

**MEETING MINUTES**

September

November 16th, 2022 | 6:00 p.m.

**Call to Order:** Candace Linehan called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**Attendance:** Candace Linehan Chair; Laurel Skinder Gourville, Vice-Chair, Elaine Silva secretary

**Administration Present:** Cindy Luongo, Board of Health Clerk, Anthony Chui, Health Director Melrose and Wakefield, Erin Hull Wakefield/Melrose Senior Environmental Health Specialist,

**Public Engagement:** none

**Approval of minutes of October 19th 2022:** Gourville motions to accept minutes, seconded by Silva motion passed by roll call vote 3 o o.

**Lake Q water quality reporting:** Health Director Anthony Chui reported that at Town Council meeting the night before approved around \$800,000 for cleanup and maintenance, the focus was on surface drainage and preventive measure for contamination. In the past the health department has put up signs around the lake regarding no swimming, algae bloom, and reminders to keep pets out of the Lake. Some discussion was on getting Lake Q up to a swimmable quality. Lake Q is a shallow body of water and has big protentional of contamination and this most likely will not happen. The health department can continue to put out simple public health measures to keep people from going to the Lake. BOH member Gourville suggests we reach out to a member of the FOLQ, communicating with them about events, and activities that are happening around the lake. The BOH has the responsibility to keep people informed of the condition or the lake and collaborate with other entities, the engineering department, WFD, emergency management, FOLQ, the yacht club and Boys and Girls Club and sailing/boat rentals.

**Health Directors Report:** Health Director Anthony Chui gave a recap of the FLU/COVID clinics. Thank the staff, BOH, and all the volunteers. Wakefield has given over 700 doses of flu and covid shots. The new walk-in model has been very successful having those clinics available for residents thru-out the season. Next season we will focus on a few bigger clinics. The Wakefield school nurses vaccinated their staff by giving 173 shots. Gourville suggests writing a note/letter to Doug Lyons the superintendent.

[Reproductive Health Rights statement.](#) Anthony Chui suggests we put it on the Board of Health page and the Health department page. Linehan suggests the Town Council page. Gourville would like a little more time to review the wording. Silva suggests running the statement by the legal department first.

The heat assistant program was passed at the last town council meeting. A press release and rollout of information will go out soon.

Update on Jason Stone's Social Service Coordinator position has been successful very quickly. Jason has been working closely with the food pantry, housing authority, WPD, middle school, and WMGLD. He has been helping residents connect with snap benefits, intake for the food pantry, and helping residents navigate forms/ applications etc, Jason has helped over 40 residents with fuel assistant applications. Jason will give a presentation to the town council about what he has been doing since he started just a few months ago.

Youth Mental health first aid courses have had over 30 people attend the training. Jason Stone and Amy Chiaravalloti Prevention and Wellness coordinator will become trainers for Adult and Youth Mental Health first aid courses.

De-escalating training was successful with many Town of Wakefield staff attending.

The diversion program in the school continues to be very successful.

ESL family night was very successful. Many families were able to get clothing and information on resources that the town offers.

Lily Vernon a public health major at Tufts University will be interning in the Health Department.

Mouton Park Fitness court is complete.

**Grant Updates:**

Winchester Lahey grant is to support our English learner residents and address some of the social determinants of health from the results of the previous assessment, this is also to benefit the food pantry and help children enroll in after-school activities. Should have an update by the next BOH meeting. The Cummings grant works with WAAV and WEF is in progress.

FOLQ Carol Dennison was present at the end of the meeting. She spoke to the BOH, about their participation and how they wrote a letter to TC to get funding on to go towards the Main St project for testing on water quality. The goal of FOLQ is to make Lake Q better over time. Carol is hoping to get communication out, and stay in contact with BOH so that everyone is on the same page.

**Update Regionalization with Stoneham:** Anthony Chui met with the Melrose City council on Monday night and they voted in favor of the agreement and will be meeting with the Stoneham BOH next week.

**Adjournment:** Gourville motioned to adjourn, seconded by Silva 07:28 p.m. Motion passed 3-0-0 by a roll call vote.

Next meeting January 18<sup>th</sup> 6 PM

Respectfully submitted



Cindy Luongo

