



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

DOUGLAS KRESS
DIRECTOR

MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH

Regular Meeting

July 26, 2018

5:00pm

42 Cross Street, Somerville, MA 02145

Present: Douglas Kress, Director
Brian Green, MD (Chair)
Paula Machado, Board Member
Robert Ciccio, Board Member
Kathy Teixeira (Recording Secretary)

Absent: None

Staff Members in Attendance: Matthew Mitchell, Prevention Services Manager, Aaron Jennings, Intern

Guests: Haritha Sudanagunta, Ian Enlichanan, Observers and Bonnie Cohen, Randi Soltysiak, and Debbie New from Mothers out Front Organization

Meeting Called to Order: On a motion made by Dr. Green the meeting was called to order at 5:33pm. It was seconded by Ms. Machado.

Previous Minutes: On a motion made by Dr. Green, the June 21, 2018 minutes were approved. It was seconded by Mr. Ciccio.

Interstate Gas Pipelines: Bonnie, Randi and Debbie from Mothers out Front came in front of the board to present their findings, over public health concerns on natural gas infrastructures. One thing they would like to see the city do, is join other Boards of Health across Massachusetts and send a letter to Governor Baker urging him to require an independent and comprehensive health impact assessment (CHIA) prior to authorization of any new natural gas infrastructures including, pipelines, compressor stations and storage facilities in the Commonwealth.

Cannabis Control Updates: Mr. Kress passed out documents to the board for review. The documents were the Board of Aldermen proposed ordinances, the CCC Municipal Guidance, Application for Marijuana Adult Use licenses. The city will focus on educating the public and having strict guidelines on advertisement. One dispensary placed an ad in the Somerville Scout, and we were told that this is not a CCC jurisdiction. The complaint was handed down to the State Department of Public Health for further investigation. Until testing facilities are approved and licensed, no one can sell recreational marijuana.

HHS Updates: Why have the hearings gone down? Mr. Kress has inquired why the drop, have people been coming into compliance, have they been using the training held by ISD/Health division. The city is looking still into rodents issues and Dr. Corrigan came back to look into the GLX project and he said City of Somerville is doing better than a lot of other communities. One thing he noted that rodents are expanding not just in Somerville, but all over New England, part

because weather pattern; winters are not colder and food sources seem to be available because people are not disposing food properly, water source, drips from ac, bird water feeders, etc. Treatments, up to one, two three families (owner occupied) the city will have a pest control company to come and treat property one time at no cost to the homeowner. The city is also looking into properties where the landlord does not live in the property for treating their property. Baiting of sewers still on-going. The budget cycle for the HHS went well for FY19. The Out of School Coordinator position has been posted and appx 30 resumes were submitted, the position is \$62,000 and the hours will be 10-6pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 23, 2018, 2018 – 42 Cross Street – at 5:30pm

Adjournment: On a motion made by Dr. Green, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22pm. It was seconded by Ms. Machado.

List of Documents: Sign in Sheet, Agenda, June 21, 2018 Minutes, DPH Memos (3) Natural Gas Infratures (7) Recreational Marijuana (4)

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Teixeira (Recording Secretary)
August 7, 2018