

BOARD OF HEALTH

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84276886945?pwd=WGNiL2tzeWdFaTcyT2prWE1jNOE0QT09>

Meeting ID: 842 7688 6945 Passcode: 983383

April 20, 2023 Minutes

BOH Members Present: Dr. Joanne Levin; Dr. Suzanne Smith; Dr. Cynthia Suopis; Dallas Ducar, NP; and Janet Grant

Staff: Merridith O’Leary, Commissioner; Kelly Constantine, BOH Clerk; Elliot Ezcurra and Kelly Hughes, Public Health Nurses; Kristen Rhodes, Director Division Community of Care

Public Forum: Dr. Levin opened up the Public Forum at 5:35 pm to anyone wishing to discuss the draft regulation Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Nicotine Delivery Products.

Public Comments: No public comments

I. Meeting opened April 20, 2023 at 5:38 pm by Dr. Levin, who announced the meeting was being recorded.

Motion: Motion made to open the meeting by Dallas Ducar, seconded by Dr. Smith. All in favor (5-0).

II. Discussion:

➤ Review draft Regulation of the City of Northampton Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Nicotine Delivery Products; discuss public comment.

III. Public Hearing 6:00 PM - Proposed Regulation of the City of Northampton Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Nicotine Delivery Products:

Present: Cheryl Sbarra, Sandra Mandel

Motion: Motion made to open the hearing by Janet Grant, seconded by Dr. Smith at 6:03 p.m. All in favor (5-0).

Dr. Levin opened the public hearing regarding the tobacco regulations. No public comments.

Motion: Motion made to close the public hearing by Janet Grant, seconded by Dallas Ducar. All in favor (5-0)

Facts Discussed:

- Section E. 1. - adding expiration date of 12/31
- Section E. 6 - not transferable except for Section 10 below
- Section E. 10B – keep the word transfer at 30 days
- Section F. 3 – adding a reference to E above instead of G below

Motion: Motion made by Dr. Smith, to approve the City of Northampton Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Nicotine Delivery Products as amended effective April 21, 2023, seconded by Dr. Suopis. All in favor (5-0).

Motion: Motion made to close the hearing by Dr. Suopis, seconded by Dallas Ducar at 6:25 p.m. All in favor (5-0).

IV. Department Updates:

- Public Health Nurse – Elliot Ezcurra and Kelly Hughes – The current COVID case rates in Hampshire County and Northampton have plateaued. The website will be updated monthly going forward. Elliot indicated that there is authorization for another booster and bivalent boosters are being used.
- Division of Community Care – Kristen Rhodes, Director – Director Rhodes gave an overview of the model of what the Division will look like. The Division will provide on the ground emotional support, advocacy, resource connections, case management and follow-up prevention services for the community by responding to calls through direct requests to the DCC through in person phone or referrals by providers as well as through dispatch once they integrate. The DCC will respond to nonviolent community calls and in-person requests while centering the needs of the most marginalized community members struggling with emotional distress, substance use, homelessness, meeting basic needs, navigating conflict and other related challenges.
- Commissioner Updates
 1. Human in Common Training is offering DEI training to Board and City staff
 2. Josh Shanley has been hired to write an After Action Report and Improvement Plan for Hampshire County and City of Northampton's response to COVID
 3. Public Health Nurse open position
 4. Grant Manager starting
 5. Tech Manager open position
 6. Budget season

V. Old Business

- **Review of COVID Advisories** – Dr. Levin discussed the two advisories and suggested that the Red Alert advisory be rescinded and keep the Mask Hours recommendation. Consensus agreement.

VI. Review Minutes

A. Meeting Minutes from March 23, 2023.

Motion: Approved as amended: Motion made by Dr. Smith to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Dallas Ducar. All were in favor (50).

Meeting Closed: Motion to Close Meeting: Motion made to close the Board of Health meeting by Dr. Suopis, seconded by Dallas Ducar. All in favor (5-0).

Meeting closed at 7:35 PM.

The next scheduled Board of Health Meeting: May 18, 2023
Kelly Constantine, BOH Clerk

BOARD OF HEALTH

Date: April 20, 2023

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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
- March 23, 2023 Minutes
- Draft Regulation of the City of Northampton Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Nicotine Delivery Products