



CITY OF NEWBURYPORT

BOARD OF HEALTH

60 Pleasant Street
Newburyport, MA 01950

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WEBSITE: www.cityofnewburyport.com



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Board & Staff Present:

Dr. Robin Blair, Board Chair

Dr. Richard Tilson, Board Member

Lina Matta, Board Member

Laura Vlasuk, Director of Public Health

Kristine Harris, Public Health Nurse

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2023

- I. Meeting called to order by Dr. Blair at 7:00pm
- II. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting. Motion to approve minutes made by Dr. Tilson, seconded by Ms. Matta. Motion passes 3-0.
- III. Director's Report
Director Vlasuk gave an update on the department.

Directors Report September 2023

- *Increased social media presence*
- Reminder, The Health Department did receive the maximum State allotment of COVID test kits. Test kits are available both at the entrance to City Hall and at the Health Department office located in the lower level of City Hall. Director Vlasuk encourages everyone to come take as many as they wish. If the state begins to distribute COVID test to homes. The Health Department will post this information on their Health page.
- Completed Summer 2023 camp inspections
- Completed State camp reporting
- Health department conducted a food drive in the month of August and delivered all items to local food pantry
- Blood Pressure Clinic was held in the City Hall Auditorium September 12, 2023 from 10am to 2pm. 46 people attended
- Additional Blood Pressure Clinics are held the second Tuesday of every month at the Senior Center from 11am to 1pm
- September 21, 2023 the Health Department will be offering Flu, Shingrix, RSV and COVID, vaccines from 11 to 2 at the Council on Aging
- *Blood Drive will be held Wednesday November 29, 2023 from 12-5pm at the Senior Center*

- First Kennel inspection conducted at 473 Merrimac Street
- The Northeast Massachusetts Mosquito Control and Wetlands Management District conducted helicopter applications of the biological larvicide, VectoBac12AS (EPA reg. 73049-38) to control mosquito larvae over salt marshes in Salisbury, Newburyport, Newbury, Rowley, and Ipswich on August 2, 2023 and August 30, 2023 covering 60 acres each time.
- Water testing has ceased for beach 2023 season and will resume in May of 2023. Conversation evolved and Mrs. Matta discussed that she had received calls from a resident that was doing his own research. Dr. Tilson advised the Board that he is working on a grant regarding CSO. Mrs. Matta will have the individual contact Dr. Tilson directly to discuss.
- In preparation for distribution and tracking for FY 2024 we have calculated the last 5 years of KI pill distribution. Totaling 646 for the last 5 years.
 - 2018 101
 - 2019 39
 - 2020 108
 - 2021 69
 - 2022 258
 - 2023 71

IV. FOG: Variance Application Form

Director Vlasuk developed and implemented tracking system for FOG (Fats Oils and Grease) to help maintain the city's infrastructure by saving money across the City and 8 locations requested a variance.

Bruce Vogel from Plum Island Coffee planned on attending this meeting but wanted Mrs. Vlasuk to advise the Board that he apologies for not attending as he is obligated to attend the City Council meeting.

1. Thirsty Whale - motion to approve Dr. Tilson, seconded by Mrs. Matta. Motion passes 3-0.
2. Immaculate Conception School - motion to approve Dr. Tilson, seconded by Mrs. Matta. Motion passes 3-0.
3. Olive's Coffee & Bakehouse - motion to approve Dr. Tilson, seconded by Mrs. Matta. Motion passes 3-0.
4. Community Action Inc. - motion to approve - motion to approve Dr. Tilson, seconded by Mrs. Matta. Motion passes 3-0.
5. Plum Island Coffee - motion to approve Dr. Tilson, seconded by Mrs. Matta. Motion passes 3-0.
6. The Cormorant - motion to approve Dr. Tilson, seconded by Mrs. Matta. Motion passes 3-0.
7. The Coffee Factory - motion to approve Dr. Tilson, seconded by Mrs. Matta. Motion passes 3-0.

8. Stonewall Kitchen - motion to approve Dr. Tilson, seconded by Mrs. Matta. Motion passes 3-0.

V. Date for next Meeting set for October 19, 2023 at 5:30pm

VI. Motion to adjourn made at 7:41 pm by Dr. Blair, seconded by Mrs. Matta. Motion passes 3-0.

From: Bruce Vogel <bruce@plumislandcoffee.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2023 8:35 AM
To: Meghan O'Keefe <MOKeefe@CityofNewburyport.com>
Subject: BOH Meeting tonight

Good morning Meghan,

Hope all is well.

I had planned to make the BOH meeting tonight regarding my application for quarterly grease trap cleaning variance. As it turns out I am obligated to attend the City Council committee meeting concerning short-term rentals that starts at 6 and certainly will go past 7!

As you had indicated, you did not think my presence was required - and I appreciate that - but I do ask the BOH to be made aware of why I am not there.

Thank you for your help.

Best,

Bruce

Bruce L. Vogel
978-828-0711