



# TOWN OF NORTHBOROUGH BOARD OF HEALTH

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Glenn French

Dilip Jain

Jamie Terry

The Board of Health met on Tuesday, March 11, 2014, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room of the Northborough Town Offices. The meeting was called to order at 6:20 PM by Chairman Glenn French.

Approval of the meeting minutes for January 14, 2014 was postponed due to the absence of Ms. O'Connor.

Ms. Terry and the Board discussed altering the legal age to purchase tobacco products in the Town of Northborough. Ms. Terry reports that Algonquin Regional High School Assistant Principal Mel Laughton and School Nurse Justine Fishman are interested in appearing before the Board to discuss this matter as they are interested in reducing cigarette use among teens who attend the high school. Their concern is that a high percentage of all smokers begin the habit before they turn 21 as the young brain is more susceptible to nicotine addiction. Ms. Terry indicated that as of today 11 towns out of 351 communities in the State of Massachusetts have raised the age for tobacco sales. Today, there are 8 towns considering making changes to their regulations. Prior to making any changes to the current tobacco regulations, the Board would like to hold an informational session during the next regularly scheduled meeting for all those interested in providing data specific to Northborough.

Ms. Terry and the Board discussed the Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund. Ms. Terry informed the Board that on Wednesday, January 29, 2014, she received notification that the Department of Public Health has funded the towns of Northborough, Hudson, Framingham and the City of Marlborough for the Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund. Ms. Terry reports that this was a very difficult application process and only 9 applicants out of 20 applicants were funded. Ms. Terry explained to the Board how these communities will now be given the opportunity to address key health conditions for high-need populations within these specific towns. The four priority conditions outlined for this partnership are; tobacco use, hypertension, pediatric asthma, and falls among the elderly.

Ms. Terry and the Board discussed the Groundwater Advisory Committee and the possible appointment of a new board member. The Groundwater Advisory Committee

consists of five members, one each appointed by the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Board of Selectmen, and the Water & Sewer Commission and they meet as needed. Currently, Deirdre O'Connor is an appointed member to this committee for an indefinite term.

Ms. Terry and the Board discussed the most recent food inspections that have been completed, no outstanding issues were reported at this time.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 6PM.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Jean