

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

September 13, 2017

Watertown Administration Building, Lower Level Hearing Room

PRESENT: Dr. John Straus, Chairperson; Dr. Barbara Beck, Secretary; Richard Arnold, Member; Deborah Rosati, Director of Public Health; Kristel Bennett, Chief Environmental Health Officer; Stephanie Venizelos, Community Wellness Program Manager

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. John Straus called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm.

Public Comment: No Comments

Minutes

The minutes of the August 15, 2017 meeting were approved as presented (Motion - R. Arnold, Second -J. Straus; 2-0)

Community Wellness Program

Stephanie Venizelos, CWPM, informed the Board of the programs and projects that she is currently involved in. The Farmers Market has constituted approximately 1/3 of her time. She has worked on this since January when the Town assumed responsibility for the operation of the Market. There is uncertainty about whether AthenaHealth will continue to fund the Market, but discussions are underway. The Board asked questions about the operation of the Market and additional discussion ensued. The Board advised promoting the Market more broadly.

There are Live Well Watertown programs being planned, including continued Eat Well Watertown programming, and Watertown Moves events including kayaking, walking and bike-ped. There should be an effort to combine these efforts with the Farmers' Market.

Completion of the Community Health Needs Assessment is another goal for the Wellness Program. Last year's intern completed the Secondary Data Collection, and started the stakeholder interviews. Stephanie completed the interviews and will be compiling the responses. Deborah and Stephanie are searching for an intern who may assist with an analysis of the data as well as crafting a survey to additionally assess health needs from a resident perspective.

J. Straus recommended that we meet with the Human Services Committee to provide an update on the CWPM initiatives. He recommended obtaining an intern to produce a presentation.

The Board supported all of the initiatives of the Community Wellness Program.

Updates

Tobacco Control Regulations - D. Rosati provided Draft 4 of the regulations which includes a new definition and revisions from the Town Attorney per his review. The Board requested additional clarification on the permit capping section. D. Rosati will work with Atty. Reich on this section.

Deluxe Town Diner – K. Bennett reported that the Diner has been operating without ServSafe Certification since April. She sent a letter of violation indicating that they have no Food Allergy Certification or Choke Safe Training. Certificates were due last Friday. The office is considering holding an Administrative Hearing, and referring to the Board for a suspension hearing if there is no compliance after the hearing.

99 Pleasant St., Unit A-5 – K. Bennett reported that the Board required that the Social Worker visit for 8 sessions. The tenant has been cooperating with this requirement.

Master Wok – D. Rosati was informed by the Mall that Master Wok would not be re-opening.

Emergency Preparedness Drill – An Active Shooter Drill was held in conjunction with Belmont with the use of EP funds for coordination and snacks. It was deemed to be very successful and resulted in some beneficial take-aways for both towns. Most importantly, Public Safety personnel for both towns were excited about the opportunity to work together.

The Health Officer position is vacant as Pat Martin has left for a promotion in Arlington. The position has been posted.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm

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

Approved: November 15, 2017