



TOWN OF EASTHAM

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MINUTES

EASTHAM BOARD OF HEALTH WORKSHOP THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015 AT 9:00AM

11/19/15
Martin Haspel

Present: Dr. Joanna Buffington, Dr. Martin Haspel, Dr. James Taylor; Chair, Vicky Anderson, Jane Crowley, Susan Barker

Absent: Glenn Olson

I. CORRESPONDENCE & OTHER INFORMATION

- Discussion of E-cigarettes and the Board of Health Tobacco Regulations
 - Several representatives of local businesses as well as tobacco lobbyists and people from organizations against the sale of tobacco attended this meeting
 - Sarah Wilcox of the Eastham Superette expressed her concerns about changing the age a person can buy tobacco products from 18 to 21 years old. She explained that a person under the age of 21 who normally buys their gas and cigarettes from Cumberland farm may now go to another town to get their gas and tobacco products taking away from the profit the company can make.
 - Dr. James Taylor expressed that he feels strongly about changing the age for purchasing tobacco to 21. He explained that in his opinion rising the age to 21 will help fewer people become addicted to tobacco products. The other board members attending this meeting agreed with Dr. James Taylor's philosophy.
 - Dr. Joanna Buffington expressed her belief that with enough lead time the local establishments will be able to make an easy transition in regards to the changes.
 - 50-60 Towns have already risen the age for purchasing tobacco products to 21.
 - It was agreed upon by the majority that the month of September would be the best time for the changes in the board of Health Regulations to go into effect, since this is the beginning of the school year and these are the people that it will affect.
 - The ban of flavored tobacco was also discussed. There was some discourse among the attendants as to whether or not flavored tobacco should be banned. Some argued that flavored tobacco is geared toward the younger people and is trying to get people addicted at a younger age. The local business's argued this fact by explaining that many 25-30 yr. olds commonly buy flavored tobaccos. There was also the argument made by Martin Haspel that raising the age in which you can buy tobacco products should negate the need to ban flavored tobacco, if the concern is that younger people will be attracted to this product.
 - There was discussion of a minimum price for cigars. Dr. Martin Haspel suggested \$2.50. The Cumberland Farms representatives explained that they have seen this price increase decrease sales significantly in other towns.

- The representatives of the New England Convenience Store Association strongly appose the banning of any tobacco products. They also suggested that the Board of Health consider changing the tolling period on violations.
- The representatives of Seven Hills are strongly in favor of banning the sale of flavored tobacco.
- Both Dr. James Taylor and Vicky Anderson undecided about their feelings on banning flavored tobacco. Vicky Anderson suggested that they revisit this discussion in 6 months.
- The decisions made by the Board of Health at this workshop are as follows:
 - They would like to raise the age at which you can buy tobacco products to 21.
 - They would like to exclude the price adjustment from the regulations
 - They do not wish to ban flavored tobacco.
 - They would like to ban blunt wraps
 - They would like a 24 month tolling period instead of a 36 month tolling period
 - They would like to accept the Regulation Prohibiting Smoking in Workplaces in its entirety.
 - They would like these regulations to become effective on October 1st 2015.

Dr. Joanna Buffington motioned to adopt the final draft of the regulations

Dr. James Taylor Seconded the motion

3-0 vote

Martin V. Haggard 11/19/15