



Town of Agawam

Board of Health

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Gladys Fernandez-Largay, MD	- Chairman
Mary Jo Safford, NP	- Vice Chair
Mary Lee Bertrand, BSN	- Member
Michael Theroux	- Health Agent
Sherry Petrucci, RN	- Public Health Nurse
Lauren Kennedy	- Sanitarian
Beth Ceccarini	- Secretary

Meeting Minutes - May 11, 2022

Agawam Senior Center ~ 5:00 p.m.

Attendance : All members present,

Documents distributed at meeting :
-Board of Health Agenda, Body Works Regulation

Meeting Called to Order : 5:00 pm. By Chairman Fernandez

Approval of minutes : A motion to approve the April BOH minutes was made by Vice Chair Safford and seconded by Member Bertrand. Motion to approve minutes: 3-0.

Citizen Speak Time : None attended the meeting

Old Business :

20 Ottawa Street : Agent Theroux stated during the last Court Hearing the bank submitted a rehabilitation plan for the house but it was very vague. The Town is trying to get a full receivership on this property. The current receiver is going to close on his loan causing a lien on the property and subsequently an auction.

Body Works Regulations : Sanitarian Lauren Kennedy shared 2 samples of regulations by the towns of Framingham and Oxford. She told the Board some of the key components that would be very beneficial if not critical for the Town to use in adopting our new regulations. She noted in speaking with people at the Boards of Health in these towns, an absolute requirement should be CORI and SORI report checks done by the applicants to be submitted with their yearly renewals. That would also be helpful if the applicants had licenses in other states. The Board had a discussion on this topic and concurred that that would be a good requirement to have in submitting each year. Sanitarian Lauren also thought that a fee schedule for fines should also be included in the ordinance. She noted that some of the incursions might not be as severe as others. If police intervention is need then suspension should be an option, as well as a fine. The Board, Sanitarian, Health Agent and Public Health Nurse had discussions on what they liked about each towns regulations. They were able to utilize some components from both towns and come up with a comprehensive set of regulations. The topics ranged from advertising services, verbiage of fines/fees, how comprehensively and detailed the ordinance should be, wording for specific physical acts to needing liability insurance as well as enforcement, age for services and bi-yearly inspections. After the discussion, Lauren stated she would come up with a culmination of the detailed ideas and make a draft document for the Board to review at June's meeting. At some point they would like to have the Town Solicitor attend a meeting for the discussion of legality of fines, enforcement, application requirements and other questions.

17 Cambridge Street : Agent Theroux told the Board during the last hearing the Judge ordered a full receiver on that property. The current receiver will now stay on to do all the corrections to the property. The Judge did state that the house is inhabitable. He will not let anyone back into the property other than the receiver. The receiver will be submitting a plan to complete all the tasks ordered on the property. He has been working with the Town Departments at each stage of progression. Agent Theroux said he will wait for the next hearing after the Court has approved the final rehab plans. He will then get in contact with the receiver for updated progress.

New Business :

New Personnel : The BOH Secretary told the Board this would be her last meeting. She has been promoted to the Veteran's Services Office. The posting of her job would be up on May 16th. The new Administrative Assistant should be at the June meeting. The BOH members wished her well and thanked her for her BOH work.

6 Flags New England : Health Agent Theroux told the Board that soon the pool and the rest of the food concessions will be inspected. So far there have been no complaints to the Health Department. They have been opened on weekends since mid-April. He has been in touch with the Licensing Coordinator Lisa Laing, they are working together to finish up.

Outdoor Dining : Several Town Departments are still working on the comprehensive Outdoor Dining Ordinance. The next committee meeting is in June. The Health Agent told the Board that only a handful of businesses asked for a permit this year for outdoor dining. Even though the Governor/State is allowing this, the businesses still need to adhere to our regulations, fire codes and building codes.

School Nurse Activities : Nurse Sherry told the Board that one of our nurses had passed away due to cancer. Our current full-time float nurse took her school. That made our Full-Time Float a School Nurse so we are now advertising for a Full-Time Float Nurse. There were 4 interviews scheduled for this position in the next couple days. Our new Part-Time Float Nurse started in March. Coronavirus case numbers are on the rise in schools lately

Public Health Nurse : Nurse Sherry has been busy ordering end of year replacement supplies for the nurses for the next school year.

April flu cases totaled 100 ~ 65 cases were for 18 years or under age group
May flu cases so far totaled 14 ~ 9 cases were for 18 years or under age group

April's case count for Coronavirus was 253 and so far this month we are up to 181 cases.
She also noted an increase in cases at the Sun Shine Village complex (located at Industrial Park). They needed to close for a week to deep clean.

Adjourned: Motion to adjourn was made by Member Bertrand seconded by Vice Chair Safford. With a vote of 3-0, the meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

BOH fact: In 1799 Paul Revere became Chairman of the 1st Board of Health in Boston.

BOH/bc