

Minutes
Winthrop Board of Health Meeting
July 6, 2023
Harvey Hearing Room, Town Hall

Meeting called to order at 6:40pm

Members Present: Bill Schmidt, Jeanne Holgerson, Christine Reilly

Introduction of New Board Member Christine Reilly

Minutes for the BOH meeting on 06/20/2023 were approved by Bill Schmidt and Jeanne Holgerson.

Public Comment – for this meeting, public comments were heard during discussion of pertinent agenda topics.

Past Business

Sunnyside Avenue - Status same, awaiting electrician, town attorney is handling the matter.

Board of Health Workplan for FY2024 Plans are to address these topics

Annual Report from BOH will be submitted for inclusion in the FY2023

Grease Trap Regulations

Restaurant Grading System to be developed by BOH with assistance of Inspectional Services.

Community Health Forum

Dogs in Restaurants

Lewis Lake Water Quality Issue was referred to DPW, awaiting response.

Reports

Director of Public Health and Clinical Services Update– was submitted by email

C.L.E.A.R. Program

Hosting a weekly Drop-in session on Wednesdays from 6p-8p for people seeking a safe space for substance use supports

The 2 nd week of August we are hosting 3 police departments in Winthrop who are interested in learning how to build public health programming into public safety systems. This is a project in conjunction with the Department of Justice. We will be sharing internal and external documents, trainings, referral systems and data tracking.

Other

Working with MGH Institute of Health Professions to bring their mobile van to provide education through nursing students related to heat-related impacts and chronic disease

management. They will be at the Winthrop Senior Center on 7.17.2023 to talk about heat-related illness.

Working to access surveillance systems through local hospitals to integrate more data related to substance use and mental health through admissions reporting (deidentified)
Attending the NACCHO360 Conference in Denver next week

Commissioner of Inspectional Services Update – unable to attend meeting

New Business

Grease Trap Regulations are out of date, BOH will draft new regulations with assistance of Inspectional Services.

Dogs in Restaurants Discussion of this topic included Betsy Shane, Exec Director of Chamber of Commerce. Clarification of any regulations would be helpful for business owners in the town. Board will research if there are any current regulations addressing this topic. Follow-up will be at upcoming meetings.

Ban on Black Plastic – Enforcement, Exemptions

Ban went into effect 1/1/2023, with a grace period of 6 months before enforcement would occur. Enforcement became effective July 1, 2023. The BOH may grant an exemption to a specific business upon receipt of a written request to the BOH stating why the exemption is needed.

Ticks and Mosquitos

Spraying for mosquitos will be done on 7/11/23 by the NE Mosquito Control and Wetlands Management District. Detailed information on areas to be included are posted on the town's website. In addition any individual or business can contact this agency and request spraying at their home or business.

Community Health Forum (formerly Women's Health Forum) is planned for October, will be organized by the BOH. Jeanne Holgerson is the chair for this event. The date for this event is to be determined based on the availability of space at the Middle/High school.

NSPHC Environmental Health Meeting - next meeting July 19, 2023

This meeting is held every other month. BOH members are welcome to call in. Topics are focused on environmental health issues.

Proposed Schedule of Meetings for Rest of 2023

The proposed meeting dates for the BOH are:

Tuesday, August 22, 2023

Tuesday September 12, 2023

Tuesday October 10, 2023

November 14, 2023

December 12, 2023

Other discussion

A complaint about 96 Main Street was forwarded to Inspectional Services.

Problem with mice at Fort Heath apartments is being handled by Inspectional Services
Botox use regulations. These are established by the state. In order to assist salon owners, Jeanne Holgersen compiled a packet outlining what is required by any business providing botox injections. Copies are available from the office of Inspectional Services.

Adjournment at 7:50pm approved unanimously 3-0

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Reilly, Member