



William Martin
Mayor

City known as the Town of
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

GREENFIELD BOARD OF HEALTH

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Nicole Zabko
Director

Members:

Steve Adam (2016)
William Doyle, M.D. (2017)
Tammy Mosher, LPN (2018)

**Board of Health - Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2017**

Present: Dr. William Doyle, Chair
Steve Adam, Member
Nicole Zabko, Director of Public Health
Guests/Members of the public
Dr. Mark Wisniewski, Greenfield dentist
Garth Shaneyfelt, Owner, Artisan Beverage Cooperative
Dan Rosenberg, Owner, Real Pickles

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dr. Doyle @ 5:31pm.

2. **Community Water Fluoridation:** Dr. Doyle reviewed the process that the Board has taken thus far in regards to community water fluoridation in Greenfield. The Board was/is responding to the CHIP (Community Health Improvement Plan) and Ed Sayer of the CHCFC (Community Health Center of Franklin County) requests for Greenfield to consider fluoridating its water. The following was discussed:

- The Franklin County CHIP team identified poor oral health in the underserved population as one of their top 10 health needs priority.
- The BOH is the only entity that can legally authorize the fluoridation of the community's water source; however that decision can be overturned by a ballot question after 10% of the voter population signs a petition.
- In October the Board heard from Dr. John Fisher, D.D.S. (Salem, MA and member of the Mass Dental Society) who supports water fluoridation and presented to the Board.
- Dr. Mark was in attendance at the October meeting and he opposed the idea of water fluoridation in Greenfield, however the agenda did not include enough time to hear his perspective and the BOH invited him to their December meeting.
- Dr. Doyle discussed that fluoridation is popular across the country. 75%, 4million plus citizens in Massachusetts live in communities that fluoridate the water. Specific to Greenfield, water fluoridation was defeated in town in 1968; it was hotly debated in 1976 and defeated by the BOH; and in 1996 it was discussed again with not enough BOH support to move forward.

- In Dr. Doyle's opinion lots has changed over the years; there are new ways of receiving fluoride, i.e. rinses, toothpaste, varnish, school based clinics, etc. He supports the CHCFC as they move forward with their dental programs.
- There is a significant amount of literature available that the BOH members reviewed both supporting and opposing water fluoridation.
- Dr. Doyle referenced the Community Preventative Services Task Force's Oral Health: Preventing Dental Caries, Community Water Fluoridation report. It is composed of 15 members appointed by the CDC that includes a panel of public health and prevention experts. The report conclusion is that fluoridation is effective in reducing dental care and that caries were reduced by around 15% after community water fluoridation began. However the studies provided limited data on other sources of prevention and limited data of evaluating whether there is significant impact on race and ethnicity; there was also not enough evidence on health disparities; Dr. Doyle questioned the data quality issues around fluoride from other sources and even with a 15% effectiveness (water fluoridation)

3. Facey Biomix Project: The Board received a letter from DEP seeking comment for the renewal of the Facey Farm Biomix Project which the Board approved last year. Facey Farm is located at 427 Leyden Road and incorporates a Biomix into existing soils to enhance crop growth (corn crop for cows). The letter advises the Board to respond to DEP in writing within 21-days of any issues; if no response is received DEP will move forward with its approval process. The Board briefly discussed; since there have been no issues or complaints with odors Steve motioned to take no action; Tammy seconded; the Board voted and approved to take no action and allow DEP to move forward with its approval process.

4. Needle Exchange:

- a) The Board reviewed the survey created by Marissa Hebble of the Opioid Task Force; Tammy mentioned the real mix of people who responded both for and against a Needle Exchange and that the survey helped start a dialog; the survey responses ran the gamete from disease prevention, to safety with needles, public funding. More respondents are in favor of a NE program.
- b) Nicole reviewed with the Board the minutes from the January 27th meeting re: State DPH and their role in NE programs. Nicole informed the Board she will be meeting with the Mayor to provide him with the most recent update on Needle Exchange and the Board's progress.
- c) Latest News:
 - a. Holyoke case: Tammy acknowledges that we need to take notice and keep a close eye on this case as the Holyoke Mayor has moved forward with an appeal; and that it's important for Greenfield to not end up in a similar situation.
 - b. Marisa Hebble, Director of the Opioid Task Force is leaving the position for one with the State.
 - c. Councilor Rudy Renaud is interested in possibly putting the Needle Exchange program on the next ballot (non-binding) to get sense of where the community stands. She supports a NE program and offered to help the Board move this forward. Tammy supports a referendum vote; Dr. Doyle does not think it is needed at this time; Nicole suggests that the Board is not quite

