

TOWN OF WENHAM

BOARD OF HEALTH

Meeting of Wednesday, January 27, 2016

Town Hall, 138 Main Street

Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30 A, § 18-25, written notice posted by the Town Clerk delivered to all Board members, a meeting of the Board of Health (BOH) was held on January 27, 2016 at 8:00 AM in the upstairs conference room at Town Hall.

With all members present, Ms. Preston called the meeting to order at 8:06 AM.

Board Members Present: Chair Alyson Preston, RN; Gerald Donnellan, Dr. Andrew Ting;

Also Present: Greg Bernard, Health Agent; Maribeth Ting, RN, Public Health Nurse; and Jackie Bresnahan, Permitting Coordinator and Recording Secretary

1. Assistant Health Agent position

- a. Board discussed the candidate interviewed in Executive Session on January 13, 2016. Present at interview were: Alyson Preston, BOH Chair; Jerry Donnellan, BOH member; Greg Bernard, Health Agent; Jackie Bresnahan, Permitting Coordinator and Recording Secretary; Peter Lombardi, Town Administrator; and the candidate
- b. The candidate, as observed by Ms. Preston, was super organized and qualified from her experience in other towns. Ms. Preston also noted that the candidate works for other towns currently and has a strict schedule for each of the towns so that the priorities for each town are met, but do not overlap. It was noted that the candidate was well qualified to cover the inspections necessary for all food service, pools, and camps as well as provide good record keeping of her tasks.
- c. **Motion by Dr. Ting to appoint Roberta Cody as Assistant Health Agent for the Town of Wenham, second by Ms. Preston, unanimous.**

2. Tobacco 21 Discussion

- a. Dr. Ting noted there's been activity throughout the state on this issue and that some towns have passed increasing the legal age to purchase tobacco to 21 years old as well as shifting flavored tobacco from retail stores to smoke shops. Dr. Ting received information from the Tobacco 21 campaign which presented data regarding the health risks for all and the effects of starting to use tobacco while younger.
- b. The board noted that there's no state law yet, despite the measure being passed in some communities. They were unsure if it was the right measure for Wenham with the town only having one tobacco retail store – Richdale. Mr. Donnellan stated that he didn't think it was necessary, while Ms. Preston noted that if more and more towns pass the age to 21, the state may take action. The board decided to wait and see what the state does and if more information becomes available, revisit the topic.

3. Emergency Preparedness Meetings

- a. Public Health Nurse Maribeth Ting and Board Chair Alyson Preston will be attending the 3D meeting, the afternoon of January 27th, 2016, that represents the region's emergency preparedness planning. The meeting will focus on updating the emergency task charts for if the town ever went into a shelter or emergency medicine distribution situation. After the meeting, both the Public Health Nurse and the BOH Chair will be updating the chart and then performing a test to ensure all those named on the chart respond in a timely manner.
- b. It was discussed that the Fall 2016 Flu Clinic would be used as a drill for the medical distribution venue.

4. Approval of previous minutes from 12.8.15, 1.13.16, and 1.13.16 (Executive Session)

- a. **Motion by Dr. Ting, 2nd by the chair, unanimous approval of the minutes from the meeting of the BOH on 12.8.15, 1.13.16, and 1.13.16 (Executive Session).**

5. Announcement

- a. Health Agent Greg Bernard will not have his regular office hours on Wednesday February 10th due to his attendance at a health seminar in Taunton. He will be available instead for office hours on Thursday February 11, at the usual time of 9 am – 12 pm.

Dr. Ting moved to adjourn, second by Ms. Preston. The Board unanimously adjourned at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted by
Jackie Bresnahan