



Town of Arlington
Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Board of Health
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**Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 1, 2015
Ground Floor Conference Room
Arlington Senior Center
5:30pm**

Board Members in Attendance: Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick, Dr. Marie Walsh Condon, Mr. Kenneth Kohlberg

Staff in Attendance: James Feeney, Health Compliance Officer

Others in Attendance: Subeksha Rayamjhi, Pam DiBona, Eugene Cushman

Recording Secretary: Hannah Fast, Public Health Associate

Meeting called to order by Dr. Marie Walsh Condon at 5:30 pm.

A motion was made by Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick, which was seconded by Mr. Kenneth Kolberg, to approve the December 3, 2014 minutes and the February 4, 2015 minutes.

Vote: Motion approved unanimously (3-0)

Hearing: Keeping of Hens Site Plan Review Application - 10 Perkins Street

Mr. Eugene Cushman recently submitted to the Board of Health documentation in support of his application to be permitted to keep hens at his property located at 10 Perkins St., Arlington.

Mr. James Feeney gave an overview of Mr. Cushman's application and the results of his inspection. Inspector Feeney informed the Board that he sees no cause for concern at this time, but he has discussed with Mr. Cushman the possibility of adding a privacy fence if future problems arise. Mr. Cushman then added his comments and expanded on the method used for notifying the abutters. He is planning to keep 6 chickens, and will begin keeping the hens after the chicken coop is constructed over the summer. Mr. Feeney will provide a final inspection once the coop is constructed.

A Motion was made by Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick, which was seconded by Mr. Kenneth Kohlberg, to approve the Keeping of Hens Site Plan Review Application for 10 Perkins St.

Vote: Motion Approved Unanimously (3 - 0)

Hearing: Keeping of Hens Site Plan Review Application – 53 River Street

Ms. DiBona recently submitted to the Board of Health documentation in support of her application to be permitted to keep hens at her property located at 53 River St., Arlington.

Mr. James Feeney informed the Board of Ms. DiBona's plan for keeping the chickens and gave his approval of the application. He will verify the coop meets the placement requirements at the final inspection. Ms. DiBona gave additional background information to the Board, including her experience with composting and her intentions to have the coop be used for educational purposes.

A Motion was made by Mr. Kenneth Kohlberg, which was seconded by Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick, to approve the Keeping of Hens Site Plan Review Application for 53 River St.

Vote: Motion Approved Unanimously (3 - 0)

Environmental Updates

None to report.

Tobacco Control Updates

Mr. Feeney reported the amendments to the Regulations Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Nicotine Delivery Products, which now bans the sale of flavored tobacco and nicotine delivery products in Arlington, went into effect on March 1, 2015. Signage was distributed to each tobacco retailer to help facilitate the transition.

Mr. Feeney also notified the Board of a staffing change. Mr. Wesley Chin, the Tobacco Control Program Coordinator, has accepted a position at the Belmont Health Department. The Tobacco Control Program Coordinator position is currently open.

Mr. Feeney then provided the Board with a copy of the amended Regulations stating the effective date, March 1, 2015. Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick, Dr. Marie Walsh Condon, and Mr. Kenneth Kolberg each signed this copy to be placed on record with the Massachusetts Municipal Association.

Lastly, a brief of the Institute of Medicine's report Public Health Implications of Raising the Minimum Age of Legal Access to Tobacco Products was discussed. Mr. Feeney explained he had included the article because it provided research on the impact of raising the age to buy tobacco products. The Board members discussed the report's contents and its arguments for how raising the age of access to tobacco products can provide a public health benefit.

Restaurant Updates

Mr. Feeney informed the Board that Sweet Haven, a retail center for light fixtures and bulk candy, has submitted a Food Establishment Plan Review Application for a storefront in Arlington center.

Other Updates:

- Yummys! Frozen Yogurt is planning to open for the season, starting April 3, 2015
- Prime – Your Trusted Butcher has submitted an application to start serving sandwiches

- Maria's Pizzeria has submitted an application to change ownership

Public Health Nurse Updates

Mr. Feeney reported that there is a staffing change. Diane Coste, the current Public Health Nurse, is leaving the Department for another position. Mark Waksmonski, the Geriatric Nurse for the Council on Aging, will be filling in until a replacement is hired.

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:08 pm.

Next Scheduled Meeting: May 20, 2015