



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BOARD OF HEALTH

PATRICIA L. ANDRADE, M.D.
CRAIG LONGO, M.D.
SARAH MORRIS, M.D.

DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
DAMON O. CHAPLIN

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

APPROVED MINUTES

A public meeting of the Board of Health was held on January 24, 2019 in the Health Department conference room, 1213 Purchase Street, New Bedford.

Present: Patricia Andrade, M.D., Chairperson
Craig Longo, M.D., Member, Excused
Sarah Morris, M.D., Member

Also Present: Damon O. Chaplin, Director of Public Health

CALL TO ORDER

1. Dr. Andrade called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Dr. Andrade called roll with herself and Dr. Sarah Morris. Dr. Andrade called for a motion to accept and place on file the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 20, 2018.

MOTION: by Dr. Andrade to accept and place on file the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 20, 2018. **SECONDED:** Dr. Morris. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIES.**

ACTION

2. 1881 Acushnet Ave., Request for Hearing Re: Request for license Body Art Apprentice; Establishment: North Atlantic Tattoo; Jessica England, Applicant, 63 Durfee St., New Bedford, MA; Andrew Pequita, Owner; Gail Joseph, Sanitarian, Not Present.

No issues regarding the license for body art apprentice at North Atlantic Tattoo.

MOTION: by Dr. Andrade to grant Jessica England an apprentice license for North Atlantic Tattoo at 1881 Acushnet Ave. **SECONDED:** Dr. Morris. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIES.**

3. Tobacco Regulations (MTCP) update)

Mr. Chaplin went over the tobacco regulations regarding TB21. Five of the six cluster members have gone to TB 21. They had meeting on Tuesday with the state and their representatives and they went over the regulations and they gave us a list of four or five other policies that they would like to cluster to adopt but each city and town can adopt at their own pace. Mr. Chaplin would like the board

to consider at a future meeting to limit or put a cap on the number of retail tobacco permits in New Bedford.

*Gail Joseph came into the meeting at this point.

Mr. Chaplin stated the goal is to reduce our overall caps on retailers for Tobacco permits.

The second issue Mr. Chaplin talked about was messaging from the Health Dept. for our youth around Tobacco regarding vaping, he suggested New Bedford Health Dept. says "vaping is smoking" a simple message to put out to the schools.

As far as we are concerned we address vaping as smoking the regulations support that but we do not know if the science supports that.

Dr. Andrade mentioned that part of the statement has to say that vaping is addictive to nicotine.

Also discussed is that it is used to reduce the urge to smoke and that there are different levels in vaping.

Mr. Chaplin stated that it depends on the person – for those who want to quit smoking it's a lesser form of smoking but for those going into this it is a form of recreation smoking.

Dr. Andrade suggested saying that vaping is addictive or dangerous.

The board agrees we should move forward in supporting this. The Board was just not sure of the language in above message. They will discuss it further in the next meeting.

We are in the final stages of hiring someone for the Tobacco Coordinator position servicing the Greater New Bedford Region and also will be handling the marijuana.

4. Review of Marijuana Regulations.

Invitee(s): Damon O. Chaplin, Health Director

Blair S. Bailey, Special Legal Counsel

Mr. Chaplin and Blair Bailey reviewed the differences between what was discussed before and the current draft Mr. Chaplin gave the Board about the marijuana regulations.

Atty. Bailey stated the idea is to have eventually the licensing board as the central location in the city that handles issues related to these establishments. There are three possible issues the issue with the Board of Health, the issue of compliance with the host agreement that they signed with city and the issue with zoning related with special permit that is issued by the planning board.

Dr. Andrade asked what is the Board of Health's responsibility for assuring compliance?

Atty. Bailey stated it is similar to tobacco regulations - under age sales and onsite consumption, etc..

Atty. Bailey said one of the questions that came up is the labeling of the food products. In the draft regulations which could be added in is to require the posting of other warnings either literature or a warning sign but crossing the line would be to add your own label. You would have to supply your own posters. Dr. Andrade asked if the State has completed their regulations and Atty. Bailey replied yes they have.

Atty Bailey stated there is still time to work these regulations out. We are at least 6 months away from anyone opening up in the city.

Mr. Chaplin discussed Odor Control, Emergency Plan and the Health Impact Assessment Plan. Atty. Bailey mentioned that odor control is in the Health Department's area of enforcement. He stated that we can add odor control and emergency plan into the regulations but Health Impact Assessment is part of the HCA so that would not be in the regulations.

Atty. Bailey will go through the concerns brought up at this meeting and respond back to everyone in the next meeting.

5. Damon Annual Performance Evaluation

Mr. Chaplin went over his self evaluation with the board.

Dr. Andrade stated it sounds fine to her.

Dr. Morris asked that Mr. Chaplin elaborate on the bottom section of the self evaluation form.

Mr. Chaplin stated on the existing programs and services looking at what we do and how we can do better - performance management and quality improvement. Accreditation process which we are going through right now - looking at the programs we provide where do we have gaps, everything from customer service to data management and data analysis will be part of that process and will go on for 2 or 3 years but it will get to a process where this is what you should be doing for a community this size and develop strategies.. Some of the strategies will require money and man power and expertise which we currently do not have.

Enhance capacity of the nursing division for a community of 100,000 people we have one FTE which we probably need four nurses/full time. One way is to do a revolving account but division needs to be solvent but in order to do this we would need to increase the number of services our nursing division is doing right now but not sure how to do that at the moment especially if one of our FTE's is not a nurse practitioner but a licensed LPN. This is an area that is stressful at the moment.

Mr. Chaplin also mentioned the lab director has told him she will be leaving in 2 years. He has 18 months to see if we can get someone into lab before then.

DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFING

Mr. Chaplin discussed getting an intern from the nursing program. School based health clinic updates including school vaccines in the schools. Talked about Task Force 10 overdoses in last 10 days four of those have been fatalities and we are still working on the substance abuse issue. National League of Cities is going to join in and help us writing a strategic plan. Budgetary updates revolving accounts, we are asking to get a revolving account for the department.

MOTION: by Dr. Andrade to adjourn the meeting. **SECONDED:** Dr. Morris. All in favor.
MOTION CARRIES.

The next meeting of the Board of Health will be Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Dr. Andrade adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

A true record attest:



Health Department Chairperson

BOH Meeting Minutes Approved 2 / 26 / 19