

KINGSTON BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
August 1, 2022

Present: Chairman Joe Casna, Dennis Randall, Heidi Whipple, Paula Rossi-Clapp
Virtual – Janet Wade, Leanne McGuinness and Arthur Boyle

6:06 p.m. Kingston Board of Health Meeting was called to order by Chairman, Joe Casna.

BILLS

- Review of Bills

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- May 2, 2022

Motion to accept minutes from May 2, 2022: Janet Wade

Second: Heidi Whipple

4-0-0

HEALTH AGENT REPORT – PAULA ROSSI-CLAPP AND ARTHUR BOYLE

APPLICATIONS IN PROGRESS

- 4 Perc tests completed

Sheridan Drive passed

Wapping Road passed

Crystal Drive waiting for SIV evaluation

Brookings Drive passed

SYSTEM INSPECTIONS

- 1 Final Inspection completed

RETAIL INSPECTIONS

- 2 Inspections completed and are on track with schedule

COMPLAINTS

- No outstanding complaints to report

BUDGET

- Year-to-date budget attached

CREDENTIALING PROCESS

- Health Agent renewed ServeSafe Certification good for 5 years
- Health Agent obtained Allergen Certification good for 5 years
- Health Agent is now working on Local Public Health Foundations course offered through Boston University online (See attached guide)
- Consultant renewed ServeSafe Certification good for 5 years
- Consultant renewed Soil Evaluator Certifications good for 2 more years
- Consultant renewed Title 5 Systems Inspector good for 3 more years

DEPARTMENT UPDATE

- Health Agent on vacation week of August 8-12. Consultant and Admin covering office
- Admin on vacation week of August 15-19. Health Agent and Consultant covering office
- Creating a small working group with Agricultural member and Animal Control to review and revise Non-Commercial Farm Animals Rules & Regulations. Health Agent will report back to the board once a new revision is complete for their input
- Elise and I were guests on Healthy Kingston and will continue to participate in the show moving forward
- Department staff continues to organize the physical department space. Elise has created a Project Board for easy access to monitor current septic "projects"
- Catching up on minutes from meetings will be a priority moving forward

Joe Casna – Why do we have an outside person as a Pool Inspector?

Arthur Boyle – We were short on personnel. Paula to get her pool certification for next year.

SYNOPSIS OF NITROGEN LEVELS (After meeting w/Bob from Sewer)

Nitrogen levels are high in the Bay. The Town of Kingston is contributing 21% of the nitrogen out of the three towns who share the Bay (Duxbury, Plymouth, Kingston) See Power Point print out.

The DEP / EPA is requiring the Town of Kingston have a 20-year plan in place to resolve the issue sometime by mid-September. See printout from the DEP.

Several options are being discussed:

A – The Town incorporates Town and Country Mobile Home Estates sewer system into the Town system (this may solve the % of Nitrogen)

B – A 20-year Betterment / Lien on all homes to connect to Town sewer

C – Title V upgrade to all existing and new septic systems that includes a nitrogen monitor. This will require the health department to make sure all homeowners are being tested monthly and the health department will have to send these numbers / reports to the DEP.

NURSE'S REPORT

- 45 positive Covid cases
- Public Health Nurse Tab on town website is up and running.
- Attending Council on Aging on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month.
- Covid vaccine clinic at COA was successful and accommodating. Next clinic is on Aug 17th
- I suggest having a volunteered retired nurse at COA and events for a pilot program for tax write-off.
- Monkey Pox training with Maven and LBOH training (Kingston is responsible for training). We do not have any cases of Monkey Pox. Kingston is not responsible for testing or vaccines. Kingston is responsible to do contact tracing.

Janet Wade – Should we reach out to Carol Beck at the schools to distribute the information about Monkey Pox?

Leanne says she has already reached out to Carol about distribution.

Janet Wade – Let the Rec Dept. and the Lib

Discussion of symptoms of Monkey Pox and educating the public.

Dennis Randall – Have there been any reports of people suffering from heat stress during this heat wave?

Leanne says yes, she was at the COA recently when a resident showed signs of heat exhaustion. It was 97 degrees, and she suggests that the kitchen at the COA not be operating at full capacity on these very hot days when the COA is being used as a cooling center. Maybe switch to cold sandwiches?

Leanne suggests that during the heat waves, she works out of the senior center because it is being used as a cooling center. It would be good to have a nurse there.

Motion to have a Nurse Emeritus at the COA during heat waves when it is used as a cooling center. – Dennis Randall

Second – Heidi Whipple

4-0-0

HEALTHY KINGSTON – JANET WADE

- The July program focused on interviews with Paula Rossi-Clapp, the new Health Agent and Elise Desmond, the Health Department Administrative Assistant. Both discussed their career backgrounds, their job positions, the services they offer residents and Paula discussed her short- and long-term professional goals and goals for the health department.
- Leanne McGuinness, PHN updated residents on the status of COVID cases and Monkey Pox nationally, statewide and locally.
- The MGH Institute of Health Professions is sending a contract to the Health Department allowing the nursing students to work within town health programs this coming fall. Janet Wade is their clinical instructor.
- **Heidi Whipple** suggests having a bike helmet initiative.

SHARED EXCELLENCE GRANT UPDATE

- Public Health Nurse Job Description approved and being forwarded to Human Resources for approval and posting to the public.
- Janet Wade will vet and interview candidates. Heidi Whipple said she would be willing to participate in interviews as well.
- The group is well organized and making good progress. Linda Riordan has done a great job.
- There is a potential to bring in more communities to the Grant.

- There will be a capacity assessment for all services.

Motion to adjourn at 7:00 PM: Heidi Whipple

Second: Dennis Randall

Vote: 4-0-0

Next Meeting – August 15, 2022

Elise Desmond, Administrative Assistant

Kingston Board of Health

Approved: September 19, 2022