



City of Westfield, Massachusetts
Health Department

Board of Health Meeting
Room 220
June 12, 2019

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WESTFIELD CITY CLERK

Present: Juanita Carnes, Chair Teresa Mitchell, M.D. Margaret Doody

Ms. Carnes opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. The Minutes of the May 8, 2019, meeting were reviewed and accepted as printed. Jean Carpenter was present to address the Board during Public Participation. The Board began discussing items on the agenda.

New Board Member Orientation – Margaret Doody was welcomed as the newest member of the Board. She was briefly informed of the status of current issues before the Board.

Signature Authority – The Purchasing Department’s Contract Signature Authorization forms, earlier signed by Ms. Carnes and Dr. Mitchell, were presented to Ms. Doody for her signature. A motion was made and seconded to give Joseph Rouse authority to sign Contracts for the Health and Sanitary Landfill departments.

The vote was as follows:

Carnes	--	Yes
Mitchell	--	Yes
Doody	--	Yes

All in favor, the Motion was declared passed.

The Board was presented with Authorized Signature Forms, for their signature, giving Cheryl McMordie authority to sign specific documents in the absence of the department head. A motion was made and seconded to give Cheryl McMordie authority to sign specific documents for the Health and Sanitary Landfill departments in the absence of the department head.

The vote was as follows:

Carnes	--	Yes
Mitchell	--	Yes
Doody	--	Yes

All in favor, the Motion was declared passed.

Budget Discussion -- The budgets have been submitted and the Auditor is pleased with what we have proposed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Ms. Jean Carpenter of Barbara St. addressed the Board concerning the poor air quality on the north side of town, specifically by the turnpike due to heavy truck traffic. She suggested that air monitoring be conducted in that area, especially by the two schools nearby. She questioned why the city had not installed permanent air monitoring systems similar to that of Westover Air Force Base in Chicopee. Mr. Rouse suggested that Ms. Carpenter contact the City Council. Ms. Doody pointed out that Southampton Rd. is a state highway and, perhaps, an inquiry should be made of the state. Mr. Rouse agreed to explore whether or not any monitoring is currently being conducted and whether a federal mandate is in place for the airport.

PUBLIC HEALTH:

Food Insecurity Project: Nurse Cassandra Laverty informed the Board that they are working on the Coalition to End Hunger project. She prepared a bookmark containing information on various sites where food/meals can be obtained by individuals needing assistance. Copies were presented to the Board members for their review. These bookmarks are currently being distributed in various areas of the City (i.e. Soup Kitchen, Farmers' Market, Food Pantry, etc.) Nurse Laverty explained the program and what is being done by the Coalition.

Drug Task Force: Kathi Cotugno, Drug Task Force Coordinator, was introduced to the Board. She presented an overview of what she would like to accomplish and in what projects she is currently involved. She indicated that a goal she would like to attain is for the Task Force to become a hub wherein clinics, counselors, the hospital, police, as well as the community, work together. She also indicated that she would like to include Southwick, Russell and Granville. Ms. Cotugno will be using the Health Department Facebook page for Task Force purposes.

Tick Signs: The Mayor has received complaints with regard to the number of ticks in parks and playgrounds. Signs were ordered displaying ways in which to avoid being bitten by ticks. They were distributed to the Board for their review. DPW, however, is reluctant to put up these signs. Mr. Rouse suggested that the Health Department post the signs. Ms. Carnes will be sending an email to Park and Rec Chairman Kenneth Magarian regarding these signs. A motion was made and seconded to post the tick signs in all municipal parks and playgrounds.

The vote was as follows:

Carnes	--	Yes
Mitchell	--	Yes
Doody	--	Yes

All in favor, the Motion was declared passed.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH:

Floor Drain Regulation Discussion – A letter was received from Southampton with regard to businesses in Westfield having no floor drains. There is a concern that chemical waste could potentially contaminate the aquifer which is jointly shared by Westfield and Southampton.

Southampton officials would like to see Westfield implement a regulation mandating that floor drains be installed wherein run-off would go to a discharge area. Mr. Rouse suggested that this issue be revisited at a later date once more information becomes available.

“Buy Recycling” Policy: A Buy Recycling policy had been in place in 1996, however, will need to be updated. A Motion was made and seconded to adopt a “Buy Recycled” policy.

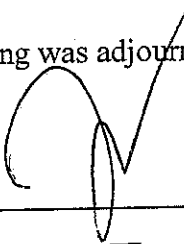
The vote was as follows:

Carnes	--	Yes
Mitchell	--	Yes
Doody	--	Yes

All in favor, the Motion was declared passed.

With no further items on the agenda to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Minutes approved by:



/cam

Next anticipated meeting date: July 10, 2019