



Town of Northborough

Board of Health

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Members Present: Glenn French
Deirdre O'Connor
Dilip Jain
Jamie Terry, Board of Health Agent

The Board of Health met on Tuesday, January 10, 2012, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room of the Northborough Town offices. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Glenn French. The minutes from the December 13, 2011 meeting were approved as amended.

Ms. Karyn Johnson of the Worcester Regional Tobacco Control Collaborative (WRTCC) appeared before the Board tonight to discuss the model regulations that have been distributed by the Department of Public Health (DPH) at the WRTCC quarterly meeting. The WRTCC would like the Town of Northborough to consider the current youth access regulations by reducing the points of access – this can be done by creating a permit cap or by banning sales in certain places (i.e., Pharmacy sales – CVS, Wal-Mart). Ms. Johnson stated that cigarettes are not the only concern these days. Ms. Johnson informed the Board that there are other tobacco products on the market that are targeted toward the youth; products such as *Ariva* which are dissolvable tobacco tablets shaped like tic-tacs, *Camel Orbs* which are dissolvable tongue strips, *Camel Snus* which is a smokeless tobacco product similar to that of chewing tobacco, and *Cigarillos* which are flavored tobacco cigars. Ms. Johnson also pointed out that *Blunt wraps* are available in a large variety as well as *Electronic cigarettes (E-cigarettes)* which simulate the act of tobacco smoking by producing an inhaled mist similar to that of inhaled tobacco smoke. Ms. Johnson stated that all of the products listed above contain nicotine which is extremely addictive. Ms. Johnson and the Board also discussed the emergence of roll-your-own cigarette machines and how it could lead to an increase in cigarette smoking. Ms. Johnson informed the Board that she is making it a point to meet with local Boards of Health to introduce herself and speak of the services that are currently provided to the Town. The WRTCC is a collaborative of 19 Boards of Health in Central Massachusetts whose mission is to promote social change through four main goals; prevent initiation of tobacco use among youth; eliminate exposure to environmental tobacco smoke; promote smoking cessation among young people and adults; and identify and eliminate tobacco-related disparities in special population groups. Ms. Johnson informed the Board that the WRTCC now focuses more on policy change as it is more sustainable but still conducts compliance checks of all retail facilities in the 19 communities. These compliance checks are done in addition to the compliance checks that are performed by the U.S. Food and

Drug Administration(FDA). Ms. Johnson informed the Board that since funding is extremely limited - the Town of Northborough was selected for only one compliance check by the WRTCC this year, which will most likely to take place in February. Ms. Johnson stated that additional compliance checks can be done for a fee and she can obtain a quote if requested.

Ms. Terry and the Board thanked Ms. Johnson for appearing before the Board. Ms. Terry informed the Board that she will work on drafting updated rules and regulations and will possibly look at budgeting for more compliance checks.

Ms. Terry and the Board discussed the results of a recent adolescent health survey that was distributed at Algonquin Regional High School (ARHS). Ms. Terry found the results of this survey very interesting and stated that the data shows that teenagers are in good shape when compared to others in the Metrowest area. Ms. Terry informed the Board that she will work on obtaining the PowerPoint presentation for them to review the results. Ms. Terry informed the Board that a similar survey was also conducted at the middle school and she is waiting to hear the results of that.

Ms. Terry and the Board discussed the recent food inspections that were performed - no outstanding issues were reported.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:05PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Jean