

TEWKSBURY Board of Health

Minutes

January 17, 2013

TOWN CLERK
BOARD OF REGISTRARS
TEWKSBURY, MA

13 FEB 12 PM 12:53

Call of Meeting To Order

MOTION - Ms. Kinnon made a motion to call the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sheehan and unanimously voted 4-0.

The meeting was held at the Town Hall Auditorium. Present at the meeting were, Chairman Phillip French, Vice Chairman Charles Roux, Christine Kinnon, Edward Sheehan, and Health Director Lou-Ann Clement. Kathleen Brothers was not in attendance.

New Business

MAVEN

Ms. Clement stated that she provided a draft of a letter to send to the State regarding MAVEN. Ms. Clement stated that MAVEN is an electronic network for communicable and contagious diseases that are reported to the Board of Health. Due to staffing issues and the retirement of the public health nurse, this is not a good time to fulfill this unfunded State mandate. This draft letter states that we cannot perform this mandate at this time.

Ms. Kinnon asked how much does the MAVEN system cost. Ms. Clement stated that there is no cost, but there is a lengthy training and since this deals with confidential information only the public health nurse can use the system.

Mr. French asked what the consequence would be for not doing this mandate. Ms. Clement replied that she was not sure yet. We will see what the response to our memo is.

Ms. Kinnon stated that this letter is basically asking for a temporary waiver. Ms. Clement replied yes, for at least 9 months. Ms. Kinnon asked if we can add knowledge of the MAVEN system as a requirement for the new public health nurse. Ms. Clement stated that it is a very specific training usually done by the State.

MOTION - Ms. Kinnon made a motion to approve the proposed memo as written and forward to the State. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roux and unanimously voted 4-0.

Opioid Overdose Prevention Pilot Program Update Meeting Results

Ms. Clement stated that she attend an Opioid Overdose Prevention Pilot Program meeting with Chief Sheehan and Safety Officer Jennie Walsh. Lowell is the host to the pilot program. The data provided from Lowell includes the surrounding communities. The State wide average for overdose is going down but our communities' numbers are going up. Ms. Clement stated that she has posters about how to recognize an overdose and will get them up around Town. Ms. Clement will invite the Board to the next meeting.

Mr. French stated that these statistics only account for overdoses but not suicide due to drugs. Ms. Clement replied she believes that was correct.

Medical Marijuana

Ms. Clement stated that she passed out information received for Medical Marijuana. These materials include the questions and answers from the Department of Public Health (DPH) as well as the law, Chapter 369 of the Acts of 2012. Mass DPH has to provide guidance for the communities on how to proceed. Ms. Clement also provided a letter from Community Development Director Steve Sadwick. The Planning Board Zoning Bylaw Subcommittee

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has invited the Board of Health and Police Chief to their meeting on January 23, 2013 at 7:30 PM at the Senior Center to begin discussions.

Ms. Clement stated that the Mass Health Officers Meeting on March 21st at 10:00 AM will host have the topic of Medical Marijuana on the agenda. Ms. Clement asked that the Board let her know if they wish to attend either meeting. Ms. Clement stated that the Town needs to start preparing for this.

Ms. Kinnon stated that she will attend the ZBL meeting on January 23rd but cannot attend the Mass Health Officers meeting.

Board Member Reports

Ms. Kinnon stated that there was a recent publication from DPH on an opioid grant. She forwarded this information to Officer Walsh.

Other Business

Update on Flu

Ms. Clement stated that this is a very strong flu season. There have been three confirmed cases in Tewksbury. As of today and only Rite Aid still has limited amount flu vaccines left. They do not vaccinate children or pregnant women.

Resignation of Board of Health Member Edward Sheehan

Mr. French stated that he received the resignation from Mr. Sheehan and he hates to see it happen but understands the reasons behind it. Mr. French thanked Mr. Sheehan for his 16 years of service and it's been a pleasure to serve with him.

Mr. Roux stated that he thanked Mr. Sheehan for all his service and wished him well.

Ms. Kinnon also thanked Mr. Sheehan and wished him well.

Ms. Clement also thanked Mr. Sheehan. Ms. Clement continued with information regarding Mr. Sheehan's remaining two years to his term. The Board of Selectmen will discuss this at their meeting on January 29, 2013. They will vote to accept the resignation and decide if the position should be filled at a special election or at the annual election in April.

Mr. French stated that we should just wait until the Board of Selectmen decides what to do. Ms. Clement stated that there would be five meetings until the April election. Ms. Kinnon stated that she is ok with waiting until the annual election. Mr. French agreed that four members should be fine until the annual election.

MOTION - Ms. Kinnon made a motion to send a letter to the Board of Selectmen indicating the Board's preference to defer appointment of the replacement member for Mr. Sheehan and allow the position to be filled at the annual election in April. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roux and unanimously voted 4-0.

Healthy Communities Meeting with BOS on January 29, 2013

Ms. Clement stated that Mr. Beauregard has primarily handled the tobacco control program but now he has a new roll. He will be working with the liquor licensing Boards as well. He will be introducing himself to the Board of Selectmen on January 29, 2013.

TEWKSBURY Board of Health

Minutes

January 17, 2013

Mr. French asked if he does this service for the communities that he does tobacco control for. Ms. Clement replied yes. Mr. French asked if compliance checks would be done. Ms. Clement replied she doesn't believe so. This is more of an education service.

Announcements

MOTION - Mr. Roux made a motion to close the meeting and adjourn at 7:45 PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sheehan and unanimously voted 4-0.

Approved: 
Kathleen Brothers, Clerk

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TEWKSBURY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
List of Documents for January 17, 2013
Documents can be located at the Board of Health's Office

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Meeting Called To Order:

New Business:

MAVEN

Letter from MDPH dated 12/14/12

Letter from P. French to MDPH dated January 18, 2013

Opioids Pilot Program

Data sheet

Resignation of Board of Health Member Edward Sheehan

Letter of resignation dated January 9, 2013

Letter from Town Clerk received January 14, 2013

Memo from Town Clerk to L. Clement dated January 9, 2013

Board Members reports:

Other Business:

Announcements:

Adjourn: