The regular meeting of the Board of Health was held on Tuesday, October 22, 2019. Carolyn Rogowski-Duarte, Chair; Adrienne DeSantis, Secretary; Michael LaFever, Member; and Andrea Crete, Health Agent were present with Office Assistant Tim Fontaine recording the minutes. The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Ms. Rogowski.

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Board members reviewed the minutes of the October 8, 2019 meeting. Motion made by Mr. LaFever to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Ms. DeSantis. All in favor 3-0. Minutes were signed by Ms. DeSantis.

Payroll schedules and bills were signed by all Board Members.

Cheryl Messer-Lusty, Director of Nurses, came in to speak to the Board about a few items. Ms. Messer was contacted by the Town of Longmeadow Public Health Nurse in regards to holding a CPR class at the First Church of Christ in Longmeadow, MA. The class would be held November 10, 2019 from 12:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. The fee would be $45.00 per person. Ms. DeSantis stated this is a great opportunity to produce revenue for the department. Board Members asked how our pricing compares to other providers in the area. Ms. Messer has researched the other providers and feels that the price is very competitive. Board Members agreed to allow Ms. Messer to conduct the CPR class in Longmeadow.

Ms. Messer informed the Board that the annual flu clinic was held on October 17, 2019 and there were 61 patients seen. The next clinic will be held on October 31, 2019.

Ms. Messer would like to set up a Public Health/Nursing Facebook page. This page would be used to provide the public with valuable information. It would not be an interactive site. Board Members would like some information and feedback from the IT department.

The following Food Establishment Inspection Reports provided by Ms. Crete were reviewed by the Board:

- Poppi's Pizza, 351 West Street
- Original Pizza, Mass Pike Eastbound
- Baird Middle School, 1 Rooney Road
- St. John's School, 217 Hubbard Street
- St. Elizabeth Church, 191 Hubbard Street
- Vet's Park School, 486 Chapin Street
- Oscar's Pizza, 973 East Street
- Taco Bell, 343 Center Street
- Domino's Pizza, 309 Center Street

Ms. Crete did bring attention to Oscar's Pizza. There is a space upstairs that contains commercial cooking equipment. This is not part of Oscar's Pizza. A letter was provided by the owner to explain that Oscar's does not use the upstairs.

Ms. DeSantis and Mr. LaFever attended the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards conference that was recently held in Northampton, MA. Mr. Lafever provided some feedback of the topics discussed. This conference provided a lot of information on maximizing revenue producing and fiscal recovery. Mr. LaFever and Ms. DeSantis would like to look at this departments 2020 goals. Some possible changes would be increasing fees for permits, perc tests and reviews of large Title V systems. The conference provided ideas in how the department could educate other Town Boards along with the community on the services we provide.

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Board Members discussed staff providing showers for patients. Board Members would like research to see if this is a cost-effective practice. Ms. Messer will be asked to do a cost analysis to compare income to what we spend for our nurses. There is concern for some patients that may not be able to afford the service or cannot receive services through public benefits. Board Members would like to reach out to MAHB or other communities to see what services are provided in other departments. Motion made by Ms. DeSantis to table this topic to another meeting in order to do more research on the subject, seconded by Mr. LaFever. All in favor 3-0.

Danielle Saxer, 540 Holyoke Street, came to ask the Board for permission to house five (5) rescue bantam chickens on her property. The chickens would be for eggs and not for meat. Ms. Saxer has obtained permission from her landlord for the chickens. The chickens would be housed in an enclosed coop in the back yard. Motion made by Ms. DeSantis to allow for no more than twelve (12) chickens at 540 Holyoke Street, seconded by Mr. LaFever. All in favor 3-0.

Maja Kazmierczak from the Attorney General's office met with the Board to present the Attorney General's Vacant Abandoned Housing Initiative. This program provides Cities and Towns with resources to help with run down properties. The office helps with demand letters, title searches, inspections, and if needed, the appointment of a receiver to fix the property. There is no cost to the Town. Motion made by Mr. LaFever to join the Abandoned Housing Initiative, seconded by Ms. DeSantis. All in favor 3-0.

The final painting of the office will take place on November 1, 2019. Furniture is due to be moved on November 8, 2019.

Ms. Crete asked the Board about reviewing the daily mail and as to what is needed to be saved within the office. Board Members agreed that not all mail has to be brought to the Boards attention. Ms. Crete would still present pertinent information to the Board.

Motion made by Mr. LaFever to adjourn the meeting with Ms. DeSantis seconding the motion. All in favor 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Rogowski-Duarte
Chair

CRD/tf

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