

BOARD OF HEALTH

Elaine M. Silva, Chair
Candace Linehan, Vice Chair
Marcy McCauley, Secretary

Call to Order: Elaine Silva, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Attendance: Elaine Silva, Chair, Candace Linehan, Vice chair, Marcy McCauley, secretary

Administration Present: Cindy Luongo, Board of Health Clerk, Anthony Chui, Health Director Melrose, Stoneham and Wakefield, Erin Carleo, Senior Health Inspector, Melrose, Stoneham and Wakefield

Public Engagement: Leslie Scott-Lysan, 76 Montrose Ave Wakefield. The topic of posting the food inspection reports on the town website was discussed. Leslie expressed her ongoing efforts to push for this initiative, which Erin Carleo, Senior Health Inspector, fully supported also confirming she had a draft ready to be posted on the website. Leslie and Erin discussed the importance of transparency in food safety inspections and the need for consumers to make informed decisions. They agreed that the most recent inspection reports should be posted, and that a grading system might not accurately reflect the complexity of food safety.

Public participation closes at 06:37 pm

Approval of minutes of August 21, 2024: McCauley motions, seconded by Linehan. Motion passed 3-0-0-by roll call vote.

Health Director's Report: Director Chui introduced Liz Parsons, the new prevention outreach and youth services manager for the town of Wakefield. Since starting in July, Liz has been convening the Wake Up coalition meetings and overseeing the Youth Action team. Liz expressed her interest in working on alcohol policies and hiring for a vacant position for the youth coordinator.

Director Chui gave the PHN report: Chui discussed the recent uptick in pertussis cases in schools, attributing it to a lower vaccination rate among students. He mentioned that the pertussis vaccine is now mandated for new mothers, fathers, and grandparents, as they can spread the disease to infants. Board member McCauley, raised concerns about young students dying from Covid, citing a recent study from Oxford University that found a link between Covid vaccination and myocarditis in vaccinated students. Anthony agreed to look into the study and share it with the board. Leslie suggested forwarding the study to the State for further review.

Next Flu Clinic is October 26th 9am-1pm at the Americal Civic Center
Walk-in Clinics at HHS department 5 Common St are Tuesdays 9am-12 starting 10/22, November 5, November 12, November 19, December 3, December 10, and December 17th.



Variance Request: 20 Stedman chickens Shauna Bell requesting a variance for the setback, the only place a coop will fit in their backyard is within 20' of their dwelling (must be at least 50') and within 20' of the abutter behind them (also 50' requirement). The owner is requesting a variance for setback distance of the coop. They can get to about 39' she has received all signatures from their abutters have been uploaded to the portal. She also has a coop that is polyethylene style chicken coop designed for easy cleaning and predator-proofing. Sr inspector Erin Carleo asked about rodent control. Shauna said it has a fenced in run and kicks out to prevent rodents coming in. The coop has an auto door the chickens can't get locked out. She also stated she grew up raising chickens and will have 8 chickens. Board of health member Linehan motions to grant the variance seconded by McCauley motion passed 3-0-0.

Variance Request: 201 Broadway chickens tabled

Variance Request Mop sink: The Branch owner Keith Brennan owner of the Branch 1117 Main St. Requesting a variance for the mop sink as the current height of his mop sink is too high. Since then they have installed a new mop sink and lowered the height of the sink. The board of health said the variance is not needed since the mop sink was installed at proper height.

Variance Request Mop sink: Dino's tabled.

62 Old Nahant Road pigeon permit Mr. Bernard Do owner of 62 Old Nahant Rd was present confirmed he has 7 pairs of pigeons with no permit. Since discovering, he has submitted for a permit and provided abutter's signatures except one. Board of health member Linehan asked if the coop was predator proof. Mr. Do said his pigeons are not allowed out and that he has a process for cleaning every 3 days. Linehan motions to allow a permit for pigeons at 62 Old Nahant Rd, seconded by McCauley motion passed 3-0-0.

Dumpster regulations Discussion of dumpster regulation amendment: Director Chui gave a overview. After an issue with a temporary dumpster, it was made apparent that an amendment is necessary.

Under 1. Definitions, Dumpster – "A temporary dumpster is to be used for residential/commercial construction purposes that will occupy a specific location for 90 days or less." The proposed amendment I have to replace with is "A temporary dumpster is to be used for residential/commercial construction purposes that will occupy a specific location for 45 days or less, not including two 14-day extensions per permit. Each property is allowed up to two temporary dumpster permits per year." The reasoning for this is to establishment a limit of temporary dumpsters per year, and reduce the amount of time a dumpster can be present on a property. Our permits state the allowed timeframe is 45 days as is. however, I do not believe this change was ever reflected in our regulations. McCauley asked why was the fee scheduled changed for a temporary dumpster permit from 90 days to 45 days? All fees were changed in March of

2023 and were inline with what most other surrounding towns and cities have. Linehan motioned to update the regulations to match the fee schedule, a temporary dumpster permit is good for 45 days updated from 90 days , motion seconded by Silva. McCauley, vote was no. Motion passed 2-0-1

Update on restaurant closures: Director Chui introduces Michel Chamsarian, a state approved food consultant to the BOH. Michele said she wanted to come to the meeting tonight to say thanks Wakefield for the work they do with all the food establishments.

Adjournment: Next meeting November 20th ,2024 6:30PM

McCauley motioned to close the meeting, seconded by Linehan, meeting adjourned at 07:16 pm by roll call 3 0 0

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cindy Luongo', with a stylized, flowing script.

Cindy Luongo