

KINGSTON BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
January 22, 2024

Present: Chairman Joe Casna (via Zoom), Vice Chairman Bill Kavol. Members Janet Wade, Heidi Whipple, and Health Agent Joyce Krystofolski.

Absent: Member Dennis Randall

5:00 p.m. Kingston Board of Health Meeting was called to order by Joe Casna.

BILLS:

- Bills from December 29, 2023, January 11, 12, and 16, 2024 reviewed.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

5:01 pm Motion made by Heidi Whipple to accept the meeting minutes of December 27, 2023, as presented.

Second: Bill Kavol

4-0-0

HEALTH AGENT REPORT:

- There are a number of septic systems in progress.
- Kathy, the Grant Food Inspector is back from vacation as of today. Joyce did re-inspections last week while Kathy was away.
- There is a possible illness at one of the care facilities. Confirmation has not been received yet. E-Coli. They are unsure if it came from the site as the resident is on and off property. Joyce will do an inspection this week of the kitchen. The facility has done everything that they can and they are awaiting hospital confirmation.
- Paisano's is due to open late January or early February. They have done a remarkable job getting ready. Nothing new on Keegan's K creations.
- ServeSafe class is being held January 29th.
- Joyce met with a liaison from Beth Israel Deaconess. She asked what kind of needs the department has. She would like to help us to get resources. Seniors, English as a second language, etc.
- Joyce is working with the Public Health interns to create flyers.
- Region 5 meetings

Joe asked Joyce for a status of the Public Health Nurse position. Joyce stated that Michael DiVirgilio resigned. Pat Iafrate, the Grant Public Health Nurse, is working with the department. The department is supposed to get an epidemiologist and a social worker through the Grant. Job descriptions are posted.

Joe asked about a Betterment Loan application that came in recently. Joyce stated that there are a couple of applications. One is on hold. The other she has reviewed the plans and application, the loan is to repair and replace an equivalent system, this application has upgraded the system to include a 4th bedroom. She would like the Board to vote to deny the application as presented. It doesn't fall within the parameters of what the Betterment Loan is supposed to be for. She is seeking a vote to support the recommendation that the application, in its current form, be denied and allow the applicant the opportunity to be adjusted as they see fit. Repair or replace means the system must come out or to just replace what is there. Upgrade is not. It is outside the parameters of the loan.

5:19 pm Motion made by Heidi Whipple to grant the Health Agent Joyce Krystofolski permission to deny the application as currently presented.

Second: Bill Kavol

3-0-1

Janet offered her services for the Public Health Nurse interview process. She feels the hourly rate needs to be reexamined. Joe suggests this discussion be tabled for now. Have Lori contact other communities with a Public Health Nurse and get a feel for what they are currently paying that position, along with the Grant nurse. Janet asked if a clerical person could be trained in MAVEN at a lower rate of pay? Heidi stated it all be investigated further. Janet would like more information on the liaison from BID (Town Doctor?)

HEALTHY KINGSTON:

- Taping is February 1st. Barbara Ward, a social worker, will talk about co-parenting and step-parenting. The Kingston Garden Club just did an article in the Kingston Magazine about a healthy environment for plants during the winter months. Dorothy MacFarlane, the author of the article, will speak.

DISCUSSION:

Mobile Food Truck Fees – Joyce feels \$175. permit fee is high. Food trucks need to get licensed in the State for every town they go to. Whether it's a one-day event or if they are there 6 times. \$100 is more reasonable. A one-day event a permit is \$75 and there is no inspection. A food truck permit requires them to come to Town Hall and be inspected and a fire department inspection. That is an hour of inspection time. Joyce would like to see the fee reduced to \$100. Heidi would like to see what the other towns are charging.

5:41 pm Motion made by Heidi Whipple to reduce the Mobile Food Truck fee to \$100 per year for a permit.

Second: Bill Kavol

4-0-0

Old Colony Planning Council – Joyce has noticed that the Board has been paying a \$550 administration fee for the past 11 years. She discussed this with the OCPC and a new contract and procedure has been put in place. People will now apply through the Health Agent, she will review the plans and decide if they are in compliance, they will pay the \$550 fees to the Town.

IMA – a new one is required every year. The new contract language basically now states that if the money dries up, the shared services dry up or a town can opt to stay in it. It was also looked at by Town Council.

Tobacco Fines – There are several fines that will go out for selling to minors. There are a couple of second violations that will get a fine of \$2000. The others are first time offenders according to our records. Janet would like a '3 strikes you're out' rule. Joyce will forward the BOH information on how to issue tobacco permits and the issues that may come up. Fine letters have not gone out yet. This will be added to the next agenda.

Cease & Desist – Joyce would like to clarify the rules. Joe told her it is up to Joyce. She will notify the BOH prior to any Cease & Desist orders being issued.

Orientation Manual – the Board will submit their comments to Janet by February 2nd. To be added to the next agenda.

NEXT MEETING:

- Tentatively scheduled February 5, 2024

ADJOURN

5:54 p.m. Motion to Adjourn made by Heidi Whipple.

Second: Janet Wade

4-0-0

Lori Jones, Administrative Assistant
Kingston Board of Health

Approved: March 4, 2024