

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 , Melissa Lowry, Public Health Nurse Wakefield, Stoneham and Melrose

Public Engagement: none

Public participation closes at 06:31 pm

Approval of minutes of October 16th, 2024: Linehan motions, seconded by McCauley. Motion passed 3-0-0-by roll call vote.

Update on Online Food Establishment Inspections: Director Chui said after some technical glitches the online food inspections will be going live today. These reports will now include all inspection reports from January of the current year. The reports are being automatically sent to the communications director, Jen McDonald, for updates. He also mentioned that the reports are in a standard form and include explanations for the general public. They are considering how to handle restaurant closures and whether to include this information on the website. They are trying to find a balance between educating restaurants and avoiding public exposure. The reports will include information about restaurant closures, but the specifics of how this will be handled have not been finalized.

More discussions about conducting a tutorial or a Youtube video on food inspection reports, with the possibility of recording it. The idea was well-received and it was suggested that the video could be used for training new food inspectors. The training would be a refresher for risk 3 and risk 4 establishments, with two sessions planned in Wakefield to accommodate different opening times. The training would be led by the inspectors, Erin Carleo and Dan Thompson, who would teach the basics of serve safe in an accelerated course. The importance of maintaining a good culture in restaurants was emphasized, with the goal of ensuring that food inspectors are not seen as punitive but rather as educators.

Health Director's Report: Director Chui said the current status of food inspections at restaurants, have been positive. The team has been training an inspector trainee, who has been doing a great job.

A recent fire incident in Wakefield has displaced several residents. The Health department has been in touch with the residents and has been working on providing them with resources and support.

A new social services coordinator, Tracy, has been helping with these efforts.

The team is currently searching for a new person to fill the social services coordinator position in Wakefield.

A new prevention and wellness coordinator, Madhumitha Mohanraj, has been hired and is expected to be a great addition to the team.

Public Health Nurse Melissa Lowry gave an update to the BOH:

She discussed the recent low incidence of foodborne illnesses and pertussis cases, attributing the decrease to high vaccination rates among high school age kids. She also mentioned a potential scare related to measles, but it was resolved. Melissa highlighted Sandy's work on a PowerPoint about drug interactions for seniors and the development of a training program for the naloxone. Melissa suggested making the training available to City Hall and other departments, and possibly at community events. They also mentioned the placement of Narcan boxes next to AEDs in schools, aiming to increase awareness and reduce fear in administering the drug.

Adjournment: Next meeting January 15th ,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