

Winthrop Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Date 08/22/2023

Harvey Hearing Room, Town Hall

Meeting called to order at 6:35pm

Members Present: Bill Schmidt, Jeanne Holgerson, Christine Reilly

Minutes for the BOH meeting on 7/6/2023 were approved unanimously. 3-0

Public Comment

Todd Sacco spoke requesting that BOH meeting be on Zoom

**Past Business**

**76 Sunnyside Avenue** - extensive problems were found with wiring, so the entire house was rewired.

House will be sold. There have been no further complaints from the neighbors.

**Lewis Lake Water Quality** No update from DPW

**Reports**

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

C.L.E.A.R. Program

- Hosted the DOJ Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) along with 3 Police Departments (Lynnfield, MA; Alamosa, CO; Eau Claire County, WI) over 3 days to mentor them in how to embed public health services into public safety systems. Met with multiple partners, stakeholders and shared administrative documents, lessons learned.

- Lt. Gergerian will be presenting at BJA's national meeting next week in Washington DC

- Beginning to plan for Recovery Month events in August and September. Adopt-a-Pole will begin tomorrow with purple ribbons being hung on lamp poles to honor those lost to overdose.

Immunizations

- Awaiting shipment confirmation of Flu vaccine to finalize clinic dates

- Awaiting guidance from MA DPH & Rex Companies as to whether a new COVID formulary will be released this fall. Depending on the cost (no longer provided free-of-charge to LBOH), we may be out priced from providing the vaccines.

Other

- Attending Metro Boston Post Disaster training next week

- Working with the University of Chicago to learn more about data integration and improvement for local health metrics

- Applied for a grant to the Winthrop Foundation for the Winthrop Community Health Forum, formally the Winthrop Women's Health Forum, which is tentatively scheduled in October along with Commonwealth Clinical Services.

Commissioner of Inspectional Services submitted by email

Honey Dew Donuts An inspection was done and citation written. They have a correction schedule to follow and then a re-inspection will be done.

96 Main Street Trash was removed and property was cleaned.

86 Undine Street Trash was removed and property was cleaned.

208 Lincoln Street Issue referred to town attorney. Awaiting legal paperwork in order to remove trash and clean property.

Sharon has been conducting restaurant and housing inspections.

The extermination contract has been awarded to a new company who will start work soon.

The department has been working to enforce the trash regulations for correct barrel placement.

has been dealing with overgrown vegetation throughout the town

**New Business**

Community Health Equity Survey This survey is being conducted by the state.

Grease Trap Regulations need to be updated. Last regulations were in 2012.

Dogs in Restaurants Question was previously posed regarding whether dogs are allowed at restaurants. It was noted that Mass State Law 105 CMR 590.007 prohibits live animals in restaurants (exceptions for service animals). As the City of Boston recently passed regulations allowing dogs at outdoor dining, should Winthrop consider doing this as well ? This was discussed and decided that local restaurant owners should participate in the process. The BOH will draft a survey that will be sent to the owners asking for their input on the issue.

Ban on Black Plastic – A letter outlining the regulations and procedure for requesting exemptions was sent to the Chamber of Commerce. It will be forwarded by the Chamber to their members.

Soccer Field An email had been sent to the DEP asking if they needed to be notified before fertilizer was applied to the soccer field. Response was received from Pam Merrill of the DEP saying this was not required. As no chemicals or pesticides are being used there is also no requirement to notify the EPA.

Restaurant Rating System BOH will discuss with the Commissioner of Inspectional services whether to implement a rating system for the Town of Winthrop.

249 Pleasant Street application for keeping chickens An email from the town manager was sent to the BOH stating the 249 Pleasant Street side of the lot can be considered the side of the house. Based on this information, the BOH unanimously (3-0) approved the application for 249 Pleasant Street to keep chickens. This will be in effect for 2 years providing that Mr. Mallios remains as a tenant at 249 Pleasant St..

Cassandra Hernandez Application. Applicant requested approval to administer Botox injections. BOH provided information regarding the applicable regulations. As she may change her business plan based on the information, no further action needed.

Ticks An Op Ed from the BOH was published in the Transcript informing the public how to protect themselves from ticks.

Community Health Forum It will be held on Wed, 10/18/2023 at the WMS. Letters regarding sponsorship have been sent to businesses and former participants. A request for a grant was sent to the Winthrop Foundation.

99 Bayview A request for an inspection of this property was referred to inspectional Services.

Annual Report for the BOH Bill Schmidt will submit it to the Town Clerk.

Adjournment at 7:54 pm approved unanimously 3-0

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Reilly, Member