



Town of Franklin

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

355 East Central Street
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038-1352

Board of Health Meeting Minutes for September 11th, 2009

Present at meeting:

Bruce J. Hunchard, Chairman
Paul J. Cheli, Vice-Chairman
Donald G. Ranieri, Jr., Clerk
David McKearney, RS, Director/Health Agent
Emily Coyne, Assistant Health Agent
Virginia McNeil, Administrative Assistant

Visitors present:

Rich Aucoin
Leo Tozian
Jason Yu, Teppanyaki manager
Mark Ma, Teppanyaki manager

The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting.

The minutes of the August 14th, 2009 meeting were reviewed and accepted as written by the Board and Mr. Cheli abstained from the vote since he was not present last month.

OLD BUSINESS

The Chairman opened the floor for any old business. The Health Director provided an update on H1N1 influenza, and the Health Department's plans for large-scale public flu clinics. The Health Director continues to meet with the H1N1 preparedness group to finalize the vaccination plans, which consists of the Franklin School Department, Public Facilities, Franklin Fire Department, Franklin Charter School, Dean College and Tri-County Regional High School representatives. The projected arrival of the vaccine is mid October and it is unknown at this time if it one or two doses of vaccine will be necessary. The Health Director stated that prior to any public clinics, a vaccine information statement along with a consent form would be provided to parents and individuals, which is consistent with state and federal guidelines. Mr. Aucoin, a Franklin resident, inquired how Franklin would protect the citizens of Franklin if the S2028 bill was passed by the State. The Board chairman stated he would not discuss anything that was not already a law because it was only a hypothetical situation at this point. Mr. Cheli, the Board vice-chairman, asked Mr. Aucoin if he was for or against the H1N1 vaccine. Mr. Aucoin responded that he is neither for nor against the vaccine, but is concerned about informed consent and also wanted to ensure that the vaccine will not be mandatory. The Health Director advised Mr. Aucoin that there are no plans to make any vaccine mandatory. Mr. Tozian, also a Franklin resident, had concerns about vaccine ingredients. The Health Director stated that no immune system stimulating additives would be included in the H1N1 vaccine per the latest information provided by the



Massachusetts Department of Public Health. In response to additional technical questions relative to vaccine safety from Mr. Aucoin and Mr. Tozian, the Health Director reiterated that he is not a vaccine expert, and perhaps they should consult with both the CDC and the MA DPH for additional clarity on issues relative to vaccine safety and formulation.

In other old business, the Board of Health discussed the renewal of the food establishment permit for the Teppanyaki Restaurant. The Health Director has observed consistent improvements relative to compliance with food code regulations during the monthly inspections mandated by the board. Based on the Health Department's reports and the Health Director's recommendation, the board voted to grant the license to Teppanyaki. The Board chairman, Mr. Hunchard, cautioned the owners of Teppanyaki that future non-compliance, such as has been experienced in the past, may result in severe sanctions by the Board of Health. The owners agreed to continue to work diligently to ensure full compliance.

NEW BUSINESS

The site plan for 7 Old Forge Hill Road was reviewed by the Board. A motion was made and approved by the Board subject to municipal water and sewer connection, and proper dumpster location.

The second item in new business was the site plan & two special permits for 281 West Central Street. The Board voted unanimously to approve the plan subject to municipal water and sewer connection, and proper dumpster location.

The last item on the agenda was the Health Director's Monthly Report for August 2009. The Health Director discussed the monthly activities of the Health Department.

The Chairman opened the floor for any other new business. The Board clerk, Mr. Ranieri, made a motion to send a letter to St. Mary's Church to advise the parishioners to avoid shaking hands during the Mass. Mr. Ranieri was concerned this practice may result in the spreading of the influenza virus unnecessarily. The motion was not seconded and the motion was not passed. St. Rocco's Festival was also discussed in new business. It was brought to the Board's attention that the inspection process for the St. Rocco's Festival consumes a great deal of the Health Department's time, and that presently the festival does not pay for a temporary food permit. The Health Director was also concerned that due to the large number of volunteer food service workers, and the very large amount of potentially hazardous foods prepared, greater oversight and cooperation from the festival organizers is imperative. A motion was made by the Board to send a letter to the St. Rocco's chairman advising that next year a fee will be collected. The Health Department will also require a list of all food booths along with the name of the person in charge of each shift. The last item brought up in new business was the appointment of Dr. Diane Daddario as our Medical Director of our volunteer medical

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staff for H1N1 clinics. The Board requested a special meeting the following week to meet with and officially appoint Dr. Daddario.

Motion to adjourn was unanimous. The next meeting of the Board of Health will be on Friday, October 2, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Transcribed by Virginia M. McNeil, Administrative Assistant for the Board of Health.