

Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
June 26, 2023

**RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: July 25, 2023  
TIME: 8:59 AM

The Board of Health Meeting was called to order at 5:04 pm by Adrienne Allen.

Those present were Adrienne Allen, M.D., M.P.H., Chair; Stephen M. Fiore, Esq., Vice Chair; Julie C. Lemay, M.P.H., Member; Diana Ekman, Assistant Health Director; Lindsey Sharp, Health Agent; Gulmeena Khan, Summer Health Intern; Maria Reddington, Clerk

There was no public participation.

House of Lavash – Violations of the Food Sanitary Code, 105 CMR 590.00

- Diana Ekman provided a brief summary of this food establishment which opened in April 2023.
- Pre-operation inspections made note of equipment concerns, specifically related to the custom-made oven. The rollers on the oven are chipped/cracked, and staff are concerned the material from the rollers may release into the food. There are also concerns as to the cleanliness of the surface.
- Mr. Arman Manoukian, Owner, said the rollers can be repaired and replaced. Replacement of the chipped/cracked rollers are 90% complete.
- He states the oven gets very hot so there is no risk of contamination.
- The other concern noted by staff was inadequate labeling of foods being sold in the retail section of the establishment. Mr. Manoukian has applied for a Residential Kitchen Permit from the Town of Watertown. A Wholesaler will provide their licenses and permits for the other food being sold in the establishment.
- Health Department staff will schedule another inspection with the owner.

State Plumbing Code Variance Application – 368 Common Street

- The property owner is required to file a variance application with the Board of State Examiners of Plumbers and Gas Fitters (the “Agency”) for installation of a non-conforming bathtub. The size of the fixture does not comply with the current plumbing code.
- The Board of Health is provided an opportunity to offer comment to the Agency. The Agency must approve/deny the application request.
- Board members did not have comment for the Agency.

FOG Variance Request – 89 Trapelo Road – Jack Sy, Owner

- This Agenda item is a continuation from the Board of Health meeting of May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The Department of Public Works confirmed they do not have concerns if the food establishment is using an interior grease trap.
- The food establishment will contract with a septage hauler for monthly pick up of fats, oils, grease.
- A report will be submitted to Health Department staff for review in determining if more frequent pick up will be needed.

The Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2023 were approved by a vote of 3-0.

The Receipts report was reviewed.

The Director/Assistant Director/Health Agent report was reviewed:

- Housing
  - Case 1: The Judge granted more time for the property owner to continue clean-up of the property, noting good process had been made.
  - Case 2: Another property may be referred to the Attorney General Abandoned Housing Initiative. Insufficient progress has been made since the date the order letter was mailed.
  - Case 3: Squalor/medical case – family members are willing to assist. Janet is also providing help.
  - Case 4: Medical/cluttered case – a friend has been helping the occupant. Staff sent a letter requesting an inspection. The occupant responded they are not interested in an inspection. Janet and Springwell are assisting.
  - Case 5: Neighbors, plumbers, Health Department staff, and Springwell were able to assist the property owner from immediate threats from unsanitary living conditions.
- Rats – Reports of rat sightings are up the past several days. The SMART boxes have logged 42 captures.
- Save Belmont Wildlife – The group has been in contact with Health, DPW, and Facilities staff, and asked if the Town had a written policy concerning the use of rodenticides on public property, noting the number of bait boxes in use outside of town of buildings. The group wants to work with the Town to develop use of less harmful methods for rodent control on Town property.
- Leaf Blower Use update – 13 complaints have been filed. Health Department staff will generate notice of the new by-law to the property owners of the addresses noted in the complaints.
- Social Media – The Health Department Facebook page continues to add followers. Posts over the past month were about the NHANES survey, Veterans Coffee Hour, and 988 suicide lifeline resource from the CDC.
- COVID Update
  - 7 cases in June so far.
  - Staff will work on Fall Vaccine Clinics, partnering with Osco Pharmacy, to be held at Temple Beth El and Beech Street Center.
- Public Health Excellence (PHE) Grant – Funding for this Grant has increased with the addition of the Town of Arlington to the collaborative. The additional funds will be used to fund a part time public health nurse and regional health inspector, as well as a temporary PHE program director.
- Gulmeena Khan, MDPH Summer Intern shared her background with the Board members. Gulmeena is attending the MPH Program at Brown University. She shared that Belmont was her first choice for her internship. In her very short time with the Health Department, Gulmeena has participated in food, pool, rodent, and camp inspections, and the intricacies of a cluttered housing case. Gulmeena's school project will analyze survey results asking Belmont residents how they perceive their local health department and resources it provides.
- Purecoat North – The Director of Compliance for Purecoat North, John Farino, shared that the company installed variable speed fans to help with outside odors. We told Mr. Farino the

department has not received any complaints since January. Board of Health members want a call set up with State Senator Will Brownsberger or State Representative Dave Rogers.

The Public Health Nurse report concerning an update on Monkeypox was reviewed. The Disease report was also reviewed.

The Youth and Family Services report was reviewed. Janet will begin summer hours for the Beech Street Center on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Animal Care and Control Officer report was reviewed.

The Veterans Services Officer report was reviewed.

Board members asked for an update of the opiate settlement funds.

Email Rotation:

Adrienne Allen will review the emails sent to the Board of Health email address through the next Board meeting.

The next Board of Health Meeting is scheduled July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 5:00 pm.

The Meeting adjourned at 6:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Adrienne Allen, M.D., M.P.H., Chair