

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

March 21, 2012

Town Council Chambers, Administration Building

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. John Straus called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM.

PRESENT: Dr. John Straus, Dr. Barbara Beck, Steven Ward, and Kristel Bennett.

Minute Review: The Board of Health was unable to accept the minutes of the February 15, 2012 meeting since not all members were present.

The Board of Health reviewed the minutes of the January 18, 2011 meeting. Barbara Beck made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 18, 2011 meeting. Dr. Straus stepped down as Chair and seconded the motion. All were in favor.

5 Bromfield Street: Kristel Bennett informed the Board that the owner of 5 Bromfield Street was before the Board for an administrative hearing to request to withdraw the order to correct letter dated January 5, 2012. Mrs. Bennett presented the findings of the Health Department inspection of the dwelling. The owner of 5 Bromfield Street, Jessica Selchan, was present and presented testimony and a photo of the dryer vent. The owner of 7 Bromfield Street, Pam Hubley, was present and also presented photos to the Board. After much discussion thereof, Dr. Barbara Beck made a motion to deny the request to withdraw the order to correct letter dated January 5, 2012. The owner of 5 Bromfield Street must correct the violation in the order to correct letter dated January 5, 2012 by April 25, 2012. Prior to the installation of a screen the owners must clean and sanitize the vent that is harboring birds. If the violations remains unabated by April 25, 2012 a court complaint will be filed against the owner of 5 Bromfield Street in Waltham District Court for non-compliance with the order to correct letter dated January 5, 2012. Dr. John Straus stepped down as chair and seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Board of Health
Minutes March 21, 2012

107 Spring Street, #2-3: Kristel Bennett informed the Board that the owner's representative of 107 Spring Street #2-3 was before the Board for an administrative hearing to request more compliance time with the order to correct letter dated February 3, 2012. Mrs. Bennett presented the findings of the Health Department inspection of the dwelling unit. Mr. David Downes presented testimony that the violation will be corrected prior to re-occupancy of the dwelling unit; currently the dwelling unit is vacant. After much discussion thereof, Dr. Barbara Beck made a motion to modify the order to correct letter dated February 3, 2012, prior to re-occupancy the owner must bring the dwelling unit located at 107 Spring Street, #2-3 into compliance with the State Sanitary Code 105 CMR 410.000. Prior to reletting the owner must install a stove unit in the dwelling to meet compliance with the February 3, 2012 order to correct letter. Dr. John Straus stepped down as chair and seconded the motion. All were in favor.

61 – 63 Poplar Street: Kristel Bennett informed the Board that the owner's representative, Steven Andaloro, and the owner's sister Connie Delrose were before the Board to determine whether the Inspection Report and Violations listed in the December 30, 2011 Condemnation Order Letter warrant a finding that the dwelling units located at 61 – 63 Poplar Street, Watertown are unfit for human habitation and the dwelling units are to remain condemned and that the order to vacate and secure the dwelling units remain in effect. After hearing the findings of the December 28, 2011 Health Inspection report, hearing the testimony provided Steven Andaloro and Ms. Connie Delrose, and after much discussion thereof, the Dr. Barabara Beck made a motion to ratify the condemnation order of December 30, 2011. In addition the owner or his representative is required to provide a written plan for accessing the dwelling to remove valuables and to correct the violations listed in the Order to Correct letter dated December 30, 2011 or to provide an alternative to raze the dwelling by April 18, 2012. This written corrective action plan must be submitted to the Health Department for review by April 18, 2012. The owner or his representative must attend the April 25, 2012 Board of Health meeting to discuss the submitted corrective action plan. As a result of this condemnation, the dwelling units are to remain vacant and secured. No dwelling unit or portion thereof which is ordered to be secured shall be occupied without the written permission of the Board of Health based upon the board's written finding that the dwelling or portion thereof to be occupied is unfit for human habitation. Dr. Straus stepped down as chair and seconded the motion. All were in favor.

16 Thurston Road: Kristel Bennett informed the Board that the owner of 16 Thurston Road requested an administrative hearing to request more compliance time with order to correct letter dated February 10, 2012. Mrs. Bennett presented the findings of the Health Department inspection of the dwelling unit. It was noted that the property owner was not in attendance at the hearing. After much discussion thereof, Dr. Barbara Beck made a motion to amend the order to correct letter dated February 10, 2012 to extend the requirements of compliance time to April 25, 2012. If the violations remain unabated by April 25, 2012 a court complaint will be filed against the owner of 16 Thurston Road in Waltham District court for non-compliance with the order to correct letter dated February 10, 2012. Dr. John Straus stepped down as chair and seconded the motion. All were in favor.

OTP Presentation: Elizabeth Tanefis from Health Resources in Action Inc. gave a presentation to the Board on Other Tobacco Products.

Tobacco Regulation Amendment: Wesley Chin and Steven Ward informed the Board of the proposed amendments to the Sale of Tobacco Products to Minors Regulations. The Board reviewed the proposed amendments. The amendments include but are not limited to the following: changing the title of the regulation to Regulation of the Watertown Board of Health Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Nicotine Delivery Products to Minors, the definition establishment, the definition nicotine delivery product (including e-cigarettes), tobacco retailer education program requirements, and suspension and revocation language.

New/Old Business: Steven Ward provided an update to the Board of the status of the Community Health grants that the Health Department has received. Mr. Ward updated the Board as to the sanitarian vacancy. Mr. Ward provided an update to the Board of the development of the Mass Food Gathering Application packet. Mr. Ward and Mrs. Bennett informed the Board of the ongoing problems of dogs in parks, on school and town property, especially the Cunniff School.

Board of Health
Minutes March 21, 2012

Agent to the Board of Health, Dr. Barbara Beck made a motion that Jared Orsini and Cathleen Liberty be designation as specialized agents to the Board of Health for purposes of conducting food inspections in Watertown. Dr. John Straus seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Next Meeting Date: May 2, 2012

Adjourn: 9:30 PM

Minutes: Submitted by Steven J. Ward, Director of Public Health