

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

March 11, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Barbara Poremba, Chair, Gayle Sullivan, Dr. Shama Alam & Dr. Danielle Ledoux
OTHERS PRESENT: Larry Ramdin Health, Agent, Suzanne Doty, Public Health Nurse, Joyce Redford, Director of NSCATAPP & Peter King, Tobacco Control Inspector
MEMBERS EXCUSED: Martin Fair

TOPIC

DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. Call to Order

7:05pm

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

(February 11, 2014)

G. Sullivan motioned to except the minutes with corrections, 2nd Dr. Ledoux; Unanimously approved

3. Chairperson Announcements

Larry received congratulations from the BOH for being selected as a Fellow of Local Public Health Institute.

4. Monthly Reports-Updates

A. B. Health Agent Report

Approved; copy available at the BOH
An additional clerk was requested in the budget and is fully supported by the BOH. Dr. Poremba would like to see more local events in the Healthy Salem Calendar, not just the national awareness event.

B. Public Health Nurse's Report

Approved; copy available at the BOH
S. Doty is getting trained to fit test N-95 masks.

C. Administrative Report

Approved; copy available at the BOH
Dr. Poremba asked for a spreadsheet showing permit fees collected by health department for the last few years

D. City Council Liaison Updates

Not present

5. New Business

**A. Communications -
Letter from Atty. La Monica requesting
BOH reconsider its revocation of the
tobacco permit of Grill Z Chicken 105
Lafayette Street.**

Dr. Poremba asked J. Redford if the owner of Salem Grill Z Chicken attended the recommended class after his permit was suspended in November 2013. Joyce explained the class was given by the state and she could not find a copy of the attendance sheet; if he had attended he would have received a certificate after the training. Dr. Alam asked J. Redford if we needed any additional language regarding suspension language in our regulation; explained it is clearly stated and why it is not necessary. The Board discussed the request for the hearing to

reconsider the revocation of the Tobacco Permit.

Motion by Dr. Alam to deny request to reconsider revocation of tobacco permit of Grill Z Chicken; 2nd Dr. Ledoux. Motion approved unanimously

6. Short and long term goals

1. Increase tobacco purchasing age to 21 years.

BOH discussed letter from Lester Hartman, MD to increase tobacco purchasing age to 21 years and presented communities who have done so including Needham, Arlington, Dover, Dedham, Ashland, Sharon, Canton, Wellesley, Brookline, Belmont, Watertown, Westwood, Walpole, Sudbury, Scituate and Hudson.

The Board discussed pros and cons of this. Salem BOH would like more information and to explore if there is regional interest in enforcing a higher age limit for purchasing tobacco so youth are not going to neighboring cities and towns to purchase tobacco.

The Board asked L. Ramdin to write a letter to Lester Hartman inviting him to the next meeting April or May to discuss this issue. One challenge is Joyce Redford explained that this is not a DPH priority and that they may not pay for compliance checks for teenagers 18 years and over. She will look into this.

2. Increase in heroin use and deaths in Salem and across Massachusetts.

An opiate overdose reduction plan is being developed with Lynn, Salem and Beverly Police/Fire Departments. The antidote is the nasal spray, Narcan, which will be provided to these first responders. The Board would like to know if there is any plan to educate the public on signs/symptoms of overdose and if people who live with addicts may be provided with this life-saving antidote. Gayle Sullivan is knowledgeable of a number of overdoses in the young adult population and is an advocate of making Narcan more available to the families of addicts. She will work how the BOH may provide public health education on this.

7. MEETING ADJOURNED:

9:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Lyons-Paul
Clerk of the Board

*Next regularly scheduled meeting is April 8, 2014 at 7pm
At City Hall Annex, 120 Washington Street, Room 311 Salem.*