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Board of Health Meeting Minutes October 17, 2018

The Board of Health Meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Donna S. David, R.N., M.N., Chair.

Those present were Donna S. David, R.N., M.N., Chair; Julie C. Lemay, M.P.H., Vice Chair; Stephen M. Fiore, Esq., Member; Wesley B. Chin, Health Director; Maria Reddington, Clerk. Present for part of the Meeting was Ms. Ziwei Guo, Student Journalist at Boston University.

Board members welcomed David Neylon, R.N., Belmont/Lexington Public Health Nurse. A summary of the discussion is below:

- David was introduced to Stephen M. Fiore, Esq., Board of Health Member. David provided a brief overview of mandated duties performed by him, as well as other projects and departmental tasks he is assigned.
- David briefly described the importance of emergency preparedness in light of the recent Columbia Gas event in Lawrence, Andover and North Andover.
- David reported that Belmont has received their share of flu vaccine to be administered to under-insured residents. Mr. Fiore asked if this service is publicized, and how does the department notify the under-insured. David said many residents phone the office, and direct contact is made to Belmont food establishments and child care facilities.
- Employee flu clinics were held at four locations, using Osco Pharmacy services. A flu clinic
 is also scheduled at the Beech Street Center, in conjunction with the monthly Veterans'
 Services Officer meeting.
- Ms. David thanked David and Health Dept. staff for standing together during staff transitioning.
- Wesley told the Board the significant value David adds to the department. He assists in grant writing, housing cases, animal control issues, and any other task needing attention.
- Ms. Lemay asked about the 2 pertussis cases in the disease report. David explained both cases became infected between vaccinations, as recommended in the CDC routine vaccination schedule.

The Public Hearing for El Centro – Violations of 105 CMR 590.000: Minimum Sanitation Standards for Food Establishments began at 5:45 pm. Mr. Rabi Islam, Owner, was present. Wesley Chin summarized recent inspection reports, and also provided a handout summarizing violations from June 2014 to present. A summary of the discussion is below:

- Ms. David stated it was unfortunate El Centro is present at another Board of Health Meeting for additional, and some of the same, food establishment violations.
- Mr. Islam said monthly pest control service has been in place at the food establishment. He
 will change the service to weekly pest control service.
- Mr. Islam told the Board he contracts with a cleaning company. He also has staff perform daily cleaning tasks when the restaurant is closed (3 to 5 pm).

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- Ms. David told Mr. Islam that she reviewed the details of the violations. She told Mr. Islam to provide a list of what the cleaning company does, and also the daily cleaning schedule assigned to staff.
- Wesley added there appears to be lack of supervision from a trustworthy manager during business hours.
- The Board's goal is to protect the public. A trustworthy supervisor must be available during business hours.
- Mr. Fiore asked if food inspections improved when a food consultant was hired last year. Yes, improvement was noted in re-inspection reports.
- Mr. Islam said all staff is ServSafe certified.
- The restaurant is open 7 days per week, from 11 am to 10 pm, closing from 3 pm to 5 pm each day for cleaning and prep for dinner hours.
- Mr. Islam was asked if he has any inspection problems at El Centro's other locations. He said they do not.

The Board of Health ordered Mr. Rabi Islam, Owner of El Centro, to contract with a food establishment consultant for three months, and provide a defined cleaning schedule. The cleaning schedule must be submitted to Wesley Chin by October 18, 2018. The Order was approved by a vote of 3-0. The Hearing concluded at 6:02 pm.

The FOG Variance Application for Lisa's Pizzeria at 368 Trapelo Road was discussed. The Board of Health approved the FOG Variance by a vote of 3-0.

Board members welcomed Ms. Lisa Gibalerio, MPH, Prevention Specialist at Wayside Youth and Family Support Network. Ms. Gibalerio provided an update of the Wellness Grant received for Belmont. A summary of the discussion is below:

- The Grant is a five year Grant, \$125,000 per year.
- It is a coalition building Grant.
- There will be no funds available for programming during the first year.
- Focus will be on identifying programs that Belmont youth report they need. As an example, Waltham youth identified anti-bullying and racial inequity as their focus.
- Board members were concerned that services provided by the Health Department's Youth Coordinator may be duplicated by Wayside. Wayside hopes to overlap with the Youth Coordinator's efforts.
- The amount to be used for salaries is unknown at this time.
- Ms. Gibalerio provided a Program Abstract to Board members.

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The Board welcomed the following Belmont residents for the discussion concerning home renovation project requirements: Mr. Sharad Ramanathan, Mr. Fred Paulsen, and Mr. Edwin Morgan. A summary of the discussion is below:

- Mr. Ramanathan summarized his concern of asbestos removal from interior renovation projects due to a recent neighborhood renovation (interior) whereby a dust cloud of unknown debris, about the size of a ½ neighborhood block, was generated. Mr. Ramanathan and other concerned neighbors had no Town resources to contact as it was renovation work being done on the weekend. Belmont Police were contacted but the dust cloud was gone prior to their arrival.
- A number of residents are now requesting a policy/regulation be developed for interior demolition projects to follow the same requirements needed for full demolition projects.
- Community Development may need to define what a major interior renovation project is.
- Mr. Morgan stated all renovation projects require lead and asbestos reports in accordance with the Clean Air Act. The Town of Weston enforces submission of these reports for all renovation projects. He shared a recent incident whereby a local contractor was fined \$30,000 for improper removal/disposal of asbestos. Mr. Morgan has a number of contacts at the State level, and was able to have the work stopped immediately.
- Mr. Morgan is willing to assist to streamline any process adopted by the Board of Health.
- Ms. David said local regulations will align with State policies.
- Mr. Paulsen said a Health Inspector should be available to oversee if licensed asbestos/lead
 contractors are on renovation sites. The Board members said no oversight can be done by a
 Health Inspector, we must trust that a certified inspector/contractor is following correct
 procedures.
- Ms. David told participants the Board understands the concerns put forth, but a policy decision cannot be made at this meeting.

The Director's report was reviewed with the following topics discussed:

- Housing Cases:
 - O Case #1 is slow to declutter due to illnesses.
 - o Case #2 6 unit building, occupant is only available 2 days per week to work on decluttering.
 - Case #3 elderly resident with no family, but has kind neighbors. Elder protection service request has been filed, catalyst for occupant to hire cleaning/pest control services.
 The neighbors suggest backing off of Springwell services.
- Purecoat North, history of odor complaints from a resident neighbor. A meeting was held with the
 complainant, Ms. Donna Moultrup, and Wes. Ms. Moultrup provided detailed history and assured
 the complainant no carcinogens were present. Complainant will be escalating their concerns to
 state representatives.

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- Wesley attended the appeal hearing filed by LC Variety in connection with the issuance of a violation notice for selling tobacco products to our underage tobacco compliance check student. The clerk magistrate upheld the ticket.
- Four first round interviews have been completed for the Assistant Director position.
- The application period for the Youth Coordinator position has been extended to October 31st.

The Nurse's report was reviewed. Of particular interest was the link between Primary Amebic Meningoencephalitis and "neti pot" usage.

The Youth and Family Services report was reviewed.

The Veterans' Services report was reviewed.

The Animal Control report was reviewed.

The next Board of Health Meetings are scheduled November 14, 2018 at 5:30 pm, and December 3, 2018 at 5:30 pm.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Donna S. David

Respectfully submitted,

Donna S. David, Chair