

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, September 19, 2012 – 5:30 pm – Downstairs Meeting Room - Town Hall, One Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA

Meeting Minutes

Present: Michael Nelson, Chair, Jay DiPucchio, Chris Boutwell, Gina McNeely, Director of Public Health

Michael Nelson opened Board of Health Meeting at 5:35 PM

- **Review Minutes:**
- **July 18, 2012 Minutes**

Jay DiPucchio motioned to accept the Montague Board of Health minutes for the month of July 2012 with the changes. Seconded by, Christopher Boutwell. Motion passes.

- **August 15, 2012 Minutes**

Christopher Boutwell motioned to accept the Montague Board of Health minutes for the month of August 2012. Seconded by, Jay DiPucchio. Motion passes.

- **Director's Report for August 2012**

- a. The Selectmen voted to appoint Carolyn Merriam as a special employee which allows her to hold two municipal positions. The next step is for the Selectman to do an interim step and grade until the classification study is over.
- b. Animal issues due to lack of an Animal Control Officer. The BOH members to do a formal letter to the BOS addressing these issues along with bringing up a full time FY2014 Animal Control Officer.
- c. 2nd Street Bakery is in their new space on 4th Street and is up and running.

Jay DiPucchio motioned to accept the Montague Board of Health Director's Report for the month of August 2012. Seconded by, Christopher Boutwell. Motion passes.

- **Director's Update on Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)**

Montague and MAPHCO have been on the edge of this issue. MAPHCO had an emergency meeting on this, and Gina was present. Gina has information on the EEE subject including the technique of spraying if wanted.

- **Introduction to regulation prohibiting smoking in workplaces and public places**

- a. Having a by-law passed to prohibit smoking at special events such as Pumpkinfest, Mutton & Mead, etc. Gina will mention it to Mary Kersell and DJ Wilson.
- b. Local prohibitions that go beyond the structures to cover workplaces indoors/outdoors.
- c. Food establishments and other public spaces where food and beverages are sold to the public.
- d. There have been issues with private clubs? For example, St. Kaz, St. Stan's....Given the fact they spent a lot of money to make a smoking area \$40,000 – St. Kaz to accommodate their members.
- e. 25 feet from municipal buildings, retail establishments. Outdoor space and the definition of the workplaces/spaces.
- f. Retail Tobacco Stores - Selling mainly selling tobacco.
- g. Town owned athletic fields. Most fields are owned by the schools except for Unity Park which is owned by the town.

- h. Town owned playgrounds and pools.
- i. Public Transportation - example bus or taxi and indoor waiting areas.

- **Updates**

- a. **Hiring an Animal Inspector**

Gina had 4 applicants for the Animal Inspector, will offer the job to Kathleen Burek from Montague, MA.

- b. **Hiring a part-time health inspector**

Carolyn Merriam has been approved as a special employee and is now allowed to hold two municipal positions. The next step is for the Selectman to do an interim step and grade until the classification study is over.

- **Topics not anticipated covered in the 48 hour posting requirements**

- a. Request for a one time variance to the MA ServSafe Requirement for Noulieng Keopraseuth/Taste of Thai for the Pumpkinfest.

Noulieng Keopraseuth came in September 18 with all the paperwork that is needed for the Pumpkinfest. He did not have a ServSafe certificate due to the fact that the state of Vermont doesn't require this. Gina emailed the state of Vermont to find out more information about Noulieng and his Taste of Thai business. His business has scored High 80's high 90's and a 100 in the last 5 Vermont Department of Health inspections. He has a "true" mobile unit with all the requirements: 3 bay sink, hot running water, retention tank and fire extinguisher on board.

Jay DiPucchio motioned to grant Noulieng Keopraseuth a onetime variance to the MA ServSafe requirement due to his outstanding food service record in Vermont. No further such variances will be permitted in the future. Seconded by, Chris Boutwell. Motion passes.

Michael Nelson is abstaining from discussion and vote due to his involvement/running of Pumpkinfest. For informational purposes this is the first food vendor that Michael has had at the Pumpkinfest from out of state.

Gina McNeely noted that having a ServSafe has no bearing on how a business is run or how well a vendor will follow the standards.

Jay DiPucchio noted that our region has a huge possibility of attracting vendors from out of state. The town (BOH) needs to look at this as a single variance for a single vendor. We need to recognize that in the future out of state vendors that apply, will be considered based on data that is given out for each vendor. This might include State inspections, BOH inspections, Federal Code regulations etc.

- b. Flu clinic will be set up at the Pumpkinfest with GCC nursing students and Carolyn Merriam.
 - c. Flu clinic at Senior Center

Chris Boutwell made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by, Jay DiPucchio. Motion passes

Meeting adjourned: 6:30 PM

Approved by: _____

Date: _____