

**CITY OF SALEM  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 12, 2013**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Larry Ramdin Health Agent, Joyce Redford , Director North Shore/Cape Ann Tobacco Alcohol Policy Program

**EXCUSED:** Heather Lyons-Paul, Clerk of the Board

**TOPIC**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION**

**1. Call to Order**

7:05pm

**2. Minutes of Last Meeting**  
(April 10, 2012)

G. Sullivan motioned to accept the minutes with corrections.  
Seconded by M. Fair  
Unanimously approved

**3. Chairperson Announcements**

The Chair expressed concerns about the filling of the Public Health Nurse vacancy. The vacancy is having a negative effect on the provision of services especially in communicable disease investigations and hosting of annual influenza immunization clinics.

**4. Monthly Reports-Updates**

**A. Administrative Report**

The administrative report was unanimously accepted. The Board commented that they liked the new format, as it provides more details on the budget.

**B. Health Agent Report**

The report was reviewed and amendments were requested and it will be resubmitted at the next meeting for acceptance.

**C. Communicable Disease Report**

The report was presented, corrections and formatting changes requested. Report is to be resubmitted at the next meeting.

**D. City Council Liaison Updates**

Councilor Furey sent his apologies he had a conflict and is unable to be at the meeting.

**5. Violation of Tobacco Regulation**

- **7-11- 28 Norman St**

7-11 of 28 Norman Street and Salem Grill Z Chicken of 105 Lafayette Street were invited to be heard by the Board prior to any suspension of permit action for second and third violations of the Sale of Tobacco and nicotine delivery devices regulation.

Joyce Redford of the Tobacco Control Project advised the Board of the violations and noted that both establishments committed third /second violations, in June and October. 7- 11 had previously sold tobacco products to a minor and cigars below the minimum pricing set out in the regulations. During the last round of compliance checks they were still selling cigars below the minimum pricing.

If, the regulation is strictly read then the 7-11 has committed a third violation. Larry Ramdin advised that despite 2 violations being committed at the first visit to 7-11, he felt that this was a second visit, and then the violations should be treated as such. Joyce Redford Director North Shore/Cape Ann Tobacco Alcohol Policy Program pointed out that the regulations are specific in that it is violation based not visit based.

Mr. Romany Youssef, owner of the 7-11 store told the board that the cigars come already coded with the prices from 7-11, he contacted 7-11 at the last violation and that did not change the pricing. After this violation, he contacted them again and they adjusted the pricing. Mr. Youssef, was advised another option if the pricing did not meet Salem Board of Health requirements, was to not sell the products.

After discussion, Dr. Ledoux motioned to suspend the permit for 7 days in keeping with a second violation, and that the suspension takes effect from November 18-24 inclusive. 2<sup>nd</sup> Dr. Alam. Vote 5-0 motion carried unanimously.

- **Salem Grill Z Chicken  
105 Lafayette St**

Mr. Assim Mustaq, owner of Salem Grill Z Chicken, was found to be selling prohibited blunt wraps, at the last compliance check. They sold tobacco products to a minor at the previous compliance check after selling to a minor previously. Mr. Mustaq admitted that it was his second violation and agreed to the seven day suspension and a fine of \$200.00. The suspension will take place from November 18-24( inclusive)

**6. Medical Marijuana Dispensary**

Chris Edwards of the Alternative Therapies Group presented to the Board on the company's desire to open a Medical Marijuana Dispensary in Salem, if granted a license by the Department of Public Health. The application process, requires either a letter of support or non- objection.

**6. Medical Marijuana Dispensary**

(Cont)

Mr. Edwards requested a letter from the board. He submitted a draft letter to the Board Chair and the Health Agent. Larry Ramdin advised that the draft letter appears to endorse the application and the Alternative Therapies Group and suggested that it may be better to issue a simple letter of non-objection. Further, there may be other applicants, who are seeking similar letters. Thus, it may be prudent for the Board to authorize the Health Agent to issue simple letters of non-objection upon request, by applicants. After discussion. Dr. Shama Alam motioned that the Health Agent be authorized to issue letters of non-objection, to the siting of a medical marijuana dispensary in Salem, to license applicants upon request, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dr. Ledoux. Vote 5-0 motion carried unanimously.

**7. Memo form Human Resources**

The Board discussed the contents of the memo and gave advice and guidance on resolving issues contained in the letter.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:**

10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Ramdin  
Health Agent

*Next regularly scheduled meeting is December 10, 2013 at 7pm  
At City Hall Annex, 120 Washington Street, Room 311 Salem.*