



CITY OF NEWBURYPORT

BOARD OF HEALTH

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Board & Staff Present:

Dr. Robin Blair, Board Chair
Lina Matta, Board Member

Laura Vlasuk, Director of Public Health
Kristine Harris, Public Health Nurse
Ronald Beauregard, Tobacco compliance coordinator

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2023

- Meeting called to order by Dr. Blair at 6:57pm.
- Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting. Motion to approve minutes made by
 - Dr. Blair obtained since he was not present at last meeting. Minutes tabled until next meeting.
- Amendments to Newburyport Tobacco Regulations presentation by Ronald Beauregard and Laura Vlasuk
 - Each location must post all 5 signs
 - Amendments unsure that Newburyport regulations are inline with the state regulations
- Director's Report:
 - Director Vlasuk gave an update on the Health Department.
- Vlasuk continues to increase social media presence.
- Vlasuk reminded the Board that tests are available both at the entrance to City Hall and at the Health Department office located in the lower level of City Hall. Vlasuk encouraged everyone to come and take as many as they wish. The State is now distributing COVID test to homes and urges everyone to log on and order COVID test, these tests will be delivered directly to homes that have placed a request on the United States Post Office web site.
- Vlasuk created a quick guidance drop down for COVID guidelines that she provided at the meeting.
- Vlasuk organized a Blood Drive that will be held Wednesday November 29, 2023 from 12-5pm at the Senior Center with the assistance of the red cross.
- Vlasuk currently has 2 food locations that have not renewed their food permits to date. The Board voted that I visit the locations on November 17, 2023 and if applications are

not received by Monday November 20, 2023 each location will be fined \$100. Motion made by Dr. Blair seconded by Ms. Matta. Motion passes 2-0.

- 15 Tobacco applications have been sent out
- 25 Septage Hauler/Portable Toilets applications have been sent out
- 8 Disposal Workers applications have been sent out
- This October Director Vlasuk attended the Mass Health Officers Association meeting held in Cape Code. Director Vlasuk was reappointed the Region 3 Regional Representative. As a regional representative, she will be charged with communicating information within our region and participating in member-approved projects for the overall betterment of the City.
- November is National Health Observances: Diabetes, COPD Awareness, and Antibiotic Awareness. The Department has provided some valuable information that has been posted on The Health page
- Kayla Provencher celebrated her 5-year anniversary with the City of Newburyport this week.

○ Public Health Nurse Harris gave an update on the department.

- Harris is tracking MAVEN, numbers are low for medically monitored COVID cases.
- Harris is hosting office hours in City Hall every Tuesday and Thursday in November from 11am to 2pm for Flu vaccine by appointment.
- Harris is holding a blood pressure clinic at the Senior Center 11am to 1pm the second Tuesday of every month.
- Harris is still available for house bound patients that may need flu vaccines or a blood pressure check.
- Harris administered 176 flu vaccines in the month of October
- Mrs. Harris has 66 high dose vaccines remaining at this time. If there are any remaining vaccines she would like to administer those vaccines at cost to patients. The cost per vaccine for the town would be \$108.99.

- Date for next Meeting, set for January 25, 2024 at 6:00pm.
- Motion to adjourn made at 7:35 pm by Dr. Blair, seconded by Ms. Matta. Motion passes 2-0.