



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 July 14, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82690703657?pwd=MTVGROhCVzFac3VwVzhKMW5jbjYzd09>

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DRAFT MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF BURLINGTON BOARD OF HEALTH In Person and Virtual Meeting Thursday, July 14, 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. July Agenda – move Item 2b to Item 1c, and correct typo on Item 8 b. June meeting Minutes – motion to approve as is. c. Nomination of Boar Chairperson – Pat nominated Celia Bird.	Patrick motioned, Josh 2 nd . All in favor. Approved Jenny motioned, Josh 2 nd . All in Favor. Approved Pat motioned, Jenny 2 nd . All in Favor. Approved
2. Board Member Admin - New Member Introductions	Ines Castro, a new board member, introduced herself; She moved to Burlington last year. The previous six years she was at Mass General doing clinical research and managing childhood obesity. She worked in her community educating families about chronic illnesses as well as childhood obesity, connecting families to resources.	
3. Public Forum	Mariah Flynn, from Burlington Partnership Health, joined the meeting to let the BOH know that she has extensive experience using the Icelandic Prevention Model for substance	

	abuse. She saw our agenda from the June meeting and wanted to work with us as well as offer us assistance with educating our youth and implementing the Icelandic Model. The Board offered to have her speak at an upcoming meeting. She will work with Celia in preparation for presentation.	
4. Pesticide Applications a. BED – Switchyard 111 Intervale Rd	Mike, from Burlington Electric, joined the meeting to give an overview as to the importance of keeping the vegetation in control within the McNeil Switchyard. It is an extremely high voltage area with a ground grid. If vegetation over grows in the switchyard, it puts the employee’s safety at risk. Various other means of eradication have been attempted over the years, but this product is the only one at this time that effectively keeps the ground grid clear of vegetation. Josh motioned to approve the BED pesticide application.	Josh motioned, Pat 2nd. All in Favor. Approved.
5. Neighborhood Rodent and Pest Educational Flyer	The board members reviewed the flyer that Jenny created. The consensus is that the flyer gives residents good information in handling a rodent situation. They also thought it would be helpful to add information about contacting local pest control companies to dispose of any rodents, if a resident is not comfortable doing it themselves. The Humane Society is also a good resource to assist with eradication. At this time, there is a handful of residents experiencing rodents in their neighborhood, yards, and homes. Code Enforcement met with them to discuss the situation and the UVM Health posted information on Front Porch Forum. With that the number of calls coming into the Code Enforcement Division has been reduced. The Board will monitor the situation and take action as necessary.	

6. Eradicating Systemic Racism	There are no new updates at this time. Pat will reach out to the Interim Director in the City's REIB department. He would like to touch base and find out the most pressing needs of the BIPOC communities and how the Board of Health can assist in the education and public health crisis due to racism.	
7. Chair Report	Bill updated the board members on the Short-Term Rental ordinance. It was signed by the Mayor today. The responsibility of accountability shifted from the Zoning Division to the Housing Division. Property Owners wishing to have a short-term rental are required to register with Housing in the same way any long term rental would. Including housing inspections. Zoning will no longer require Zoning Permits to be issued for a change of use to a short-term rental. The other topic Bill discussed is the Electrical Permitting process and fees. There have been a number of items that no longer require an electrical permit. The fees for an Electrical Permit have been increased as they have remained the same for the last 15-20 years. He also sited a situation where a rental unit was declared uninhabitable due to an electrical hazard that may cause serious or immediate risk to life. This work was resolved quickly with the combined efforts of our team. They worked effortlessly together with the tenant and landlord to be sure each party was considered throughout the process. Very proud of the effort our team put forth.	
8. Emerging Issues	Both Josh and Hannah asked to discuss syringes and offer ideas for sharp disposal and preventative measures. Josh: There was a big jump in 2020/21 in syringes being left around the city. Howard Center used to be the response team for picking up syringes when reported by residents and city workers. He would like to know how much increase Howard Center has seen with users asking for assistance. He would like to collect enough data on the opioid crisis to see concrete issues the Board of Health can assist with.	

	Hannah: At Pomeroy Park there are no bathrooms to use for sharp disposal containers. Is there a way to put them on trash cans? Also, is there a way to post a map of disposal locations? Both Josh and Hannah's topics and ideas led to indepth discussions on how we monitor where syringes are being left, how has the use of SeeClickFix expanded in the last year or two, are there more users, are more people using SeeClickFix to report syringe sightings, where are the disposal containers, should we reassess where we put them by redefining the high use locations as they have shifted around the city since inception of disposal boxes, and to talk to the Parks Recreation & Waterfront Department to see what the burden is for them in regards to picking up sharps on a regular basis. These items will be discussed further at future BOH meetings and broken down into specific agenda items.	
9. Public Outreach / Communications a. Front Porch Forum	This months Front Porch Forum post will be focused on heat related illnesses. Pat will provide the context for the post and send it to the staff for publication.	
10. Next Meeting	The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 11 at 6:30pm	Meet via Zoom or in person.
11. Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 8:24pm	Patrick motioned, Jenny 2nd.