



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

KATJANA BALLANTYNE
MAYOR

KARIN CARROLL
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
January 19, 2023

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: Bonny Carroll, Director of Tobacco Control

Roll Call: Brian Green, Robert Ciccio, Paula Machado

Meeting Call to Order: Dr. Green made a motion to open the meeting at 6.00 pm. It was seconded by Paula Machado. All in favor.

Minutes Approval: Dr. Green made a motion to approve the minutes for January 19, 2023. It was seconded by Paula Machado. All in favor.

Tobacco and Nicotine Initiative. After further discussion and questions for MHAB, the Board agreed to adopt the proposed changes to the City's Smoke-Free Workplace Regulation. Brian Green motioned and Paula Machado seconded. All in favor.

ISD- Nicholas Antanavica, director of ISD and Matthew Zaino, deputy director of ISD. The Board requested more regular activity updates on the work ISD does in the city pertaining to public health. Karin Carroll to investigate reporting regularly to the Board.

HHS update: Director Carroll gave an update of the first half of FY23 and highlighted the following accomplishments to-date:

- Reorganization of HHS to incorporate new positions.
- Successfully recruited for 6 of the 17 positions vacant in July 2022.
- Monthly Leadership meetings for HHS Managers.
- Increase professional development opportunities for staff (5 staff attended national conferences).

- Director met with over 25 community partners in the city to build relationships and look for areas for collaboration.
- Identified and worked to address key gaps in Covid and flu immunization with additional clinics and partnerships.
- Oversaw the restart of weekly, mobile harm reduction services.
- Engaged the local MRC to assist in response and recovery efforts.
- Completed the first phase of the regional Public Health Excellence Grant; Capacity Assessment

Director Carroll gave an overview of current activities in the Department including, ongoing booster clinics at the Annex, immunization clinics in conjunction with SPS, COA field trips, COA Technology Program, Let's Talk workshop of caregivers, Narcan Distribution and senior housing, and collaboration activities with the teen center at the Edgerly Building. Hiring is still in process for Mental Health Services' Manager, Health Communications Officer, Youth Services Coordinator and Director and COA Social Worker.

Director 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. Director Carroll informed the Board that the re-appointment process for all 3 expired Board seats will commence soon and will take several months to complete. Director Carroll will keep the Board informed of the progress.

Next Meeting: February 16, 2023

Meeting Adjourn: Brian Green moves to adjourn meeting at 7:19, Paula Machado seconds this. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Lucy Barrows
 Board of Health Recording Secretary
 January 26 ,2022