

BOARD OF HEALTH
Hearing Room, Second Floor, City Hall: 210 Main Street
March 15, 2018 Minutes

BOH Members Present: Suzanne Smith; Cynthia Suopis and William Hargraves

BOH Members Absent: Joanne Levin

Staff: Merridith O’Leary, Director and Melissa Roberts-Cote, BOH Clerk

Staff Absent: None

Meeting opened March 15, 2018 at 5:30 pm by Cynthia Suopis

I. Public Comment Session: No Public Comments.

II. Review Minutes

A. Meeting Minutes from February 15, 2018

Motion: Approved: Motion made by William Hargraves to accept the February 15, 2018 minutes as written, seconded by Suzanne Smith. All were in favor (3-0).

III.Action: Review Board of Health Adult Use Marijuana recommendation letter to City Councilors

The Board discussed a draft letter by Dr. Joanne Levin to the City Councilors regarding Board of Health concerns with Retail Recreational Marijuana Establishments doing business in Northampton come July of 2018. The draft addressed capping the number of establishments, hours of operation, mobile establishments, age restriction, and a possible moratorium. The Board thought it would be more beneficial to keep the focus on the cap and provide evidence based data to support their request.

Director O’Leary will revise the draft with the Boards recommendations and will email the final draft for review. Once complete, Director O’Leary will have the letter available for signatures at the office.

Motion: Cynthia Suopis made a motion to revise the draft letter as discussed to recommend to the City Council to cap the number of Retail Marijuana Establishments to 3 and that they consider using part of the 3% sales tax for substance use prevention and education. Seconded by Suzanne Smith at 6:31pm. All in favor (3-0)

IV.Discussion: Massachusetts Association Health Board (MAHB) Adult use Marijuana Place Holder Health Regulation

MAHB provided Boards of Health with Adult Use Marijuana place holder regulations. On March 27, 2018 there is a MAHB conference being held in Eastern Massachusetts that the Jennifer Meyer, City of Northampton, Public Health Nurse will be attending for Director O’Leary. The Board reviewed the placeholder regulations and commented that they are very similar to the tobacco regulations. Director O’Leary pointed out that the section

regarding enforcement in the Cannabis Control Commission was not very sound. The Board had a conversation regarding should a local regulation be put in place by the Board of Health that they would like to firm up edibles, serving sizes, enforcement, ID that is required for purchasing marijuana. The Board will continue to attend the upcoming forums to follow how the MAHB will be proceeding with Adult Use Marijuana and if the Board of Health will need to consider writing local regulations.

V. Discussion: Amending Northampton Board of Health Tobacco Regulations to include Smoke Free Business Districts

The Board reviewed the City of Northampton Board of Health Prohibiting Smoking in Workplaces and Public Places Regulation and discussed including prohibiting smoking in the central business district of Northampton and Florence. “Northampton Central Business District or in areas of Florence zoned General Business district, are delineated on the Northampton Zoning Map”. Challenges to be discussed in future meetings are where to provide smoking areas and enforcement.

VI. Department Updates:

- A. Annual Rabies Clinic will occur on April 7, 2018 at the Smith Vocational Agricultural High School from 11am- 1pm.
- B. Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Grant Mandatory Meeting is on March 25, 2018 for new grantees in which Director O’Leary, Cherry Sullivan Opioid Coordinator-Hampshire Hope, and Michele Farry, Assistant Opioid Coordinator-Hampshire Hope will all attend.
- C. With the support of the Mayor, the Northampton Health Department is going to launch the Municipal Wellness Initiative. A committee with representation from Human Resources, Park and Recreation, Mayors Office and the HD had their kick off meeting. Crimson and Clover will be working with the Northampton Health Department to provide food shares.
- D. The Health Department has submitted a compact IT grant build the “Post Over Dose Data Base” for \$200,000.00 dollars.
- E. During the Health Department budget meeting with the Director of Finance it was identified that Director O’Leary has brought over \$3 million dollars in grants to the city during her 5 years at the Health Department.
- F. April 18, 2018 the Northampton Health Department will be conducting a city wide Sharps Program that will demonstrate the proper technique to collect sharps safely.

Meeting Closed: Motion to Close Meeting: Motion made to close the Board of Health Meeting by William Hargraves, seconded by Suzanne Smith, all in favor (3-0)

Meeting closed at 7:08 PM.

The next scheduled Board of health Meeting: April 19, 2018

Melissa Roberts-Cote, BOH Clerk

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Meeting Document List

The following documents were available to the Board of Health during their scheduled meeting.

These documents are available for review at the:

Northampton Health Department, 212 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

- Meeting Agenda
- February 15, 2018
- Draft Letter from Board of Health to City Councilors
- Massachusetts Draft 935 CMR 500.000: Adult Use of Marijuana
- Regulation Draft Marijuana Establishments and the Sale of Marijuana
- Regulation of the City of Northampton Board of Health Prohibiting Smoking in Workplaces and Public Places.