

City of Chelsea

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2017
5:00 PM – Public Library

Attendance: Christopher Miller (Chair), Catherine Maas, Dean Xerras and Madeleine Scammell, Emmanuel Tellez. Luis Prado (Agent/HHS), Paula McHatton (public health nurse/HHS),

Meeting called to order by D. Xerras at 5:03pm

Minutes: November minutes approved.

Public Health Nurse Report: Mumps cases still being reported. 53 cases since Feb. (5 cases more since last month with 3 confirmed.) All are Latino (Hondurans or Salvadorans). Paula held her MMR clinic but only three people came. She expressed concern that she is not reaching the population at greatest risk.

It is flu season... but minimal activity in MA and none in Chelsea so far. Paula is actively vaccinating.

One case of Leptospirosis by a resident in a rooming house who is now unconscious. The State Zoonotic Disease lab inquired about rodents in the City. Paula asked ISD for an inspection of the fruit stand out the building.

FDA food initiative standard project: Chelsea received the grant that Mimi presented on in October. Luis will be working with Mimi and ISD this week to begin. Luis will invite Mimi back to discuss the project now that it is funded.

Social Determinants of Health: Luis presented that the 2017 Massachusetts Health Assessment report to reduce health disparities. Luis shared his perspective on the Social Determinants Framework as a useful way to examine and prevent health disparities, particularly in Chelsea. Luis described the major categories of the framework (built environment, housing and housing insecurity, social capital, environment,) and shared ideas re. major indicators that could be considered in Chelsea. He encouraged the conversation among the board.

Boston Hides and Furs: Members of the Board are regularly getting text msgs about violations of the consent order. Luis followed up with several such complaints and was told the truck drivers have been reprimanded for opening the trucks prior to backing into the bays. The reprimands appear to be ineffective because a complaint was received as recently as today at 2:30 PM. Recommendation that residents use the “see click fix app”, it does not require photo storage on the phone and it will go immediately to the City Manager, Chief of Police and Luis Prado. The board agreed to issue a fine for Boston Hides and Furs after having violated the consent order numerous times and having been warned by the city.

Pipeline Letter: Cate raised the question re. the board signing off on a letter to Gov. Baker from the Sierra Club and MAHB which the Board discussed in May. Madeleine requested more information from Sierra Club about the letter on Sept. 9th (i.e., when will it be presented to the Gov. what communities have signed on, what is the larger campaign). She received no response. Cate spoke with Sierra Club representative today who said 51 communities have signed on. Cate will follow up and invite a rep to a mtg.

Next mtgs: Jan. 16, & Feb. 6, 5:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Madeleine Scammell