



CITY OF BURLINGTON
BOARD OF HEALTH
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BOARD OF HEALTH

Celia Bird, APRNM; Jennifer Tomczak, Patrick Payne, Hannah Cunningham, Josh Gerry, Ines Castro

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 October 13, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/95828597580?pwd=L0xyNWRQZG50cnlXRDBha3NpblZOZz09>
Passcode: 301492

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- 1 Approvals
 - a. Agenda
 - b. September draft minutes
- 2 Public Forum
- 3 Housing Update – Bill Ward
- 4 Found Syringe
- 5 Gun Violence
- 6 Eradicating Systemic Racism
- 7 Chair Report
- 8 Emerging Issues
- 9 Public Outreach / Communications
 - a. Front Porch Forum update
- 10 Next Meeting – Currently set as November 10, 2022
- 11 Adjournment

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DRAFT MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF BURLINGTON BOARD OF HEALTH In Person and Virtual Meeting Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 6:30 PM

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

Absent: Hannah Cunningham

Meeting called to order by Interim Chair Hathaway at 6:33 PM

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION TAKEN
1. Approvals: a. Agenda b. Approval of June Minutes	a. October Agenda – Item 5 rename to Gun Violence Prevention. b. September meeting Minutes – as written.	Pat motioned, Josh 2 nd . All in favor. Approved Josh motioned, Ines 2 nd . All in Favor. Approved
2. Public Forum	No public attendees	
3. Housing Update – Bill Ward	Last month gave an overview of what constitutes unfit housing and where we stand with unfit rentals. This month the focus is on Housing Inspections. There has been steady progress getting the housing inspections up to date, but we are still struggling to meet our monthly goals. This is due to a variety of circumstances with tenant, landlord, or staff availability. Supply chains have been another reason that it is hard to meet our monthly goals. Landlords order supplies to bring their properties up to par but their supplies are not arriving in a timely manner. We are tolerant	

	of this situation but it does hamper achieving our compliance goals. We have trained additional staff to be certified inspectors. This should help alleviate overwhelming the scheduling for our core staff of inspectors.	
4. Found Syringe	The Board asked Bill to give an update on the Sharps Working Group meeting. The Sharps Working Group is an offshoot of the Mayor's monthly opioid crisis meetings. The group is made up of various department employees who are working together to collect data using a city wide process. This allows for a more true and comprehensive overview of the sharps disposal. One focus is on sharps safety. Making sure there is training for employees who come in contact with found syringes so they can pick them up safely. A few questions from the Board; does the City track how many times employees get stuck, is there a way to be more present in the Working Group meetings, can we capture the data from SeeClickFix. We can follow up with Human Resources to collect employee data regarding how many have been stuck when dealing with syringe disposal. Bill will introduce the Board to the Working Group so we can collaborate and contribute to the discussion and solutions. Bill will work with Pat to get a SeeClickFix report to see how many postings there are regarding syringes and disposal. Now that the Board of Health is aware of and in tune with the Sharps Working Group, we can scale back on creating processes that are already in place with the group. That will free up members to concentrate on solutions to bring to the Working Group meetings and to other entities in the City.	
5. Gun Violence Prevention	Jenny and Celia have collaborated to put together a prevention resolution that the BOH would like to submit to the City Council. The Board has recommended updates to the	

	resolution. Jenny will make the changes and Celia will submit it to City Council for the first then to the subcommittee for collaboration. What are the next steps? Ines; See if we can get data from BPD. Jenny; we may be able to get up to date data from the website. Pat; a potential obstacle is in the access and availability of data, mindful of the inflammatory nature of this issue and trying to get the most up to date data that reflects the effects of gun violence on the community. The Board members motioned to approve the revised Resolution on Gun Violence.	Pat motioned, Ines 2nd. All in Favor
6. Eradicate Systemic Racism	Pat suggested that we refocus on the fact that everything we do or collaborate on should be done with the lens of how the issues and/or resolutions impact the BIPOC community and eradicating racism. How do we use the subgroup to focus on racism in our topics, ie found syringe and prevention of gun violence to build relationships in our communities and interdepartmentally. One way is to continue to work internally to share education and collect data on our own actions. Also, to go forward with more meetings and getting community stakeholders involved with us and our goals. The Heat Related Emergency recommendation is ready to submit to the City Council.	
7. Chair Report	Celia brought up the fact that with so many topics being worked on by the BOH we need a way to track progress. She thought it would be helpful to use emerging issues section in the minutes to track increasing health topics instead of a new document. Everyone agreed that this would be helpful as the number of health topics is increasing.	
8. Emerging Issues 9.	Pat is part of the UVM Council of Sexual Violence. The focus is predominantly on the students and the geographical locations such as bars and other social gathering venues. He	

	would like the Board of Health to offer comments on awareness and education. Students are not comfortable or safe bringing up the issue. Can we offer support links for the students to use to feel safer when reporting or discussing sexual violence.	
10. Public Outreach / Communications a. Front Porch Forum	Josh suggested a Front Porch Forum post on hunting safety as Vermont's Hunting Season is set to begin next month.	
11. Next Meeting	The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 10 at 6:30pm	Meet via Zoom or in person.
12. Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 8:29pm	Jenny motioned, Josh 2 nd .