

Winthrop Board of Health
Meeting Minutes for April 16, 2026, at 4:00 pm
Harvey Hearing Room, Town Hall

Meeting called to order at 4:00 pm.

Members Present: Chair Christine Reilly, Jeanne Maggio, Mary Lou Cooney

Minutes from the Board of Health meeting of January 13, 2006, were read and unanimously approved.

Public Comments: Winthrop citizen Judy Hanlon

- Dog owners are using the skate park at Ingleside as a dog park. On Saturday mornings, they are gathering for coffee as a group, with the gates closed. There is one sign that says “no dogs allowed”, but this is being ignored. Urine and feces are being left behind and not cleaned up.
- Ms. Hanlon distributed information to the Board about the health hazards of dog urine.
- Ms. Hanlon would like the park cleaned up.

The Board thought that Mark Van Buskirk of Animal Control should be notified. There was a question as to whether closed-circuit cameras would help. Ms. Cooney will look at the sign to see what information is on there and find out who is responsible. Ms. Maggio will contact Mr. Van Buskirk via email and ask him to the next meeting. Ms. Maggio suggested going to the Town Council meeting and making a public comment. It was also suggested that pictures of the “poop” be printed in the Winthrop Transcript.

Director of Public Health and Clinical Services Update: None

Commissioner of Inspectional Services Update: (via email - see attached)

Update on MAHB Training: Chair Reilly and Ms. Cooney attended training.

- SAPHE2 law: More things will fall to local health departments - new standards, increased burdens on health departments and inspectional services, and more paperwork. More equitable across the state. There is funding for this. It was noted that Winthrop shares a nurse and epidemiologist with the cities of Chelsea and Revere.

Letter Grading of Food Establishments and Food Trucks: Per Al Legee of Inspectional Services, this is starting to be implemented (see attached email). Ms. Maggio received a call from Mr. Legee giving reassurance that Inspectional Services will start inspections next month and they will start letter inspections. He also described other Inspectional Services responsibilities, noting that bad winter weather had caused delays.

Proposed agenda items for next meeting:

- Dogs in the skate park at Ingleside

- Cottage food operation:
 - The Commonwealth recognizes the cottage food industry. Question from the Board as to whether Winthrop does the same. Does the Board want to discuss this? Public comment for next meeting.

Adjournment: 4:41 pm.

Next meeting: May 12, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Reilly
Chair, Winthrop Board of Health

From: Al Legee alegee@winthropma.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2026 1:11 PM
To: Sharon Sicurella ssicurella@winthropma.gov
Subject:

Update:
Getting ready for grading food establishments
Dealing with problem properties throughout the town
Dealing with dumpsters without health permits.
Conducting unannounced grease trap inspections.
Continually conducting housing inspections.
Working with the Attorney on receivership of 2 properties in Town.

Albert J. Legee CBO.
Commissioner of ISD
100 Kennedy Dr.
Winthrop MA, 02152