Board of Health – Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2017

Members:
- Present: Dr. William Doyle (Elected), Chair. (June, 2020)
- Present: Steven Adam. (June, 2019)
- Present: Nicole Zabko, Successor Qualified.
- Present: Tammy Mosher. (June, 2018)

Also Present:
- Liz Whynott – Tapestry Health
- Pedro – Tapestry Health
- Mary Kate
- Debra McLaughlin – Opioid task force Coordinator
- Madan – Indian by Nature

1) Meeting Called to order: 5:33 PM

2) Opioid Task Force – Meet & Greet with the Board

3 Months in; Deb discussed her background – work for FC gout in the past; lots of prevention and education committee; working with young, starting early, Task force interested in looking into more.
- Always to-do more with prevention (Iceland); Impact of opioid so profound, communities are struggling.
- 5 committees and task force; re-evaluating committees
- schools involved; kids with trauma due to substance abuse in the home; opportunities for student support.
- Prevention more informed at earlier stage

TM- Governor Baker task force, does local interface with state TF? DM State used info and data and inspired and interested in goals; Co-Chairs in regular contact with state admin and legislators
-12 million to Mass from Fed Government; DPH – request to proposals; local task force plans to respond to proposal.

Doyle- how much of 12 million to prevention?

Deb- No sure will have more info when DPH issues RFP Gov and house have increase opioid funding; senate not yet.

Doyle- Discussed medical professions involvement RE: why still issue; where is it coming from?
Deb- History of Tobacco; intentional elimination of data; Maker- legitimate and non-legitimate; cheap fentanyl - very frightening; use of testing strips for users; 91 people/ day- us; most do not know they are taking additional substances.

Insurance- Doyle – does mass health provide care/support?
- Some insurances provide coverage/ re-imbursement- different dependent on need; difficult system to navigate for providers and users. Insurance committee – NO, but discuss a healthcare committee.
Doyle – relationship with BHN recover center? Deb- met with some; much demand for young people and women with young children; 32 beds at center;
Housing- Sober housing- met today; inventory of available beds in area- both in direct care and sober housing; certified sober housing- encourage standards; looking at models to implement in area. G.A.M.M.A. exciting work around sober housing.
Doyle- vets - soldier on – looking at sober housing also.
Doyle – what can BOH do? Forum
- Bright spots; people do recover
TM- Church with robust recover membership – do you incorporate spiritual component?
Deb- outreach in inter-faith community.

3) Tapestry Health: update to Board re: permanent site for harm reduction services program

Doyle- provided history of needle exchange; Board very involved.
Doyle- little disappointed that program is not up and running here in Greenfield:
Liz- 1st community to approve after new law -North Adams- mayor allowed program to use town building space; Greenfield – wanted to move in same space as clinic – supported by landlord but Mass Virtual School was against.
- Lots of effort to find space; started to use RV @ GCC; Public.
- Liz on verge of using RV on private property. Working without a site; connecting with people on streets and agencies.
- Liz- Forming agreement to the private lots- community actions, CSA, CHD, Salvation Army.
- Needs permanent location – continuing to look for site; stationary sites- store fronts are pricey and other obstacles in finding space that’s ADA compliant.
TM- documentation of work being preformed? Yes, we can type something up.
Pedro- Past 3 weeks on streets doing outreach
TM- Salvation Army good place
Pedro- No needle exchange yet; have given out narcan
Liz- increased capacity - @ detox center
TM- how much is allocated for rent? $1000- $1200
NZ- DPH in the know about struggle; LW yes – will ask for more money in the next budget cycle
Doyle- if mayor doesn’t give permission, can go to other places – yes, it’s a start; this is not permanent solution.
Doyle- one of the major concerns is longevity
LW- grass roots presence is there
LW- Vacant building (North Adams – Town)
- Mayor offered to rent for 1 yr; rent being paid to city hall; open since November
LW- very communicative with DPH
Doyle- BOH Supportive

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4) Indian by Nature: Food Establishment Inspection progress report

NZ- provided board info
Bri reviewed her memo to BOH- see memo
Bri- reviewed most recent inspection reports
JK- commented on her inspection
Bri- Observations – short staffed; Bri explaining basic food safety process/ requirements too often
Dr. Doyle- reviewed Madan’s letter to the board
Madan- Nessbaum got too busy in Boston; keeping staff is difficult; commented first month: & a half;
Nessbaum – never happened; financial struggles.
Bri- Nessbaum still on Board if Indian by Nature wants
TM- understand tough spot; but BOH is responsible for safety of community; basic items not getting done; cant
say won’t happen with customers getting sick; feels reading what she read last year
SA- hardships of business should not affect public’s health; if can’t serve safety, then that puts the BOH in a
bad spot; kind of speechless
JK- we are snap shot
Bri- Short staff, not often excuse
Madan- kind of speechless; started off good, knew of issues
Doyle- Concerned with public’s health
NZ management issue
Madan- yes you are right
TM- management effecting the ability to serve public safe food
Voluntary close if problems
BJ- manager oversee is their job
SA- snapshot only; what is happening when inspectors are not there; why allow business to continue
NZ-voluntary close till issues are dealt with. Hire Nessbaum; weekly inspections
TM- Say actively involved then not 2-3 months
Doyle- Few options?
- Consider voluntary closure
Doyle – very angry; not a lie, cut close
Madan – very angry too, fix items if Madan is on site issues would not have happened
Madan – in debt
Tm- more issues if someone died from food poisoning
JK- Chander understands basics, but not following logs and temperature checks
Madan- doesn’t answer at this time
SA- Suggestion- more agenda items
-go out of room and come back
Continued:
Madan – close for week – voluntarily; will have plan in week;
SA- willing to meet
TM- week to decided to stay open or close
SA- Motion to accept voluntary week long closure, and board to meet next week; Plan in writing;

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5) **Health Quest** – Tabled

6) Meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

Approved: BOH Chair Dr. William Doyle

[Date]

**Disclaimer:**

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