

Wellesley Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2011

Present:

Board:

Shepard Cohen, Chairman

Marcia Testa Simonson, PhD, Vice Chair

Lloyd Tarlin, MD, Secretary

Carol Hannenberg, MD, Associate

Staff:

Deadra Doku Gardner, Administrator

Lenny Izzo, Director

Loretta Jaksic, Interim Public Health Nurse Supervisor

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 am.

The meeting minutes for November 18, 2011 were approved.

1. Mental Health

a) Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR)

Lenny Izzo reported that additional QPR trainings will be scheduled to be held in Spring 2012 for Wellesley Public and Private School teachers, guidance counselors and coaches. However, currently there appears to be a lack of interest and cooperation among public school staff.

b) Mental Health Coordinator

Shep Cohen reported that he is in contact with Riverside Community Care about the possibility of a contract for a mental health coordinator position. Additional information will follow at the next meeting.

2. Administrative

a) FY13 Budget

At the last meeting, the Board of Health approved the FY13 Budget. The Board reviewed a breakdown of expenses from FY11 so as to understand the variances between budget and actual expenditures.

The Board of Health is tentatively scheduled to present the FY13 Budget to Advisory on January 18, 2012.

3. Community Health

a) Wellesley Public Schools- Collaboration

The Board agreed that again increased efforts to achieve greater collaboration with the schools should be undertaken. Mr. Cohen and Lloyd Tarlin will arrange to meet with members of the School Committee.

b) Wellesley Public Schools – Pneumonia

Lenny Izzo reported that very few new cases of pneumonia are being reported to the Health Department. It appears that the illness is on the decline.

c) Wellesley Public School – Absenteeism

Marcia Testa Simonson reported that the public schools are still not using the absenteeism reporting program. At the last meeting, Leonard Izzo reported that he had asked Bella Wong to track absenteeism in the schools by using the tracking program. Mr. Izzo reported that the Health Department is still not receiving absenteeism reports from the schools. Mr. Izzo will contact the Director of School Nursing, Linda Corridan, and schedule a meeting for January.

d) Nursing Report

Loretta Jaksic reported that flu activity has been sporadic, and there have been no significant case numbers being reported.

Ms. Jaksic reported that to date 900 residents have been vaccinated with influenza vaccine. Ms Jaksic reported that the nursing staff has been holding small scale clinics in the schools to vaccinate teachers and administrators. The final large scale clinic is scheduled for December 20th at the Health Department. Flu vaccine will be made available at all Keep Well Clinics through the end of January 2012. The Board of Health has approved the purchase of high dose flu vaccine for the coming year. Also, the staff was requested to begin discussions with the Recreation Department regarding the desirability of holding large scale flu clinics in the Warren Building.

Ms. Jaksic reported that the Housing Authority Keep Well Clinics have been well attended, with the exception of the new clinic at Barton Road. Thus far there have been two clinics and there have been no attendees.

e) Shingles Vaccine

The Board of Health approved the purchase of shingles vaccine for Spring 2012 clinics.

f) Body Art

Leonard Izzo reported that body art inspections have been assigned to Public Health Nurse Krisann Miller.

4. Environmental Health

a) Schofield School

Leonard Izzo reported the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) conducted a second round of air quality testing. Currently there is no mold growth. Air monitoring is conducted once per month at a cost of \$2,500.

Mr. Izzo reported that Mike Feeny from DPH found a design deficiency in the 1993 wing of the school. There is a cavity in the wall that allows for condensation and that there is a possibility that there is no vapor barrier in the foundation. In the summer of 2012, the cavity will be filled with insulation and surrounding bricks sealed.

Mr. Izzo reported that the Department of Public Health discovered the problems in 2004 however the school did not address the issues until this year. A public forum will be held in January 2012 by DPH.

b) Wellesley Public Schools - Chartwell Dining Services

Leonard Izzo reported that food service practices have been improving at the Middle School, however there continues to be problems in sanitation (pest control) and communication between Chartwell and the school administration. The Department of Education (DOE) conducted inspections and have yet to issue a written report of their findings. A new pest control company (Waltham Services) has been hired and is conducting inspections three times per week. Holly Detroy will return to the school in January/February to complete a regular inspection.

c) Wellesley Public Schools - New High School

Leonard Izzo reported that Holly Detroy conducted an inspection of the new high school kitchen facility and has signed off on the opening.

d) Wellesley Public Schools- Asbestos Exposure

Lenny Izzo reported on the event which took place over the Thanksgiving holiday. Several attendees broke into the tower and may have been exposed to asbestos. This area was clearly blocked off and has a banned entrance.

e) Housing

Leonard Izzo reported on deteriorating conditions at 17 Bow Street and 23 Brookfield Road. The Board of Selectman is moving forward to raze the houses. The Building Department is preparing an order to have the houses boarded.

Additional information will be provided at the next meeting.

f) New establishments

Leonard Izzo reported on the opening of the following new establishments:

- City Sports
- Pine Straw
- Flick (Harvard Pilgrim)
- Jin's
- Gustare Oils and Vinegar
- Waterstone's

g) Beavers – RDF and Adjacent Neighborhoods

Leonard Izzo reported that a trapping service has been hired and that a permit to trap the beavers was issued by the Health Department yesterday. The Natural Resource Commission will be issuing a permit today to breach the dam. These efforts should eliminate the ground water hazards threatening the RDF neighboring properties on Cartwright Road and Eisenhower Circle.

Additional information will be provided at the next meeting.

5. Emergency Preparedness

a) National Association of County and City Health Officers (NACCHO)

The Board of Health approved Leonard Izzo to attend the annual meeting July 11-13, 2012.

b) Update

An update will be provided at the next meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Health will be announced

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15a.

Respectfully submitted,
Deadra Doku Gardner