there yet; and Steve stated that at this time he supports the NE program, and is committed to going through this process carefully and the right way.

- d. Dr. Doyle is interested in hearing how the City of Worcester's approval process for a NE was conducted. Nicole will research this.

5. Fee Schedule: The Board would like to tackle this in one meeting. The fee schedule update will be on one of the May meeting agendas.

6. Review of meeting minutes: The December 9, 2015 minutes were reviewed; Steve motioned to accept as written; Tammy seconded; the Board voted and approved. The January 13, 2016 minutes were reviewed; Tammy motioned to accept as written; Dr. Doyle seconded; the Board voted and approved with Steve abstaining as he was not present at this meeting.

7. Updates:

- a. **Public health nursing:** the board was provided with the Greenfield Acres blood pressure yearly clinic numbers from Cheryl; a Lyme disease information sheet was provided to members; an update on the employee immunization program was provided; and information related to recent TB cases in the school system was reviewed.
- b. **Mobile health clinic:** Nicole informed the Board that the Mayor's special assistant is working on this project with some guidance provided by the health dept.
- c. **Mosquito Control Program:** Nicole is still working on getting approval from the Mayor and funding for the program.
- d. **Food Establishments:** No update
- e. **FY17 Health Dept Budget:** the health dept budget has been approved by the Mayor; the budget will next need to be approved by town council.
- f. **HMCC/MAPHCO:** Nicole provided the Board with a brief update: the HMCC process is moving forward and a steering committee will be formed. Nicole has been nominated to be one of the two local public health reps.
- g. **Tobacco Compliance Checks:** Tobacco 21 checks have started this week and will be completed by the end of the week. Nicole will provide the Board with the results at their next meeting.
- h. **Complaints:**
 - a. **Silvercrest:** the Board discussed waiting until later in the spring to conduct the site visit; this will continue to be discussed at the Board's next meeting.
- i. **Member Updates:**
 - a. Dr. Doyle reviewed with the Board the latest on the 4S program front and that the topic of discussion as of lately has been Marijuana; he stated that the use of Federal monies is still illegal and you must be careful doing so. He attended a presentation on the effects of MJ on the brain that was put together by Kat Allen from Communities That Care – the presentation discussed the brain, IQ issues with youth who use, driving under the influence. The presentation was in draft form and Dr. Doyle was able to make comments/suggestions for changes. He stated that the brain piece needed to be cut back as to not lose interest of those who do not understand to that depth.

8. Handouts:



- a. Mass Live 3/14/16 article: Holyoke Needle Exchange to Close
- b. USA today 1/7/16 article: Federal Needle Exchange Funding Ban Lifted
- c. MMWR 12/11/15 article: Syringe Service Programs (vol. 64 no.48)

5. Business Not Reasonably Anticipated: None

6. Next Meeting Dates: March 30th, 5:30pm @ Sanderson St
April – No April meeting; Nicole will be on vacation and Tammy will be away
May 4th
May 18th

7. The meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm

Respectfully Submitted by Nicole Zabko, Director of Public Health

William F. Doyle Nov 15-2017
Approved: BOH Chair Dr. William Doyle Date

Documents Considered and on file at the health department:

- 12/9/15 and 1/13/16 BOH meeting minutes
- Greenfield Acres PB Clinic numbers 2015
- Lyme Disease Surveillance in Mass 2014
- DEP Randy Facey Biomix Project Renewal
- Opioid Task Force Needle Exchange survey results