

Winthrop Board of Health

February 28, 2013

Meeting held in the Emergency Operation Center

Convened at 6:15 PM

Adjourned at 7:50 PM

Attending:

James L. Little, Chairman

Nicholas LoConte, member

Eric Moore, Director of Public Health

Bridget Mulkerrin, member

Jeanne Maggio, Medical Reserve Corps. Coordinator

Ro Sarro, Public Health Nurse

GUESTS;

Jason Dodd ,Director of Six City Tobacco Control Collaborative.

Laura Bagnato, RN-Regis College Student

Robert Boncore, Atty.

Nasser Belghiti, owner Kasbah Restaurant

Philip Boncore, Town Councilor

Peter Gill, Town Council President

Minutes of January 31 , 2013 were accepted as read. Motion by Nicholas LoConte and seconded by Bridget Mulkerrin to accept minutes of January 31. 2013.

Motion approved unanimously.

Old Business :Hookah smoking-Kasbah

Background: At December 29, 2011 Board meeting correspondence from CASA citing concerns of Hookah smoking at the Kasbah restaurant.

ACTION: Letter to be sent to Kasbah owner to appear at the January 19, 2012 meeting.

January 19, 2012 board meeting the Kasbah owner and his attorney appeared asking for an extension to renovate the restaurant to come into compliance with regulations.

ACTION: The Kasbah restaurant was granted a one year extension to complete renovations to comply with state regulations and obtain proper permits.

At this meeting Attorney Robert Boncore representing Nasser Belghiti, owner of Kasbah restaurant appears before the board requesting a one year extension to continue Hookah Smoking on the premises. Atty. Boncore cited financial problems to complete the renovation of 2 bathrooms and another egress. Attorney Robert Boncore stated at this time Mr. Belghiti is unable to obtain the proper permits for a Hookah bar.

Phil Boncore speaking in favor of the Kasbah restaurant as a private citizen ,citing their many years in business, and being good neighbors.

Correspondence from Pat Milano, CASA, citing the coalition would like to see the Kasbah Restaurant comply with the MGL Smoke Free Workplace Law by acquiring all necessary permits.

Jason Dodd explained the Smoke Free Workplace Law.

Further discussion ensued.

The chair called for a 10 minute recess 7:20 PM and reconvened at 7:30 PM.

Nick LoConte made a motion to grant the extension to the Kasbah Restaurant to continue Hookah smoking

ACTION: Hearing no second the motion did not pass.

Chair James Little at this time passed the gavel to Bridget Mulkerrin in order to make a motion to cease and desist Hookah smoking in the restaurant until full compliance is in order. With this in mind the Town of Winthrop has an ordinance of Smoking in the workplace.

Bridget Mulkerrin seconded the motion.

Bridget voted YES, James Little voted Yes, and Nicholas LoConte voted NO on the motion to cease and desist Hookah smoking.

ACTION: Motion passed to cease and desist smoking at the restaurant.

At his point Bridget Mulkerrin passed the gavel back to the chair.

Motion made by Nicholas LoConte to make the effective date of April 1, 2013 as the official cease and desist order for Hookah smoking in the premises. Bridget Mulkerrin seconded the motion.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Eric Moore will send notification to Mr. Belghiti that the cease and desist order for Hookah smoking at the Kasbah restaurant to be effective as of April 1, 2013.

DIRECTORS REPORT:

1. Regional North Shore Opiate Overdose Summit was held on January 31, 2013 at Kowloon Restaurant in Saugus. Cities of Revere, Saugus, Chelsea, Lynn and the Town of Winthrop gathered to discuss the opiate epidemic affecting the region. Winthrop Health Department was involved in preparatory meetings for the summit. The next summit will be held in March 2013.
2. Mr. Moore attended school committee meeting on Winthrop Middle School Indoor Air Quality study. The Department of Health has been invited to the March 14, 2013 school committee meeting.
3. The Airport Hazards Committee meeting with DPH Assoc, Commissioner Suzanne Codon on update of Logan Airport study.
4. BU environmental exposure assessment project.
5. Ongoing sanitation inspection.

MRC REPORT:

The MRC opened a shelter at the Cummings School the day of the blizzard in February at 1 PM. The shelter closed the next day at 3 PM. Five local residents were housed during the blizzard with seven MRC staff available operating the shelter.

Future plans for sheltering during emergencies will depend on the severity of the event and decision will be made by the Emergency Director, Chief Flanagan on opening a shelter in the town.

ACTION: Informational.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE REPORT

Ro Sarro is in the process of ordering flu vaccine for next flu season. She cites the flu season is still active. Ro Sarro stated that the last flu shot given at the Board Of Health Office was given on Jan. 20, 2013

.Ro Reports the Board of Health Blood Pressure clinic remains well attended.

ACTION: Informational.

Motion to adjourn at 7:50 PM. Motion by Nicholas LoConte and seconded by Bridget Mulkerrin.

Motion approved unanimously.

Next Meeting March 28, 2013 in the Emergency Operating Center at 6:PM.

NOTE: In the event a person with disability wishing to attend meeting, the meeting can be moved. Please notify Board Office of intent to attend the meeting at 617-846-1740.

ALL DOCUMENTS USED AT THIS MEETING ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST AT THE BOARD OF HEALTH OFFICE.