

**Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2016**

Members Present:

Bea Brunkhorst, Co-Chair
Tom Kinzer, Co-Chair
Caroline Donnelly

Staff Present:

Heidi Porter, Director of Public Health
Joyce Cheng, Community Health Nurse

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. Mr. Kinzer chaired.

Board of Health Reorganization

Given that 2 Board of Health members were not present at the meeting, Dr. Brunkhorst made a motion to table the Board Reorganization until the May 2, 2016 meeting. Ms. Donnelly seconded. Vote: 3-0.

BOH Meeting Minutes:

Ms. Donnelly moved to accept the minutes of the March 7, 2016 Meeting of the Board of Health as amended; Mr. Kinzer seconded. Vote: 3-0.

Discussion with Community Health Nurse Joyce Cheng

Ms. Porter stated that it had been over a year since Ms. Cheng presented to the Board and since there are a lot of exciting things going on in community health, she felt it was time for Ms. Cheng to connect with the Board.

Ms. Cheng announced the Tick Talk on May 12, 2016 that the Bedford Board of Health is coordinating as part of the Middlesex Tick Task Force. The talk will be held in Bedford from 7 – 9 pm and two prominent speakers, Catherine Brown, State Veterinarian with the MA Department of Public Health, and Larry Dapsis, Epidemiologist with the Cape Cod Cooperative, will be speaking on emerging tick and mosquito-borne diseases as well as bite prevention and tick control. She also reported that since the warmer weather is here, Ms. Porter and she will be hanging tick bite prevention signs and pamphlets at the Bedford trailheads throughout town as a means of educating the public. The sign placements were approved by the Conservation Administrator.

Ms. Cheng further reported that she and Ms. Porter met with Superintendent of Schools Jon Sills and School Nurse Leader Tracy Fernald to initiate discussions on school-based flu clinics for Fall 2016. Mr. Sills was generally in favor of the event. Ms. Cheng explained that there are many models for implementing a clinic in the schools, either immediately after school or during school. Ms. Cheng suggested piloting the program in the High School in the fall. Mr. Sills said that would likely work as there are free periods called X Blocks during the school week and the students could get their flu vaccinations during that period. She said that Ms. Porter explained that the students would all be pre-screened to receive either a flu shot or the flu mist and parental permission would be granted in advance of the clinic time via signature on the flu vaccine registration form. Insurance information would be obtained from parents so that the Board of Health could be reimbursed for the cost and administration of the vaccine. She likened the

program to the flu clinic held by the Board of Health at Hanscom Air Force Base last fall for their civilian employees.

Ms. Cheng summarized a presentation she attended in Weston by Dr. Ruth Potee a board certified Family Medicine and Addiction Medicine physician who has been working with physicians and community members to address the opiate crisis in MA. Through the School Wellness Council, of which Ms. Cheng, Ms. Porter and Ms. Raj are members, the Board of Health will propose to invite Dr. Potee to Bedford in the fall for a presentation. Ms. Porter stated that the funds added to the FY17 Board of Health budget for community presentations were recently approved by Town Meeting and would be used to fund this event.

Finally, Ms. Cheng reported that the Board of Health is the recipient a grant from the Melanoma Foundation for two sunscreen dispensers and the first batch of sunscreen for each. They have a sensor and auto dispense sunscreen when someone places their hand under the sensor. DPW has agreed to install them at Springs Brook Park and the Center Field near the Basketball court across from the High School. The Board of Health will replenish the sunscreen as it is used. This is a nice opportunity to provide sun protection for residents using these town recreation resources.

Ms. Cheng closed by saying she enjoys working at the Board of Health and the opportunities it provides. The Board thanked Ms. Cheng for her report and encouraged her to continue in her endeavors to protect public health in Bedford.

Board of Health Action Items – Old and New Business

Dr. Brunkhorst reported that she attended an Institutional Biosafety Committee meeting with Ms. Porter at Joule Unlimited on Crosby Drive. Joule operates a laboratory conducting experiments relating to generating fuel from plants. Their facility conducts experiments in Biosafety Level 1 and 2 laboratory environments.

Ms. Porter reported that she also attended an IBC meeting at Beryllium on Preston Court with community member Corinne Miller, PhD. Their facility conducts experiments in Biosafety Level 1 and 2 laboratory environments.

Ms. Donnelly reported that she attended the Youth and Family Services Committee Meeting where the following was reported/discussed: the YFS budget was approved; transitional families at the Bedford Plaza Hotel are all moved out with vouchers or alternate placement outside of Bedford; the Veterans' Agent is looking into additional reimbursements from the state to cover services for the new residents who will occupy the Single Room Occupancy units on the VA Hospital Campus; the Youth Risk Behavior Survey was administered to Bedford Middle School and High School students; and, members of the committee attended the White Ribbon Day, and an event where supporters advocate for prevention of violence against women.

Mr. Kinzer asked for an update on Asiana, following the Food Code violations hearings from last year which resulted in a Board of Health order to hire a food consultant. Ms. Porter reported that while compliance took some time, recent inspections have resulted in observed improvements and fewer violations.

Director's Report

Ms. Porter attended a meeting where public health officials received updates on the state of medical marijuana dispensaries in MA, the process to become a dispensary and the process to receive certification to purchase medical marijuana. To date, only one company has inquired as to whether this type of business would be a good fit in Bedford and she is not aware of any proposals for construction or dispensary licensing in Bedford at this point.

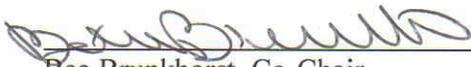
Ms. Porter met with Eagle Scout candidate Tyler Fournier who is looking for a formal "project recipient" for his proposed project: generating a Public Service Announcement (PSA) on what it is like to live with Type 1 Diabetes. Tyler was looking for the Board of Health to be the recipient of his project. He will be writing a script, coordinating actors and working with Bedford TV to generate the PSA. The script and PSA will be vetted by a Childhood Diabetes nurse practitioner and Ms. Porter agreed to post the PSA on the Board of Health website.

Ms. Porter managed the collection of Hazardous Materials and Biosafety Permit Applications which were due on March 31st. She is in the process of reviewing those submittals for completeness and permits will be issued in the coming weeks.

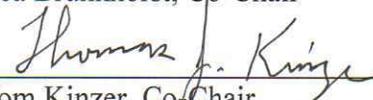
Ms. Donnelly moved to adjourn the meeting; Dr. Brunkhorst seconded. Vote count: 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

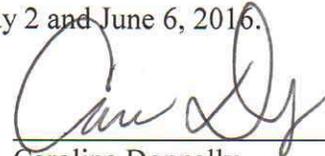
The next meetings of the Board will take place on May 2 and June 6, 2016.



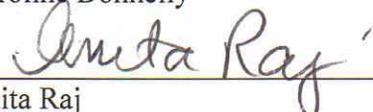
Bea Brunkhorst, Co-Chair



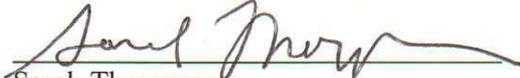
Tom Kinzer, Co-Chair



Caroline Donnelly



Anita Raj



Sarah Thompson