

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
TOWN BUILDING
July 10, 2023

Minutes taken in November 2023 by Great Meadows Public Health Collaborative member Russell Keith. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Present in person were Chairperson Dr. Robert DeFrancesco (RD), members Dr. Genevieve Anand (GA), Dr. John Schuler (JS), Jonathan Storer (JS2). Present via Zoom Dr. Robert Eyre (RE). Also present was Health Director Julia Junghanns (JJ) and Lisa Raftery (LR) Board of Health appointee to the Wayland Youth Advisory.

6:30 p.m. Public Comment

None

6:35 p.m. Update from Lisa Raftery of the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) and potential vote to reappoint her to YAC.

Youth Advisory Committee provides good representation for the town, led by Jason Verhoosky (JV), Dir. Wayland Youth and Family Svcs. (YAFS) YAC supports YAFS, includes clinicians Kelsey San Clemente, Paige Gandolfini. They advise and assist to define scope for JV. Currently seeking regular space for meetings, previously remote, now at Police Dept. Provides involvement with Wayland Cares (school administrators, Police, Opioid Ed & settlement money). Metro-west Adolescent Health Survey, evaluate results & discuss next steps. Wide range of topics. LR became Chairperson in 2020. Worked with Violence Prevention Task Force, re. dating violence, how to address this with local youth, warning signs, coordination with school Wellness Dept. One or two openings on School Committee. Select Board also has a vacancy. Want more parent involvement in this & Wayland Cares. Presented written report. JS: Were there any effects from the turmoil in the school system this year, departure of Head of Schools, ongoing vacancy of permanent head? LR: I suppose students talk about it. They heard a lot, observed a lot. There was inaccurate information spread via social media. LR is confident students are ready for fresh start fall 2023. Acting Superintendent David Fleishman is in place for full academic year. RD: How often are you at the schools advising/teaching? LR: That's the role of JV who visits all the schools with ongoing age-specific teaching. Most time spent at H.S. level. JJ: I know Michele Schuckel (MS) is in loop re. Opioid Settlement plans. LR will reinforce, advise on meeting times.

JS: Move to reappoint LR for 2-year appointment. GA: Second.

Roll Call: JS- Yes, RD- Yes, GA- Yes, JS2- Yes, RE- Yes. Motion passes, 5-0.

6:50 p.m. Revised Local Animal Keeping Regulations review and plans for hearing process.

JJ presented document re. update to Animal Keeping Regs. Town Council has reviewed & asked Board for input. Especially to identify if there is or should be a variance and who has decision-

making authority. Many new chicken-keeping applications coming in. Board has been involved in each. Is this a necessary step for each application? There are sometimes 2-3 reviews at each board meeting. Turkey (and one Emu) applications were also mentioned. JJ reviewed suggested changes in the regulations, primary change is that staff will do the review of the application to determine if BoH needs to be involved. Staff approval for any applications that don't require BoH approval. BoH reviews applications with variances. Detailed instructions, and guidance docs, form letters online/website, most applications can use town GIS to draw a map. Onsite inspection conducted for each application. Thereafter referred to animal inspector - currently Jennifer Boardman - for annual follow up inspections. To check & reconcile with records. JS2 suggest using laser range finders to check offset distances. Discussion of cost & acquisition. JJ: Town GIS data allows initial assessment of space for structures. Should we keep 150' offset? Other towns have other rules. JS: Lack of offset could invite neighbor vs. neighbor disputes. JJ: Do we want to change these measurement requirements or keep what we have? Consensus to modify language on #5 to allow <1 acre lot size if offset >150'. Change to be submitted for review by Town Council before finalizing. Notice to neighbors still required for application approval. Abutters responses go direct to Health Dept staff. New apps will be reviewed by Health Dept staff and if there is a variance or dispute it goes to BOH. Many to-do items remain in updating the process & town web content to correct existing issues such as improve timing of applications to scheduled BOH meetings. JS2: Water tank size requirements are incorrect for chickens. JJ: That also needs to be modified. Agrees to make edits as discussed and return for discussion.

7:10 p.m. General business, Bills, Director's report, PHN updates, minutes of February 13, 2023, March 13, 2023.

JJ: Offered update on Town Manager comments on Mill Creek to combine with comments from other departments regarding observations, the project, location. This project may push through at state level. We don't know their plans for wastewater. Can't move forward without that. JS: It's not a good site for development, it will flood regularly. RE: If the church project [Good Shepherd Parish] moves forward, that brings Wayland to the 10% threshold which would remove 40b requirement.

JJ: Health Dept. front room will relocate to the Conservation Dept. meeting room due to construction to repair flood damage from last winter. Back section will remain as it is. There will be some absences for upcoming vacations, but there we will have coverage.

JJ: Proposed dates for future meetings: 8/21, 9/18, 10/23, 11/13, 12/11, email to follow.

JJ: Preparing Annual Report now that the fiscal year has concluded. Beach checks ongoing for cyanobacteria at Lake Cochituate with results available on Health Dept. website. Samples for e. coli taken – still waiting results. For 2 weeks Dudley Pond outside threshold for e. coli. JS2: Like about 40 Massachusetts beaches. JJ: Many contributing factors to rising e. coli there. Weed growth faster than any year until now.

