

BOARD OF HEALTH
Hearing Room, Second Floor, City Hall: 210 Main Street
September 20, 2018 Minutes

BOH Members Present: Joanne Levin; Suzanne Smith; Cynthia Suopis; William Hargraves; and Laurent Levy

BOH Members Absent: None

Staff: Merridith O’Leary, Director; Melissa Roberts-Cote, BOH Clerk; and Michele Farry, Assistant Program Opioid Coordinator

Staff Absent: None

Meeting opened September 20, 2018 at 5:29 pm by Joanne Levin

- I. Public Comment Session:** Kasandra Mimitz informed the Board Members of her concerns regarding public tobacco and marijuana smoking that is happening in Pulaski Park.

II. Review Minutes

A. Meeting Minutes from May 24, 2018

Motion: Approved: Motion made by Cynthia Suopis to accept the May 24, 2018 minutes as written, seconded by William Hargraves. Suzanne Smith and Laurent Levy abstained. Vote (3-0).

B. Meeting Minutes from June 7, 2018

Motion: Approved: Motion made by Suzanne Smith to accept the June 7, 2018 minutes as written, seconded by Cynthia Suopis. Laurent Levy abstained. Vote (4-0).

III. Presentation: Michele Farry, Assistant Opioid Coordinator- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Grant Update

Michele Farry, Assistant Opioid Coordinator presented the Board with year one accomplishments that stemmed from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) Grant. The \$1.7 million SAMHSA grant was awarded to the City of Northampton in September 2017. The program coordinators work with key community partners (Criminal Justice, Probation, Corrections, Police, Fire/EMS & many others) to provide them with Naloxone and training to assist in reversing opioid overdose. Additionally, Drug Addiction and Recovery Teams (DART) have been created to provide post-overdose support to the victim and their families. DART teams consist of police officers and recovery coaches who engage with Emergency Departments and other key community partners to bridge gaps in our current systems and assist with intervention, harm reduction, and treatment. The program coordinators are in the process of developing a marketing plan for a website, business cards, advertising and a database for tracking Naloxone use, and disbursement, mapping and timely overdose data. The Health Department was awarded the Community Compact IT Grant in the amount of \$100,000.00 to build the database.

IV. Discussion: Northampton Tobacco Regulations to Include Smoke-Free Downtown

The Board discussed possible benefits and unintentional consequences that could ensue with the passage of a smoke-free downtown initiative. They discussed signage, working groups, health effects, planning of designated smoking areas, and enforcement. The Board of Health will host a Public Forum on October 18, 2018 to discuss a Smoke-Free Downtown Initiative.

V. Department Updates:

- a. On Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. Northampton Health Department will partner with Cooley Dickinson Hospital to kick off its 6th annual walk in support of Breast Cancer awareness called Paint the Path Pink. Participants will walk from the Northampton City Hall steps at 210 Main Street to Cooley Dickinson Hospital where Mayor David Narkewicz alongside President & CEO of Cooley Dickinson Hospital, Joanne Marqusee, will address the audience. A reception will follow.
- b. The Northampton Health Department will be conducting multiple flu clinics in the upcoming Flu Season. One of the first clinics will be October 4, 2018 from 9 a.m. until 12:00 at Northampton Senior Center at 67 Conz Street. All are welcome.
- c. Director O’Leary discussed a Sharps Needle Containers & Narcan Initiative that the Health Department is working on. This two phase initiative is currently in the first phase. Sharps/needle containers have been installed in all municipal bathrooms to create safe places to dispose of sharps properly. Director O’Leary is working with partners at Brown University for the second phase which will be to install “Nalo-boxes” in all of the municipal buildings to assist bystanders in rescuing victims of opioid overdose. The Nalo-box prototype currently contains 4 doses of Nasal Nalaxone, personal protective equipment, as well as an alarm to notify an administrator that the Narcan was removed and will need replacement. The Health Department will also provide training for this initiative.
- d. The Municipal Wellness Initiative is in its early stages. The main emphasis is health in the workplace surrounding stress-- physical health, mental health, and nutrition. Crimson and Clover provided food shares for employees this past year.
- e. Hampshire HOPE will be co-sponsoring a Conference on October 25, 2018—“Road to Resilience”. Laura Porter, cofounder of ACE Interface will be the key speaker. The conference will educate on the concept of self-healing communities and building a strong network of support. Director O’Leary suggested Board Member attend if available.

Meeting Closed: Motion to Close Meeting: Motion made to close the Board of Health Meeting by William Hargraves seconded by Cynthia Suopis all in favor (5-0)

Meeting closed at 7:33 PM.

The next scheduled Board of Health Meeting: October 18, 2018

Melissa Roberts-Cote, BOH Clerk

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Meeting Document List

The following documents were available to the Board of Health during their scheduled meeting.

These documents are available for review at the:

Northampton Health Department, 212 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

- Meeting Agenda
- May 24, 2018 Draft Minutes
- June 7, 2018 Draft Minutes
- Regulation of the City of Northampton Board of Health Prohibiting Smoking in Workplaces and Public Places.
- Paint the Path Pink Flyer
- October 4 Senior Center Flu Clinic Flyer
- Roads to Resilience Flyer