

**Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2013**

Members Present:

Tom Kinzer, Co-Chair
Bea Brunkhorst, Co-Chair
Sarah Thompson
Kevin Wormstead
Anita Raj

Staff Present:

Heidi Porter, Director
Mary Firestone, Recording Secretary

Action Items:

Dr. Brunkhorst said she would write an article on new rDNA regulations for a public readership.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. Mr. Kinzer chaired.

Minutes:

Ms. Thompson moved to accept the minutes of the July 22, 2013 meeting as written. Ms. Raj seconded the motion. Vote count: 5-0

Board of Health Action Items --- Old and New Business:

Liaison Assignments:

Mr. Wormstead said that the Youth and Family Services Committee will meet on Thursday, September 12th.

Mr. Kinzer said that the Comprehensive Plan subcommittee of the Planning Board is considering that backyard gardening and the keeping of animals should be encouraged. The idea was received positively. He said that he had reviewed the original Bedford animal regulations from 1960. He reported that Planning board members are aware of the concept of "animal units". Ms. Porter asked about the timeline for the whole plan. Mr. Kinzer said that it should be ready in time for the Town Meeting in the Spring of 2014. Ms. Porter said that Carla Olson has been attending the comprehensive plan meetings; it is hoped that Healthy Bedford ideas will be incorporated into the plan.

Mr. Kinzer said that he had been unable to attend the meeting on the Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant (NWIRP) because he did not receive the email invitation. There had not been an NWIRP meeting for 4 years. Dr. Brunkhorst will request that he be added to the invitation list for future meetings. Ms. Porter had attended. She explained the history of toxic issues at Hanscom and treatment efforts for newer members. She mentioned land use questions which had arisen when the Edge sports facility was planned; it was built on land leased from a government entity.

Ms. Porter attended the Bedford Community Partnership Meeting. She said that there has been a regrouping resulting in new faces and new leaders for the local groups. She introduced new Community Health Nurse Joyce Cheng and discussed upcoming flu clinics.

Ms. Porter attended a meeting at the Bedford Plaza Hotel; Mr. Reed, the police chief, and state senators attended. She reported that 90 families-in-transition are now housed at the Plaza. That program is slated to end in June 2014. She is working to see if a mobile dental unit would visit the hotel. Breakfast is provided each morning, but that is the only meal provided. Local churches have helped with lunches for the children during the summer. Two washers and 2 dryers are available. The pool will be closed for the winter at least. The hotel receives approximately \$80 per night from the state for providing the accommodations for a total of well over \$200,000 per month; the town receives \$60,000 in taxes annually.

New Business:

Tick bite leaflets are in stock, but the Conservation Committee had not yet provided the boxes to make the leaflets available onsite in outdoor recreation areas. Dr. Brunkhorst suggested putting the leaflet on the BOH website; Ms. Porter agreed.

Ms. Thompson said that the list of locations of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) maintained by the BOH is good. Ms. Porter said that the units receive maintenance twice a year and the list is on the website. She will work with the police chief to seek a grant to compile a list of AEDs in town. Among the units not maintained by the BOH are those located at the Police Department and the Fire Department.

Action items: Dr. Brunkhorst said that she has not yet written the article on new rDNA regulations for a public readership.

Director's Report:

Ms. Porter said she attended a meeting with town staff on the end-of-season closeout of Springs Brook Park. Even though the flocculant was administered this year, water clarity remains an issue and parts of the pond had to be closed for part of the season.

She also attended a meeting of the Governor's Prevention and Wellness Advisory Board and discussed grant opportunities to be available over the next several years.

An audit of all pools has been conducted to determine if they are using the proper pool kit, testing the pools 4 times per day, and keeping a proper log. Deficiencies were noted and correction orders will be sent.

Ms. Porter responded to a situation at ZINK on Crosby Drive, along with police and fire department personnel, following a fire. It was determined that safety protocols were not in place; a root cause analysis must be conducted to generate an after-action report.

Ms. Porter met with Carla Olson and Sue Baldauf to begin final reports for the current Bedford Planning Grant and Community Transformation grants as well as to prepare the application for a \$25,000 CHNA Implementation Grant based on the findings of the Planning Grant.

A suspect West Nile Virus positive human case was identified at Hanscom Air Force Base, as reported to the BOH by the state Department of Public Health. When Ms. Porter contacted Hanscom to discuss the case, she learned that the positive mosquitoes had been identified 2 weeks earlier and that this had not been reported to the state. Since the identification of positive mosquitoes is a sentinel that human cases are a possibility, she informed the state and discussed the need for better communication with the base. She has been assured that better communication will occur in the future. To date, no WNV positive mosquitoes or human cases have been identified in Bedford.

Dr. Brunkhorst asked whether there has been any feedback on the new Biosafety regulations. Ms. Porter said that town counsel found no problems but suggested a couple of minor edits; nothing substantial. Copies of the new regulations have been sent to the current permittees and no further feedback has been received from them.

Ms. Porter said that Martin Mense, a Cystic Fibrosis Principal Investigator, who lives in Bedford will serve as the community representative on the Institutional Biosafety Committee at Millipore.

Mr. Wormstead said that the Massachusetts Biotech Council has given Bedford a platinum rating, the highest level, for the town's rDNA permitting procedure.

Influenza vaccinations will be available at the Bedford Day event and on October 19th at the middle school.

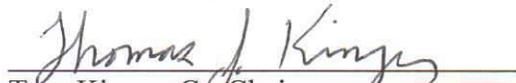
In the hoarding cases, the family group is maintaining a clear path through the house and the individual resident involved in the other case is in rehab due to a foot injury.

The Special Town Meeting will be held on November 4.

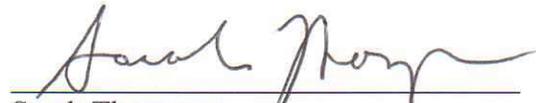
Dr. Brunkhorst moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Wormstead seconded the motion. Vote count: 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

The next meetings of the Board will take place on October 7, November 12, and December 9, 2013.


Bea Brunkhorst, Co-Chair


Tom Kinzer, Co-Chair


Kevin Wormstead


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