Public Health Nurse report

Vaccination -We are in early stages of ramping up for the 2023 flu vaccination 'season', as previously noted I have ordered vaccine for delivery in early September, and we anticipate beginning clinics in Wayland in mid-October. This will include VFC programming and we are seeking to meet with Dr. Mahoney (the school physician and practicing MD at Wayland Pediatrics) to understand her thoughts on VPD in Wayland.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to the CDC met in June as anticipated and provided the following summary: ACIP met June 21 – 23. As part of the meeting, they reviewed current COVID-19 vaccine epidemiology and vaccine effectiveness. While vaccine effectiveness against hospitalization clearly wanes over about 6 months, protection against severe disease and death persists longer in people of all ages, including pregnant people. Vaccination during pregnancy reduced the likelihood of hospitalization of infants younger than age 6 months. Despite the clear benefit to recipients of all ages, uptake of the recommended bivalent vaccine remains low, with 43% of people age 65 and older having received a dose, but fewer than 5% of children under age 12 years having received one.

What this means for Massachusetts: Plans are underway for the transition to routine commercial use of COVID-19 vaccines. A new monovalent COVID-19 vaccine containing a current variant XBB.1.5 has been recommended by FDA for fall 2023. This vaccine will be available commercially at no out-of-pocket cost for adults with insurance (including Medicaid and Medicare), as well as all individuals under 19 years of age (regardless of insurance status) in Massachusetts thru the Commonwealth's pediatric vaccine program. A special 1-year bridge program is being designed to create affordable access to the new COVID-19 vaccines for 25 million uninsured adults. More details of the program are forthcoming. Once updated vaccines are licensed or authorized by FDA, ACIP will review evidence to inform its recommendations.

Substance Use and Harm Reduction: As I reported previously, we have been approved and have received Narcan for distribution to the public. We are working on ways to publicize this and provide supports and education to the community. Plans are underway for our Community Health (School) Nurses to provide training to School Staff at the start of the school year as part of annual medication delegation training, and to distribute Narcan for any of the staff who desire to carry Narcan on their person (across the district).

I have offered support/participation and Narcan training/distribution to Youth and Family Services at the Opioid Awareness Day (Aug 31) event in the planning stages with Learn to Cope.

Schools: School nurse leader, Heather Yates and I are evaluating the CHSH reporting data and are, in particular, concerned with school absence rate and are seeking meetings to understand the data and consider programs for support of students and families. These numbers far exceed pre-and-during COVID data and we are working to understand the source of absences and past reporting.

Number of students who missed at least 18 days of school; CH 43, HH 41, LS 26, TCW 9, MS 57. HS (data not available through the same system so not in table above) had 95 students that missed 18 or more days of school.

District wide 271 total out of 2,772 students missed 18 or more days of school - meaning 10% of total students missed 10% of days.

We have secured all the AEDs needed, including bilingual devices (2) and a new Adam Project grant-funded AED for the Children's Way. We used CSHS monies to purchase an AED cabinet for TCW, and for other AEDs as the School Safety grant status remained unknown to us. We have purchased culturally sensitive CPR mannequins for training needs.

I have connected with the Community Health team at Regis College School of Nursing to discuss clinical opportunities for their students and lab/simulation learning opportunities in exchange for our nursing team.

In addition to all our other ongoing projects for next year we are planning to train any CHNs interested in providing flu vaccine in their schools with COLOR training to allow input of registration/insurer info direct into our system for both seamless billing/reimbursement from payors and to allow for easy transfer of vaccination delivery info to MIIS.

Camps: We have completed onsite visits and the extensive paperwork review for the nursing portion for all our camps currently operating (7), with the assistance of CT/CT supported nursing. We have two more - coming on line in August - to attend to.

Infectious Disease: Reports of COVID-19 occasionally tick-over into MAVEN, waste water rates of COVID-19 for both the North and South MWRA regions are at their lowest points in the last year. Full data is [here](#). I am working this month and into August to clear old cases out of the MAVEN queue and create systems for tracking/reporting.

7:45 p.m. Approval of minutes from February 13th, 2023: Discussion of length and personnel to take minutes going forward. Chair calls for motion.

JS: Move to approve minutes of the Feb. 13, 2023, minutes. RE: Second.

Roll Call: JS- Yes, GA- Yes, RE: Yes, JS2- Yes, RD- Yes, JJ- Yes. Motion passes 5-0.

Approval of minutes from March 13th, 2023:

RE: Move to approve minutes of the March 13, 2023, minutes as printed. JS2: Second.

Roll Call: JS- Abstain, GA- Abstain, RE: Yes, JS2- Yes, RD- Yes, JJ- Yes. Motion passes 3 Yes, 0 No 2 Abstain.

8:15 p.m. Topics not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting, JJ: Re. Mill Creek Development project, 172 units proposed, moving forward. Questions about public comments and if the process is underway? General discussion of rumored building purchases & repurposing in that area.

Motion to Adjourn

JS: Move to adjourn. RE: Second.

Roll call: JS- Yes, GA- Yes, RE- Yes, JS2- Yes, RD- Yes. Motion passes 5-0.

Meeting adjourned.
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APPROVED 12/11/23