

Board of Health
Meeting Minutes – November 12, 2024

Members in attendance: Chair Helaine R. Hazlett, Tom McMahon, Thomas Massaro M.D., & Health Director Andrew Petty. Guest Dr. Caitlin Coyle via ZOOM

Agenda:

1. Community Health Update -

Dr Caitlin Coyle of UMass Boston addressed the Board via Zoom regarding the possibility of providing a health status assessment for Marblehead. Her center has conducted similar assessments for 78 municipalities in MA including Swampscott and Salem. She described the general processes involved and the potential benefits for the town. Dr. Massaro has met with Heidi Whear Director of Aging Services in Swampscott who had managed the Swampscott assessment. MS Whear was very positive about the initiative. The cost of the assessment will be about \$45,000. Dr Massaro will meet with potential funders for the project. Ranjeev Benjamin is the new Executive Director for Mental Wellness for the YMCA of the North Shore.

MOTION: To work to meet the calendar for a health assessment, as proposed by Dr. Coyle from UMASS Boston. Seconded. Unanimous, passed.

2. Board of Health Meeting Calendar -

Discussion regarding the second meeting of the month ensued.

3. Board of Health vs Department of Health -

Discussion continued on the distinctions between the Board of Health and the Health Department.

4. Wellness Fair, Substance Abuse Programming

The Wellness Fair information will be sent out via email to residents, and businesses that are part of our email lists, and through the newspapers. Substance abuse programming was discussed. Since the space is limited, discussion on how to best service the set-up will be finalized with Andrew and Tom McMahon. Helaine Hazlett is waiting on a potential date for the drug theatre program.

5. Bills – Tom McMahon

6. Director's Report -

Transfer Station went out to bid in October, filed sub-bids will be received by November 13th, 2024. General Bids are expected November 27th, 2024. Looking to award the project at the December 10th, 2024 meeting. Planning to have a mid-March start date with a potential 120-day timeframe for the project. Andrew stressed the need to manage costs, ensure project completion, and hopefully, under budget.

The Transfer Station will be transitioned to a cashless system in the New Year. Credit cards will be accepted at no additional fee. Andrew discussed the Tobacco and Body art regulations that he supplied a copy for members to review. Permit reminders will be sent out to for their renewal process.

7. Public Comment Period

MOTION: To Adjourn the meeting. Tom McMahon seconded. All in favor, Motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:45 P.M.