

**Wellesley Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2009**

Present:

Shepard Cohen, Chairman
Marcia Testa Simonson, Vice Chair
Lloyd Tarlin, Secretary

Staff:

Mary Suresh, Director
Leonard Izzo, Environmental Health Specialist
Holly Detroy, Environmental Health Specialist
Loretta Jaksic, Public Health Nursing Supervisor
Cheryl Lefman, Health Communication Specialist
Deadra Doku Gardner, Administrator

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. The agenda was distributed. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

1. Community Health

a) Community and Teen Mental Health Update

Mary Suresh reported that she and other town department representatives attended a Question, Persuade and Refer (QPR) training. This training will be offered to Hans Larsen and the Board of Selectman first and other departments afterward. Dr. Tarlin said that Needham filmed a QPR segment for their cable station.

Dr. Tarlin noted they are reaching out to other groups:

- Rob Evans – parent education
- QPR training – general community
- Springwell/COA – seniors
- Programs/services that address social anxiety - adults

Mary Suresh reported that she will be meeting with Beth Rogan of Warmlines on 2-20-09. They have a speaker bureau and many resources.

Next Steps:

Ms. Suresh is to draft a letter to Rob Evans / HRS, requesting that he specify what he will do for the remainder of the year.

The Board of Health asked Ms. Suresh to draft a timetable for the QPR training.

b) Housing Authority

The Board agreed to give \$12,000 to the Housing Authority if the following conditions are met:

- Baseline data is required
- Quarterly reports are sent
- Wellesley Health Department has the opportunity to review and comment on the Resident Services Coordinator's position
- Resident Services Coordinator contacts the Health Department as urgent public health needs arise
- Resident Services Coordinator assists in the delivery public health services i.e. encouraging residents to attend a flu clinic
- Resident Services Coordinator attends health related meetings

Next Steps:

Ms. Suresh is to send a letter to the Housing Authority citing the conditions listed above.

c) Senior Center Update

Mary Suresh and Lloyd Tarlin reported on the Senior Study Committee presentation before the Board of Selectmen on Monday, February 9, 2009. The Committee requested appropriation for the design phase in the Spring of 2009, and construction phase in the Fall of 2009. The Selectman unanimously gave their support of the proposal . The presentation will be made to the Advisory Committee on Wednesday, February 11, 2009.

Cheryl Lefman reported on the six students in a Media Strategies course (in the Emerson-Tufts Health Communication program) are working with the Senior Study Committee to produce media products on the senior center.

d) Vaccine Update- Shingles and TB testing

Loretta Jaksic reported on the Health Department article in the Townsman (Fall 2008) to ascertain residents' level of interest in the Shingles vaccine. More than 70 residents called and are interested in receiving a shingles vaccine. Mary Suresh applied for a grant requesting \$10,000 (or any part thereof) to the Wellesley Junior Women's League. The requested amount would cover the costs of up to 70 doses of the vaccine.

The Board of Health approved the shingles vaccine program funded by Healthy Wellesley and grant funds, and will seek reimbursement.

Loretta Jaksic recommended that the Health Department hold a TB clinic once per month in the spring and fall. The fee would be \$25 per test.

The Board of Health approved the initiation of a TB clinic.

e) Cancer Data

The Board of Health requested that Marcia Testa Simonson and Cheryl Lefman collaborate on an article on cancer data, based on the most recent report from the MA Cancer Registry. The article should address how to make public health information more accessible to the public.

Next Steps:

Cheryl Lefman and Marcia Testa Simonson will provide an article to be submitted to the Townsman

2. Administrative

a) Tobacco Regulations

Leonard Izzo reported on and provided written information to the Board on a new smokeless, chewless tobacco called "Snuse."

Mr. Izzo provided copies of old and new tobacco regulations.

The Board of Health approved the new Chapter 18 as proposed.

The Board of Health approved the new Chapter 20 with the provision that a person cannot smoke within 25' of entry, or any open window or space that would allow migration.

3. Environmental Health

a) New Construction Update

Holly Detroy reported that a permit has been issued for a new gelato café. She also noted that she has approved plans for North End Pizza.

4. Emergency Preparedness

a) Peer Communication Grant and FY09 Funding

Mary Suresh updated the Board on the emergency preparedness funds requested by Sub-region 3 to purchase radios for the Radio Communication project, as well as Med-Sled cots.

The Board of Health approved \$1,700 towards the purchase of 10 Med-Sled cots. The Board held off making a decision on the radios, until additional information about the quality and price of the radios is obtained.

b) Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and Flu Clinic Volunteer Reception

Cheryl Lefman reported that the volunteer reception will be held Thursday, April 2, 2009, 6:30-8:30 PM at the Wellesley College Club. Both MRC and flu clinic volunteers will be invited. Some MRC business will be conducted, but the main objective is to thank them for their years of service to the Health Department.

The Board of Health approved the allotment of \$3,600 from the Healthy Wellesley fund for the MRC reception.

Next Meeting

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled on Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 2 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Lefman