

Call to Order: Elaine Silva, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m.

Attendance: Elaine Silva, Chair, Candace Linehan, Vice chair

Administration Present: Daniel Thompson, Board of Health Inspector, Anthony Chui, Health Director Melrose, Stoneham and Wakefield, Melissa Lowry, Public Health Nurse Wakefield, Stoneham and Melrose

Public Engagement: none

Public participation closes at 6:51 pm

Approval of minutes of October 16th, 2024: Linehan motions, seconded by Silva. Motion passed 2-0-0-by roll call vote.

Beaver Management Policy: Haley McHatton Ballou from Conservation Commission (ConCom) to discuss a new Beaver Management Policy in Wakefield. The goal for this is to increase the communication between ConCom and the Health Department, as ConCom responds secondarily to the Health Department's action with Beaver Permits. The Board agrees and will review the updated policy.

Marijuana Overlay District Discussion: Michael McCarthy representing his client seeks to establish dialogue regarding the prior marijuana overlay district. Discussion between the Board and McCarthy ensued, highlighting the concerns of the marijuana overlay district such as being in close proximity to a school and low-income housing. McCarthy discussed that the client would be an active member of the community, and would help fund cannabis education program incentives for the Health Department. No further action at this point.

Health Director's Report: Director Chui welcomes and introduces the new Social Services Coordinator, Sandra Siguenza-Hache. Director Chui discusses the upcoming budget discussion during the next town meeting on March 24th. Senior Inspector Erin Carleo has taken temporary leave, in which Inspector Dan Thompson will cover ongoing and continuous demands until normal operational capacity is restored. Regional Inspector Shelby Puracchio is helping to assist many inspectional needs during this time. The position of Regional Public Health Nurse has been posted and will remain posted until filled. Lastly, public health nurses Melissa Lowry and Sandra Brown are hosting a regional camp training class for health departments and camps to prepare for the upcoming camp season.

Other Business (not reasonably anticipated since the posting of this meeting):

CPR Class Discussion: The Board discussed from last meeting hosting a CPR/chokesaver course for local restaurants to fulfill their certification and provide education. Chair Silva has taught the class in the past and volunteers to provide assistance as necessary. Training intended to be funded regionally if possible.

Liquor License Policy: Town Council Member Jonathon P. Chines discussed with the Board about liquor license policies and the involvement of the Health Department to contribute to determining compliance and interpreting alcohol policy. Director Chui will connect with Prevention, Outreach and Youth Services Manager Elizabeth Parsons.

Adjournment: Next meeting will be hosted on March 26th, 2025. Silva motioned to close the meeting, seconded by Linehan. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm by roll call 2-0-0.