



CITY OF BURLINGTON
BOARD OF HEALTH
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BOARD OF HEALTH

Celia Bird APRN, Chairperson, Patrick Payne, BS, AEMT; Jenny Tomczak MPH, Josh Gerry BS EMT, Hannah Cunningham, Ines Castro BA

HEALTH OFFICER

William Ward, Director of Permitting & Inspections

The mission of the Board of Health is to educate the citizens of Burlington and to promote, improve, and protect their health and well-being while contributing toward building a health community and environment in which to live.

AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING OF THE BURLINGTON BOARD OF HEALTH

**In-Person at 645 Pine Street
and Virtual Meeting**

Thursday December 8, 2022 at 6:30pm

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/95384528252?pwd=cndHUXBVeGNPZmlsK091MTdaSXM2dz09>
Passcode: 003851

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Webinar ID: 953 8452 8252
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- 1 Approvals
 - a. Agenda
 - b. November draft minutes
- 2 Public Forum
- 3 Found Syringe - Update
- 4 Eradicating Systemic Racism
- 5 Chair Report
- 6 Emerging Issues
- 7 Public Outreach / Communications
 - a. Front Porch Forum update
- 8 Next Meeting – Currently set as January 12, 2023
- 9 Adjournment

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DRAFT MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF BURLINGTON BOARD OF HEALTH In Person and Virtual Meeting Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Attending: William Ward, Celia Bird, Jenny Tomczak, Pat Payne, Josh Gerry, Ines Castro, Hannah Cunningham, Celeste Crowley

Absent:

Meeting called to order by Chair, Celia Bird, at 6:30 PM

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION TAKEN
1. Approvals: a. Agenda b. Approval of November Minutes	a. December Agenda Add item 5a-Budget Discussion b. November meeting Minutes Correct Chair name from Julie Hathaway to Celia Bird.	Pat motioned to approve with amendment, Josh 2 nd . All in favor. Approved Jenny motioned to approve amended minutes Josh 2 nd . All in Favor. Approved
2. Public Forum	No public attendees	
3. Found Syringe Update	A notable statistic from Ted Miles' interview was that as of December 1, 2022 there were 739 reports of syringes versus the 300 reports in 2021. The question is why such an extreme difference? Is it being reported more or has the crisis escalated?	

	Josh attended the COMSTAT meeting held by the Mayor. He found there is a wide range of representation on the committee. The sense Josh had from the meeting was that the Mayor is looking for policy guidance on the County and State level. Can the Board of Health submit a resolution? Discussion: Why is there minimal or no outrage from people on this issue? Jenny; I don't think people even know about the overdoses and or extend of the opioid crisis. Josh; it is affecting people across all ages. Pat; It is a symptom of a larger issue. There is a task force for opioids but not gun violence. Can the BOH help filter the issues with action items? It seems like a resolution may not be the best option but we should do something to communicate what we see and feel could be ways to bring awareness and resolutions to this crisis.	
4. Eradicating Systemic Racism	Ines has been collecting and organizing information for everyone in the community to understand. This will allow us to take care of our BIPOC community with comprehensive guidelines. Pat mentioned that finding a balance between what the City Council should act on and what the community needs to be aware of. And that it makes sense to integrate awareness for the syringe and opioid crisis as well. Pat said that he was aware of grants through UVM that the Board of Health could help the Board in funding an awareness campaign for sharps and for translating announcements, instructions, and/or general information for our BIPOC community. He will get the grant information to the BOH to review and apply for the grant. Ines talked about she and Pat attending the REIB meetings. There is a new chairperson and health manager, Adam Hersch, who will be joining the department soon. He will be restructuring the department and has an extensive background in collecting and analyzing data.	

	Pat said that they were able to identify a number of community members who play a key role in the REIB/BIPOC community giving a better understanding of the representation and where we can fill in the gap to assist the community. CEDO discussed ways to effectively reach different communities. Pat and Ines were interested in hearing about the services used by CEDO to communicate with the communities that do not speak English or struggle with English as it is their second language. They often use interpreters and translate written materials into various languages. Bridget, a community service officer, is a liason who helps translate. Jillian Scott told us about a bi-monthly newsletter that is specifically used to share information and do outreach to these communities. Pat and Ines would like to have our Front Porch Forum posts translated and published in the newsletter. There is a \$550 per submission to the newsletter. This is another area where the UVM grant would be beneficial. They feel meeting with both CEDO and REIB have been great to build the relationships that will benefit the BOH and our goals for eradication system racism in our communities.	
5. Chair report a. Board of Health Budget	The main topic of the Chair Report was the Board of Health's budget and how to best use it, as well as, how to supplement it. The board was interested in the UVM grant tha Pat mentioned as it would allow us to do more in reaching our BIPOC and non-english speaking community members. The board will put together a list of ways the budget can be used, and will include estimated costs to give a full sense of how much the board needs. Bill will also provide a list of how it was used in the past so the board can solidify a course of action. Hannah commented that using some of the budget for board member education is a great idea. She also mentioned that a scholarship	

	for high school students would be a good way to invest in the upcoming generations' involvement in public health. Celia thanked the members for all of the hard work they have put into the resolutions. It's encouraging that people are looking at what we are doing.	
6. Emerging Issues	Bill would like to discuss Housing Review Appeals in regards to tenant and landlord objections and compliance. Ines would like to discuss reoccurring problems due to lack of after school youth activities.	
7. Public Outreach / Communications a. Front Porch Forum		
8. Next Meeting	January 12, 2023 at 6:30pm	
9. Adjournment	8:34pm	Jerry motioned; Ines 2 nd All in favor