

**Board of Health
Minutes – Regular Meeting
August 17, 2015**

Members Present:

Bea Brunkhorst, Co-Chair
Tom Kinzer, Co-Chair
Caroline Donnelly
Anita Raj (arrived at 7:40 P.M.)

Staff Present:

Heidi Porter, Director

Also Attending:

Richard T. Reed, Bedford Town Manager

Member Absent:

Sarah Thompson

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. Dr. Brunkhorst chaired.

Vote to Enter Executive Session:

Tom Kinzer moved that the Board of Health enter Executive Session to discuss the Bedford Public Health Nurses Professional Unit (i.e. School Nurse) Contract as public discussion would be detrimental to collective bargaining strategy. Ms. Donnelly seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Kinzer – yes, Dr. Brunkhorst – yes, and Ms. Donnelly – yes. Vote: 3-0.

At 7:22 P.M. Mr. Reed departed and the Regular Meeting resumed.

BOH Meeting Minutes:

Ms. Donnelly moved to accept the minutes of the June 15, 2015 meeting as amended; Mr. Kinzer seconded. Vote: 3-0.

Board of Health Action Items---Old and New Business:

No meetings were held over the summer requiring attendance by Board liaisons.

Director's Report:

Ms. Porter reported that she had been working with Sarah Buhler in Human Resources on the interview and hiring process for a new Health Agent and a Part Time School Nurse. There were many good candidates for both positions. The School Nurses would take place in the Part Time School Nurse interviews.

The posting for the School Nurse Leader position will be released to the School Nurses in the coming week.

Two hearings for Keeping of Animals Permits will take place with the Board in September. One for a pig, chickens and two goats at 151C Bagley Road and one for 2 horses at 54 Hartwell Road. Discussed the detection of a West Nile Virus positive mosquito in Bedford. Truck mounted spraying is not effective for WNV. The office released an article on mosquito bite prevention to remind residents to protect themselves from mosquito bites.

The staff will be working with the University of Rhode Island Tick Encounter program to generate and distribute tick bite prevention messaging.

Ms. Porter is responding to all housing and nuisance complaints in the absence of a Health Agent/Inspector. Many restaurants at the Bedford Marketplace (Marshall's plaza) will be closing

due to demolition of their existing buildings and construction of new buildings. New plan reviews will have to take place for the new locations.

Working to open the Bedford Plaza pool and conduct a plan review for a new spa at the Village at Taylor Pond.

The office has had many complaints and inquiries regarding bats. We prepared and published a public service announcement on rabies and what to do if you encounter a bat.

Following a program and project review of the new lab in town, Bedford Stem Cell Research Foundation by Ms. Porter and Sam Lipson, Regulatory Biosafety Consultant, the Board concluded that a Biosafety consultant should be hired. Dr. Brunkhorst suggested reaching out to known biosafety expert, Claudia Mickelson formerly of MIT.

Public Health Nurse Joyce Cheng and Ms. Porter continued discussions with Hanscom Air Force Base on providing their civilian employees with flu vaccine. The staff would provide a flu clinic at Hanscom and receive insurance reimbursements to fund the Board's flu vaccine program.

Staff will conduct a flu clinic at Bedford Day on September 19, 2015.

Ms. Donnelly moved to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Raj seconded. Vote count: 4-0.

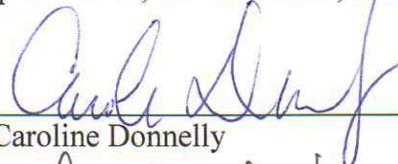
The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 P.M.

The next meetings of the Board will take place on September 14, and October 5, 2015.

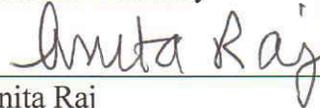


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