



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

KATJANA BALLANTYNE
MAYOR

KARIN CARROLL
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
November 17, 2022

Open Conference / Virtual Meeting

Present:

Brian Green, MD (Chair)
Paula Machado, Board Member
Robert Ciccio, Board Member
Lucy Barrows, Recording Secretary
Karin Carroll, Director of Health, and Human Services

City Staff: Ellen Schacter, Office of Housing Stability

Roll Call: Brian Green, Robert Ciccio, Paula Machado

Meeting Call to Order: Dr. Green made a motion to open the meeting at 6.02 pm. It was seconded by Paula Machado. All in favor.

Minutes Approval: Dr. Green made a motion to approve the minutes for October 20 ,2022. It was seconded by Paula Machado. All in favor.

HHS update: Director Carroll gave an overview of some current activities in the Department including COA field trips and additional social groups, Prevention Office distributing Narcan and sharing YRBS results with key stakeholders, continued growth of food access programs and Safe Route to Schools Map, ongoing booster clinics at the Annex and senior housing, and the expansion of the teen center at the Edgerly Building. Hiring is still in process for Mental Health Services' Manager, Health Communications Officer, Youth Services Director and upgrading the part time LGBTQ liaison to full time. Karin Carroll gave the Board an update on the city's efforts to update all city-wide Boards and Commissions to comply with terms of the City Ordinance. The administration wanted to express their gratitude to the current board members for their outstanding service and their commitment to the city and public health during Covid.

Somerville Housing Update

Ellen Schacter, Office of Housing Stability stated that the number of housing evictions in the City of Somerville are below the average within the State of Massachusetts and communities surrounding the City of

Somerville. July to November 15 there were only 58 evictions filed: averaging about 10 a month. She is glad to announce that the city was awarded a New Flex ARPA grant for 1 million dollars and then received an additional 3.4 million dollars. Somerville Housing would also like to share that The Homeless Coalition and the Community of Somerville were given \$500,000 each. We also would like to announce that Housing department will now have two attorneys' as of December 1, 2022.

Next Meeting: December 15, 2022

Meeting Adjourn: Brian Green moves to adjourn meeting at 6:51, Paula Machado seconds this. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lucy Barrows
Board of Health Recording Secretary
November 18, 2022