

DRACUT BOARD OF HEALTH
Minutes September 15, 2011
Dracut Fire Department, Conference Room
488 Pleasant Street
Dracut, MA 01826

Present: Evan Themeles, Chairman; Louis E. Rousseau, Vice Chairman; Paul Enis, Clerk,
Thomas F. Bomil, Public Health Director.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:00pm

Old Business:

Memo Re: Municipal Smoking Ban Regulations: Mr. Bomil informed the Board as you can see a memo was sent to all Town Department Heads regarding no smoking regulations. The no smoking signs were printed, paid for by Healthy Communities and sent to all our municipal buildings yesterday.

Public Health District Incentive Grant Program: Mr. Bomil explains this is the grant we have been working on. Mr. Bomil informs the Board that what he is about to talk about is not concrete, it is just something that is being proposed. One of the issues that might come up with this grant is that if you look on page 9, Board of Health Training, it requires that applicants for implementation grants will be required to:

- Document that all current Board of Health members from participating municipalities have completed formal training on BOH responsibilities, such as Massachusetts Association of Health Boards certification program or programs offered online or on-site by the Local Public Health Institute of Massachusetts (for more information, see Appendix A).
- Specify plans for ensuring that all current Board of Health members complete formal BOH training within one year of receiving approval for an implementation grant.
- Specify plans for ensuring that all future Board of Health members complete formal BOH training within one year of the election or appointment.

Individual BOH members are expected to complete formal BOH training at least once, not annually.

Mr. Bomil explains that what he is bringing to the Board if they are for something like this. If there were something on line would you be willing to do it. Mr. Bomil explains that he is getting the drift from other the directors that some of their Board members have been on the Board for years and why do they need training. Mr. Bomil suggests if someone new came on the Board something along that line then they could do the training. Mr. Bomil explains MDPH will only consider waiving training requirements for BOH members who are experienced local public health officials or who provide other compelling reasons meriting special consideration. Two members of the Dracut Board of Health have been on the Board for at least thirty years and one member has been on the Board for the past five years. Mr. Bomil will report to the Committee that any new members will be recommended to do the training, but that our present Board is experienced enough not to take this training.

Mr. Bomil explains that presently this is not concrete. There will be another meeting in a few weeks, then a decision will be made sometime by the first of the year whether we will get the grant. The communities involved are the City of Lowell, Town of Dracut, Tewksbury, Chelmsford and Tyngsboro that will be sharing a nurse.

Abandoned Properties: Mr. Bomil explains that a representative from the Attorney General's office, the Building Inspector, Fire Inspector and himself went to look at the various abandoned buildings. The Attorney General's office is now in the process of sending letters out to all the property owners of these abandoned properties.

New Business:

West Nile Virus: Mr. Bomil informs the Board that there were two mosquitoes infected with West Nile Virus that were found in Dracut. He further explains that The Central Massachusetts Mosquito Program steps in and what they do is called pooling which Mr. Bomil believes is trapping the mosquitoes then take them to the lavatory in Boston for testing, there were two areas in Dracut, one mosquito from each batch. Mr. Bomil further explains is what the Mosquito Program did in those areas in question is doubled sprayed the areas. In fact where Dracut has had the problem they actually sprayed again this past weekend in certain areas. With the cold weather coming up it will be doubtful that it will be sprayed next week.

Complaints: Mr. Bomil informs the Board there have been really no complaints. We actually had a complaint about the convenience store on Broadway Road; the person bought a bottle of apple juice. Mr. Bomil asked the person to bring the apple juice into him. Mr. Bomil went to the convenience store, three or four items were out dated, other than that everything was ok. Mr. Bomil explains we also received a complaint last week, same convenience store about the owner smoking inside the store. Mr. Bomil sent Ron Beauregard from Healthy Communities to investigate and talk to the owner.

DOT: Mr. Bomil explains that right now he is doing a little nursing duty, Directive Observe Therapy, all I have to do is simply walk in and watch the patient take their medication once a week, which is a TB case. The patient has been off the medication for a while but is going back on it. Mr. Bomil explains that he does this every Monday morning.

Day Care: Mr. Themeles asked about day care centers. Mr. Bomil explains he usually does these inspections in the spring. Mr. Bomil also explains that the State has increased inspections on day cares, because of issues. Mr. Bomil received a call once about a day care wanting a food license and he was told by this day care that the State comes in at least every three months for inspection. Mr. Bomil does not go to day care homes just to day care centers.

Flu Clinic: Mr. Bomil informs the Board the tentative date for the flu clinic is Saturday, October 22nd. I will be getting in touch with Joanne Sargent of Sargent Associates for the nursing. If any vaccine is left scheduled mini clinics will be set up at the Board of Health office with a volunteer nurse to give shots.

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Minutes: Motion made by Paul Enis to approve the minutes of August 4th, 2011.

Seconded by Louis Rousseau. Unanimous

Next Board of Health meeting: Scheduled for October 20th, 2011.

Motion mad by Evan Themeles to adjourn meeting.

Seconded by Paul Enis. Unanimous

Meeting adjourned 5:30pm

BOARD OF HEALTH

Evan Themeles, Chairman

Louis E. Rousseau, Vice Chairman

Paul Enis, Clerk

Helen Lareau, recording secretary

