved? PL: Ms. Le had to log 2100 training hours for that program. She shadowed an aesthetician as they worked with clients, then worked with 6 clients herself. This satisfies the Wayland requirements as well. JJ: Do you want to speak about equipment sterilization? PL: She has an autoclave for reusable equipment like for eyelash extensions. JJ: Is it like permanent makeup? Tattooing? Ms. Le: For eyebrows and eyeliner we dispose of equipment (single-use). RE: Any injected anesthetic? Ms. Le: No. RE: Topical anesthetic? PL: Yes. JJ: She provided us with verification of the 2nd year of experience that we asked for, and a scale plan of the area at 25 Main St. We'll do a pre-opening inspection to verify the facility meets the requirements of the regulations, if they're approved, and I have a cc. of the liability insurance We also have a copy of her license.

7:12 p.m. Chair calls for motion.

RE: Move to approve granting a license. JS2: Second.

Roll call: JS: Yes. RE: Yes. JS2: Yes. JD: Yes. Approved. Motion passed unanimously.

7:15 p.m. Draft Annual Report-review and comment.

Board members reviewed the report in the epacket. Comments: JD: Good job. RE: Very professional.

7:17 p.m. PFAS Private Well mailing - Draft Letter

JJ: This is a letter to town property owners with private wells for drinking water. Educating them regarding PFAs. The Board reviewed the draft letter. We're dealing with this in public drinking water supply, now we are filtering & connecting to MWRA. State issued a model regulation and document of recommendations for local regulations on private drinking water supplies – they recommend that we require homeowners to test their wells. However, there can be negative consequences. They could try to connect to town water supply. State plans to lower the threshold to .04 sometime over the next 6-12 months. In our draft letter we ask homeowners to share their results with us. The state model regulations suggest testing before property transfers. RE: If they refuse to test we shouldn't approve the sale. JJ: currently there is no way to require private well pfas testing for a sale. JS: Can they connect to town water? JJ: In most areas. JS: We have requirements about septic systems. JJ: That's in our old regulations. Need to know how we can be part of the property transfer process. RE: We should run this by counsel. How can we ensure those wells are tested prior to transfers? JJ: The state has a website for locating a testing company. I've shared this with the Water Dept., DPW Director & Town Mgr., I can take this to get advice from Town Counsel.

7:30 p.m. General business. Minutes of April 10, 2023 & May 15, 2023; Director's report: CT/CI Grant update scope of work and draft budget and plans for last grant year; Increased housing and nuisance complaints; Vacation out of the country; PHN update.

7:32 p.m. Chair calls for motion to approve BOH minutes of April 10, 2023.

RE: So Motioned. JS: Second. Roll Call: JS– Yes, RE- Yes, JS2- Yes, RD- Yes. Motion passes.

7:37 p.m. Chair calls for motion to approve BOH minutes of May 15, 2023.

RE: So Motioned. JS: Second. Roll Call: JS– Yes, RE- Yes, JS2- Yes, RD- Yes. Motion passes.

7:38 p.m. CT/CI Grant update.

JJ: As a refresher, we joined the PHE (Public Health Excellence) Collaborative through a grant, Sudbury is the fiscal agent. The grant that we are a fiscal agent for; the CT/CI grant was shortened by a year. This grant is also a regional grant for the PHE. We have 9 months left to use that grant money. The 7 town collaborative includes Bedford, Carlisle, Concord, Lincoln, Sudbury, Wayland, and Weston. We discussed having an Equity Study, but didn't get enough bids on the project. Considering an in-house effort. The grant manager is working on a plan. Must determine hours needed to complete. Grant will dissolve 6/30/2024. Grant staff supports all towns in the collaborative. Grant was to cover contact tracing, but the state changed criteria. Now covering some help with vax clinics, mental health training, substance abuse, harm reduction, & a survey of towns' health equity needs. The Regional PHN also assists directly in towns as needed. We proceeded with that Health Equity study to investigate needs

that aren't being met. RE: Can grant money go directly to towns that identify a need? JJ: I don't think it works that way. Health Equity is a topic that's new to municipal depts. It opens areas of public health that we didn't know about before. We've purchased specialized coolers and equipment to meet state requirements for vaccine distribution and the test kits for harmful algae blooms discussed earlier. A need for tick testing was also identified and grant money was disbursed to subsidize the cost for individuals.

8:05 p.m. Increased housing and nuisance complaints.

RD: Chicken complaints? JJ: We did have one, but couldn't identify the actual nuisance. Found the coop and the house, but didn't find any chickens. There were trash & refuse complaints, yard condition, and one related to Title V. A site where construction was started, then stopped, and was never completed. House is vacant at 87 Dudley. There were complaints when pump alarms were going off at all hours. JS: Are you turning off the water? JJ: That's been addressed. RE: Could there be damage to abutters? JJ: They complained about the noise. The engineer finally put a stop to that problem. The construction is incomplete and some inspections were missing. Property owner doesn't live in town.

8:10 p.m. Chair: Next order of business?

JJ: I'll be on vacation out of the country for 2 weeks beginning 9/20. The rest of the Health Dept. staff will be available, as well as contacts in the regional collaborative. I'll return 10/4.

RHN Michelle Schuckel update: JJ: Vaccination clinics scheduled, info on website. Senior-focused for high-dose flu vaccine. Starting with flu clinics until we know more about Covid vaccine availability. 10/4, 11/1, 12/6: for senior clinics 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Larger clinics Monday p.m. 10/3, 11/6, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. reg. and high dose. Home-bound visits will be scheduled, and some mini-clinics. New bivalent vaccines just approved by CDC. She's building contacts with Moderna & Pfizer for orders for public use & fold that into other clinics. Clinics promoted with QR codes on flyers. We'll offer flu shots to school staffs. Opioid Awareness Day was 8/28. Provided education & 38 boxes of Narcan & contacted other regional agencies.

8:20 p.m. Topics not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting, if any.

None.

8:21 p.m. Chair: Motion to Adjourn?

RE: Move to adjourn. JS: Second.

Roll Call: JS– Yes, RE- Yes, JS2- Yes, RD- Yes. Motion passes.

8:21 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

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Approved 031124