

**CITY OF SALEM  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
MEETING MINUTES**

*January 8, 2014*

**DRAFT**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dr. Barbara Poremba, Chair, Gayle Sullivan, Martin Fair, & Dr. Shama Alam

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Larry Ramdin, Health Agent, Councilor Beth Gerard, Council Liaison & Suzanne Doty, Public Health Nurse designate

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Dr. Danielle Ledoux

**TOPIC**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION**

**1. Call to Order**

7:00pm

**2. Minutes of Last Meeting**

(October & December)

**M. Fair motioned to accept minutes from October and December with corrections**

**Dr. Alam 2nd Approved unanimously**

**3. Chairperson Announcements**

Dr. Poremba and the Board welcomed the new Council Liaison, Councilor Beth Gerard, to her first meeting. The members and Councilor Gerard introduced themselves.

**4. Monthly Reports-Updates**

**A. B. Health Agent Report**

Presented & approved. Copy available at the BOH. Farmers Market flu clinic one person was vaccinated & 63 people were vaccinated in the school clinics. Board requested a thank you letter be sent to Paula Dobrow for her help vaccinating at the schools. Larry will also copy the Superintendent on that letter.

**B. Public Health Nurse's Report**

Suzanne Doty, BS, RN was introduced as our new PHN who will start January 21, 2013. The Board requested flu clinics in office on Thursday evenings and to plan a clinic in the point area.

**C. Administrative Report**

Presented & approved. Copy available at the BOH. The Chair requested a balance be added to the administrative report for the clinic revolving account.

**D. City Council Liaison Updates**

Councilor Gerard informed the Board that she also has a meeting with the Mac Park Associations on every 2nd Tues. She will find a solution to this so she can make the Board meetings as much as possible. The Councilor inquired and noted that Martin Fair's term expires in February. Gayle Sullivan also stated she plans on retiring in June 2014. Martin will not be requesting another term but will serve until there is a decision by the City Council on the reduction of the Board.

The request to repeal the amendment of 1972 is tabled in the Public Health, Safety and Environment Committee. Councilor Gerard, who is on the committee, will request that it be brought back to the council for a discussion and vote.

## 5. New Business

A. Reorganization of the Board - Vote on Chairperson and Clerk of the Board

**Motion: M. Fair nominated Barbara Poremba as Chairperson and Heather Lyons-Paul as Clerk of the Board. 2nd G. Sullivan. Approved unanimously Chair abstained from vote**

**Motion: Dr. Alam motioned that a request shall be sent to City Council to approve a home rule petition for submission to the Massachusetts legislature to repeal special act, Chapter 654 of the Acts of 1972. The repeal will effectively reduce the size of the Salem Board of Health to 3 members in keeping with MGL Chap 111§26. 2nd G. Sullivan. Approved unanimously.**

The City Council Public Health, Safety and Environment Committee will be informed of this action.

B. Short and Long Term Goals:  
Topics of discussion - immunization  
obesity & tobacco

The Board discussed goals to improve the community's health, all that include increasing awareness health resources and continuously updating the Healthy Salem Calendar.

### 1. Immunizations

Some of the suggestions for flu clinics were drive through clinics and clinics at churches, apartment complexes and Election Day polls. The Board would like to increase public awareness of flu clinic and health resources providing free immunizations such as The Lydia Pinkham Clinic.

### 2. Obesity

Larry spoke with John from Mass in Motion about having a 2nd location for a farmers market or a small gardeners market closer to the point. Possibly at the River Front Park during the music festivals on Sundays.

### 3. Tobacco

Smoke free public housing is being research by the DIG grant. The Board discussed tobacco initiative in other communities including increasing the age and restriction in public areas. Discussed were considerations of increasing the age requirement, reducing by attrition the number of tobacco permits issued by the department by adding language to the regulation that would restrict new tobacco vendors businesses from selling permits, smoking restrictions in public parks/beaches and in front of public buildings and places frequented by children.

## 7. MEETING ADJOURNED:

9:15pm

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Lyons-Paul  
Clerk of the Board

*Next regularly scheduled meeting is February 11, 2014 at 7pm  
At City Hall Annex, 120 Washington Street, Room 311 Salem.*