



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

KATJANA BALLANTYNE
MAYOR

KARIN CARROLL
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
March 20, 2025

Open Conference / Virtual (Zoom) Meeting

Members Present:

Brian Green, MD (Chair)

Margaret H Coit, Board Member

Alyssa Dubois, Board Member

Lucy Barrows, Recording Secretary

Karin Carroll, Director of Health & Human Services

1. **Meeting Call to Order:** Brian Green made a motion to open the meeting at 6:00 pm. It was seconded by Margaret H Coit. All in favor.
2. **Minutes Approval:** Brian Green made a motion to approve the minutes from February 20, 2025. It was seconded by Margaret H Coit. All in favor.
3. **Public hearing on proposed changes to the Regulations of the Somerville Board health, "Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Smoke Accessories".**

Testimonies from Jonathan Winickoff, pediatrician working in Somerville; Bhavika Kalia, Somerville High School student; Isabel Tashie, Needham high school student; Jonathan Bowen-Leopold, former Somerville resident; Peter Brennan, executive director of the New England Convenience Store and Energy Marketers Association; Stephen Helfer, representative for Cambridge Citizens for Smokers' Rights; Zendilli Depina, Somerville resident; Nico Kuczwara, Somerville High School student; Emily Wieja, Cambridge resident; Atrid Garcia, Somerville High School student; Jen Bullard, Somerville parent; Zachary Rich, doctor at Boston Medical Center; Ishana Bali, Somerville High School student; Benjamin Murphy, student at West Somerville Neighborhood School; Ava Polsko, Somerville High School student; Maureen Busby, Mystic Valley Tobacco Prevention Program Manager; Chahat Kalia, Somerville High School student; Kate Silbaugh, Brookline resident; Hailey Rich, radiologist working in Somerville; Anthony Ishak, pharmacist; Ginny Chadwick, Somerville resident; Mark Gottlieb, Executive Director of the Public Health Advocacy Institute at Northeastern University School of Law; Lovelee Heller, Somerville Prevention Services; and Katherine McDaniel, former doctor at Cambridge Health Alliance. Most of the testimonies were in support of the NFG initiative and the restrictions on nicotine pouches.

4. Brian Green made a motion to adopt the proposed changes, including changes to the fine structure, inclusion of NFG and restriction of nicotine pouches to adult-only establishments, to the **Regulations of the Somerville Board Health, "Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Smoke Accessories"** at 7:21pm. Seconded by Margaret H Coit.

5. Brian Green makes a motion to adopt these regulations on May 1, 2025, at 7:25pm. Seconded by Alyssa Dubois.

6. Next Meeting: April 17 ,2025

Meeting Adjourn: Brian Green moves to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 PM. Margaret H Coit seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lucy Barrows
Board of Health Recording Secretary