



CITY OF LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS  
BOARD OF HEALTH

January 9, 2019

A meeting of the Lowell Board of Health was held on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 in the Mayor's Reception Room, City Hall, 375 Merrimack St. Lowell, MA 01852.

Chairwoman Jo-Ann Keegan called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

1/9/2019 - Minutes

Present:

Jo-Ann Keegan, RN, MSN, Chairperson  
John Donovan, DC, Board Member  
William Galvin, MD, Board Member  
Lisa Golden, RN, MSN, Board Member  
Kathleen Cullen-Lutter, RN, CNM, Board Member  
Kerran Vigroux, HHS Director  
Cesar Pungirum, Tobacco Control Director  
Shawn Machado, Sr. Sanitary Code Director

**1. New Business**

**1.I. For Acceptance:** Minutes Of The December 5, 2018 Meeting Of The Board Of Health.

**Motion:** To accept the minutes of the December 5, 2018 meeting of the Board of Health made by John Donovan, seconded by Lisa Golden. All in favor.

**1.II. Monthly Development Services Report Submitted By Senior Sanitary Code Inspector Shawn Machado.**

Senior Sanitary Code Inspector Shawn Machado reviewed the reports with the Board.

Chairwoman Jo-Ann Keegan asked for clarification of the inspection dates for the Outback restaurant. Mr. Machado will check on those dates.

Mr. Machado updated the Board on the Lowell Public Schools inspections and feels that Banner Pest Control has been very responsive to any calls and is getting better. Discussion occurred regarding the size of the food bins provided by Aramark. Mr. Rick Underwood, Facilities Director-LPS, was present and will reach out to Aramark to discuss the size of the bins.

Acting Public Works Director Christine Clancy was present and gave the Board an update on the schools heating situations. Ms. Clancy informed the Board that updates are done daily. Additionally, the assessment by Boston Mechanical was recently completed and she is waiting to receive the report. Actual repair work will be completed by another company for redundancy purposes. The four heating units on the roof of the High School have been inspected. Nineteen applications for roof and boiler replacements at various schools are being reviewed for submittal to the Massachusetts School Building Authority for funding assistance. Ms. Clancy also informed the Board that the contract for the repair of the Lowell High School roof has been awarded and work is scheduled for the spring.

Chairwoman Keegan recognized Paul Georges, President of United Teachers of Lowell. Mr. Georges informed the Board that he has called the Massachusetts Department of Labor Standards to file a complaint about the

working conditions in the schools. MDLS will be doing inspections and looking into the boiler failures. Mr. Georges submitted a list of various complaints listed by school to the Board for inclusion on the February Board of Health agenda. Discussion on heating systems and remote alarms occurred.

**1.III. Update: Lowell Public Schools.**

Ms. Billie Jo Turner, Interim Asst. Superintendent of Finance for the Lowell Public Schools, was present to review the Contingency Relocation Plan that is in place for the schools. Board Member William Galvin inquired about the contingency plan's use of the Tsongas Arena and was informed by Mr. Underwood that there is an agreement in place with UMass/Lowell for emergency situations. Mr. Georges inquired about the emergency transportation plan if this contingency plan was ever used. The Board indicated that would be up to the School Department to determine that with the transportation company. Ms. Turner informed the Board that she will follow up on that question.

**1.IV. For Review: Tobacco Control Monthly Report Submitted By Cesar Pungirum, Program Director.**

The Board accepted and placed on file.

**1.V. Tobacco Permit Suspension Hearing - Rt.110 Mart/BP 137 Andover St**

Mr. Rajendra Patel, owner of Rt 110 Mart/BP 137 Andover St. was present for the hearing.

Mr. Cesar Pungirum, Tobacco Control Director, reviewed the violation with the Board. Mr. Pungirum informed the Board that Mr. Patel was the person who made the sale to the minor on August 21, 2018 as well as the previous sale to a minor on May 6, 2017. Mr. Pungirum added that Mr. Patel initially contested the ticket to the Court Magistrate but later withdrew it and paid the fine.

Mr. Patel addressed the Board expressing that he was sorry and that he felt a seven day suspension was too long. The Board informed Mr. Patel that it was only the sale of cigarettes that was suspended for seven days and that the next violation would be a thirty day suspension.

Mr. Pungirum recommended the suspension occur from the start of business on January 21, 2019 to the close of business January 30, 2019.

**Motion:** to suspend the Tobacco Sales permit for Rt 110 Mart/BP made by John Donovan, seconded by Lisa Golden.

**Roll Call:**

Jo-Ann Keegan - Yes

John Donovan - Yes

Lisa Golden - Yes

William Galvin - Yes

Kathleen Cullen-Lutter – Yes

Mr. Pungirum will contact Mr. Patel regarding the suspension.

**1.VI. For Review: Trinity EMS, Inc Reports.**

Jon Kelley, from Trinity EMS, Inc., was present to review the reports with the Board. Mr. Kelley informed the Board that there were 811 non-fatal overdoses in 2018 as well as 455 9-1-1 calls where the person was revived by Narcan and 107 first dose Narcan treatments were given by non-medical personnel. Additionally there were

approximately 133 doses of Narcan given by the Lowell Fire Dept, approximately 60 doses by the Police Department and 183 doses by Trinity EMS.

The Board accepted the reports and placed on file.

#### **1.VII. Discussion: Ambulance Contract**

Chairwoman Keegan informed the Board that the Ambulance Contract is expiring on June 30, 2019 and that the Law Department and City Manager have been emailed as to the steps that need to be done to proceed.

### **2. Old Business**

#### **2.I. Informational: Revised 2019 Board of Health Meeting Schedule**

The 2019 meeting calendar with the revised date of the June 2019 meeting was provided to the Board. The date of the meeting was changed from June 5, 2019 to June 12, 2019.

#### **2.II. Update: Service Zone Plan.**

Kerran Vigroux, Health and Human Services Director, reviewed the status of the Service Zone Plan with the Board.

### **3. Director's Report**

#### **3.I. Update: Divisional and Department Reports and Updates.**

Ms. Vigroux updated the Board on the status of the Syringe Coordinator Position and the Outreach Health Educator position for the PFS grant. Interviews for the Syringe Coordinator are being completed this week and an offer letter has been sent for the Outreach Health Educator position. Additionally, the Part-Time Clinical Recovery Specialist positions are being reviewed and a recommendation on how to proceed will be sent to the City Manager. There are also 5 vacant School Nurse positions.

#### **4. Motion: To Adjourn.**

**Motion:** To adjourn at 7:22 PM made by William Galvin, seconded by John Donovan. All in favor.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE LOWELL BOARD OF HEALTH WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 6, 2019  
AT 6:00 PM IN THE MAYOR'S RECEPTION ROOM**