

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

January 25, 2017

Watertown Administration Building, Third Floor Conference Room

PRESENT: Dr. Barbara Beck, Acting Chairperson; Richard Arnold, Board Member; Deborah Rosati, Director of Public Health

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Barbara Beck called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM.

Public Comment: No comments

Minutes

The minutes of the December 14, 2016 meeting were approved as presented (Motion- R. Arnold, Second - Dr. Beck, 2-0).

60 Russell Ave. – Keeping of Hens and Honeybees

Present: Mr. Najib Khalil

Mr. Khalil presented his application for the keeping of five hens at 60 Russell Ave. and for a variance to allow an extension of time to install the hardware cloth on the bottom of the coop. He indicated that the family has had the hens since June of 2016 and the coop was built prior. They did not know that the hens needed approval in the past. They are not seeking approval for the bees at this time as they have lost two hives in the past. D. Rosati advised about the loss of bees by another keeper due to foulbrood disease and advised that the hive had to be burned on site under Fire Department watch so as not to spread the disease to other hives. The Board advised having the hive inspected for this disease. Mr. Khalil indicated that they approach the Board in the future if they intend to keep bees.

D. Rosati reported that hearing notices were sent to all abutters, one had to be hand delivered by the Animal Control Officer to new residents of 54 Russell Ave. The Board acknowledged the application review by Donna Moultrup and her inspection report indicating that all was approved.

The Board approved the request by Alexis and Najib Khalil to keep five hens at 60 Russell Ave. and a variance to allow an extension of time to install hardware cloth under the coop as soon as weather permits but no later than May 8, 2017 (Motion – R. Arnold, Second – Dr. Beck, 2-0 in favor).

Tobacco Control Update

The Board acknowledged the Tobacco Policy Summary List (June 2016) provided by D.J. Wilson at a prior meeting. They also acknowledged the results of “The 84 Survey” which is a compilation of information on the use of flavored and non-flavored tobacco by high school

students. In reviewing the results, the Board expressed the need for: information on the survey and how it was developed and used, an understanding of the validity of the data and whether it is benchmarked to a larger population. They also expressed interest in whether the survey is the same as the earlier (than 2015) surveys, and what the comparison is to area town survey results. D. Rosati indicated that the Youth Peer Group is interested in meeting with the Board to speak about the availability of tobacco products and present ideas for policy changes. It is recommended that D.J. Wilson from the Mass. Municipal Association, and Natalie Miller, Tobacco Control Coordinator be invited to a meeting in February with the Youth Group for this discussion. A meeting agenda was developed: Youth Group and Dawn Graham will present the survey results, Natalie Miller – compliance check information and report on the Watertown Regulations, existing policy in Watertown, and D.J Wilson – report on policy summary.

Next Meeting

D. Rosati will develop a Doodle poll for potential meeting dates of February 16, 21, 23 and 27 to determine availability for the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Deborah M. Rosati, Director of Public Health

Approved: March 27, 2017