



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 September 8, 2022 at 6:30
PM**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/97621918640?pwd=SnIXUVZEaUZHYldqTDRlbWN2NWt4Zz09>

Passcode: 337604

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

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Webinar ID: 976 2191 8640

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- 1 Approvals
 - a. Agenda
 - b. July draft minutes
- 2 Public Forum
- 3 Housing Update – Bill Ward (5 minutes)
- 4 Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community – Mariah Flynn
- 5 Syringe Disposal - Discussion
- 6 Eradicating Systemic Racism
- 7 Chair Report
- 8 Emerging Issues
 - a. 2023 Farm Bill pesticide provision
- 9 Public Outreach / Communications
 - a. Front Porch Forum update
- 10 Next Meeting – Currently set as October 13, 2022
- 11 Adjournment

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HEALTH OFFICER

William Ward, Director of Permitting & Inspections

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

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

Absent:

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. September Agenda – Item 4 is time certain. b. July meeting Minutes – motion to approve as amended. Add Ines' name to item 2.	Patrick motioned, Jenny 2 nd . All in favor. Approved Jenny motioned, Ines 2 nd . All in Favor. Approved
2. Public Forum	No public attendees	
3. Housing Update – Bill Ward	Bill discussed the continuing efforts to make sure rental housing inspections are current. The Housing team has been doing a great job getting the rental properties, with overdue inspections, scheduled and into compliance.	
4. Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community – Mariah Flynn	Mariah introduced herself, she is the Coalition Director for the Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community (BPHC). They are an integral part of bringing awareness and solutions to prevent substance abuse among our youth and in our community.	

	She presented her organization's model and ideas to the Board of Health Members. In order to prevent abuse BHPC believes all levels of our community have to be taken into account. Meaning from the individual to relationships, to organizations, the community, and the policies and systems. This ensures that they can target areas with the most needs, gather sufficient data from all levels, to give a clear view of how to prevent substance abuse as well as providing support to those with addictions. The main focus is our youth and adolescents. The statistics show that 40% of those using alcohol before age 15 develop alcohol abuse disorder and 10.7% for marijuana. BPHC works towards prevention by increasing education and public awareness, advocating to improve local policies and regulations, collaboration with different sectors to support prevention strategies (such as the Board of Health), and programs to education youth and families. Some of the reasons substance abuse has become so prevalent, is because it becomes normalized behavior in the community, not knowing and thinking the risk is low, and access to and the promotion of substances in the community. Their strategies for prevention are keeping advertising away from areas where adolescents and youth congregate such as schools, family events, eliminate window ads in neighborhoods stores, and showcase the health risks. The Board of Health would like to continue to learn and be a voice, along with BPHC, to keep our community and children aware of substance abuse and how to prevent it.	
5. Syringe Disposal – Discussion	Josh spoke with Howard Safe Recovery and is waiting for a reply to his request for a meeting to discuss possible solutions to issues surrounding syringe use and disposal.	

	Some of the ideas he would like to discuss are; info graphic handouts that show disposal sites, a sharp swap, survey for suggestions to reduce the number of syringes being discarded. He also visited a number of disposal site, mainly in public bathrooms, to have a better sense of why so many syringes are not being disposed of properly. Suggested moving some of the containers to the outside of the bathrooms of the bathrooms that close during the night. Hannah said that the bathrooms at her high school now have vape detectors and they have already reduced the number of students vaping. Are any of the public schools doing this? BOH: Not that we are aware of but we have worked with school districts to recommend updates to policies. This would be a good topic to bring to the school board to discuss. Bill mentioned that he has met with the Innovation Director of the Sharps Working Group. One of their discussions was the hazard sharps pose for the Parks & Rec employees who change the trash. They discussed special trash bags so the sharps can not poke through and stab anyone handling trash removal from our parks and public areas. Even with staff training of the protocols when stuck, it is still a concern to be aware of. The topic of syringe, prevention, and safety will be an ongoing topic for the Board of Health.	
6. Eradicate Systemic Racism	Pat and Ines met with the Race Equity Inclusion B (REIB) staff to discuss how the Board of Health can assist in their efforts to identify the needs of our BIPOC community. What research, data, and information can we gather and share to ensure our community works together to eradicate racism particularly in regards to housing and mental health. These are the two most prominent deficiencies when it comes to equality in our communities.	

	They will make arrangements to meet with REIB again later in September to discuss and formulate how the Board of Health can step in to assist. Ines has been instrumental in establishing a relationship with REIB so we can unify our goals. She spoke of gun violence being a pressing issue and what action items can be taken to give a better understanding of safety in and for our community.	
7. Chair Report	Celia discussed making sub groups for our action items to help the BOH progress with making changes in our community.	
8. Emerging Issues a. 2023 Farm Bill – Pesticide Prevention	It appears that the local regulations are more specific than the federal. The board feels we need to revisit this at our next meeting. Bill will resend the email for the members to review. Jenny and Celia discussed their work on gun reform. Jenny will send the board members her file for review and discussion at a future meeting. Celia met with some city counselors regarding the Mayor’s interest in changing a few charter items. She and Jenny will send a request to BPD for data surrounding gun violence in Burlington.	
9. Public Outreach / Communications a. Front Porch Forum		
10. Next Meeting	The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 13 at 6:30pm	Meet via Zoom or in person.
11. Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm	Patrick motioned, Jenny 2 nd .