



# Town of Danvers Board of Health

1 Sylvan Street, Danvers, Massachusetts 01923  
p: (978) 777-0001 x. 3022 | f: (978) 762-0215

[www.danversma.gov/departments/health-department/](http://www.danversma.gov/departments/health-department/)

Dr. Thomas McLaughlin, MD  
Dutrochet Djoko, PharmD  
Sheila Laffy

## Meeting Minutes of May 4, 2023

All members of the Board were in attendance and staff members Judith Ryan, Public Health Nurse; Frank Giacalone, Director of Public Health, Breanna Livingstone, Health Sanitarian/Inspector and Alicia Linehan, Clerk.

### 1. ADMINISTRATIVE

- 1.1 Notice of the meeting as posted by the Town Clerk.
- 1.2 Minutes from April 6, 2023, were approved as written.

### 2. NEW BUSINESS

#### 2.1 Styrofoam Ban

Bob Gamer and Linda Leonard requested to be on the agenda to request a polystyrene ban letter of support to submit to the Select Board. They provided the Board with ordinance handouts from Salem will go into effect this October & Marblehead enacted in 2014. Leonard spoke to Andy Varela, Salem City Council, who is willing to discuss the topic with Danvers Board of Health and the Select Board. He mentioned that the cost increase is negligible. The cost is .10 increase to get compostable packing rather than polystyrene. There are 47 towns around us who have already enacted bans. Varela is also working with Beverly to enact the ban. The Board would like to review these handouts before making any decisions on the polystyrene ban.

The Board agrees that polystyrene is bad for the environment but is concerned that the alternatives are not as damaging or worse for the environment. They would like to research and review the handouts and how this would be enforced.

The ban would be for anyone who packages food in polystyrene, such as restaurants and grocery stores. The ban would exclude polystyrene that is packed within the establishment.

The Board would like to speak to food establishments and ask how this ban would affect their establishments. Also want to be sure that there will be buy into this ban.

Giacalone will speak to Varela, Salem, and find out the details of this ban.

### 3. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Infectious Diseases  
Hepatitis B – 1 case



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Campylobacteriosis – 1 case

Lyme Disease– 5 cases, not unusual to see an increase this time of the year.

Norovirus – Ryan reaching out to one of the communities to be sure they are reporting cases.

Influenza – 1, B case (child)

Tuberculosis – 1 confirmed, 1 suspected.

Coronavirus – 24 cases, down from 107 last month.

Ryan attended a recent conference that featured speaker Chery Sbarra J.D., MA Executive Director of the MA Association of Health Boards who offers legal education. She raised the topic of enacting laws and how much of a leeway Boards of Health have. She suggested that when Boards are making these laws, who is going to uphold and enforce them, and think about a long-term plan.

Dr. McLaughlin told the Board that there is a big increase in invasive strep throat cases. Ryan stated that the nurses in other communities have already seen the increase, so only a matter of time before Danvers experiences this. Sometimes the symptoms are just a cough and runny nose.

Nurse Ryan's community involvement:

- Lead a bite lab, education session about ticks and mosquitos, last Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Healthy Kids event. Reaching out to the schools to see if she can discuss with students. Will be conducting one on May 16<sup>th</sup> for the Danvers YMCA.
- Delivered a Narcan and Fentanyl presentation at the library.
- The Danvers YMCA received a grant, Bureau Substance Addiction Services Grant, and scheduled presenters but all were denied because the guidelines for this grant are so strict.
- Working with one of the high school teachers on putting a program together for the student in the Fall on substance use.
- Someone from Danvers High School reached out to Ryan, requesting some assistance with addiction education.
- Diaper drive was very successful. Brightview, Assisted Living, requested to participate in the event. Ryan will send the diapers and wipes collected locally to the Food Pantry. There were 12 communities that participated, the two biggest collections were the Danvers YMCA and the Peabody Institute Library. Ryan will send out thank you articles through social media/newspaper to all communities that participated.



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- Still collecting community information for the North Shore Mother visits. Reached out to the library for book donations. Will be gathering birth certificates from the Town Clerk, sending out postcards with informative for these mothers.
- Still working on the details of the Covid clinic volunteers' gratitude event on May 23, 2023.
- Lots of Covid Test Kits with a May expiration date are available. Waiting for a response on whether these expiration dates will be extended. Ryan also has kits with a November expiration date. Individuals are being encouraged to enter results of their home test kits on a website.
- The Town conducted a Health Fair at Danvers High School today. Ryan provided a table of resources for mental health, substance use, ticks/mosquitos, inhalants, vaping, etc.

#### 4. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Breanna Livingstone provided an update:

- It is pool permitting season and a lot of the applicants are not fully completing the application. In the process of collecting essential data, such as disposal process for wastewater. The plan is to have them open for Memorial Day.
- New establishment – Clean Eats on Andover Street
- Dunkin Donuts at 153 Endicott Street is being remodeled.
- Crunch Gym is opening with a tanning salon which will require a public health permit.
- Modern butcher is open with some restrictions. Still waiting for their updated hazard plans because they are going to be offering charcuterie boards and smoked sausages.
- Rivers to Roads, tattoo establishment, moved to a new location.
- Glen Magna was holding functions without being handicap accessible. Received a complaint from an attendee and when Inspectional Services conducted an inspection, the inspector found out they were cooking under a tent on grass. Public Health is working with them on solutions to assist in getting them open quickly. They ordered an outside cooking trailer; food will be served under the tent.



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### 5. HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

The Body Art Regulations with edits were distributed to the Board.

- One of the major changes is a body art practitioner's applicant's age would change from 21 to 20 years of age.
- Requires a minimum of a high school diploma or 10 years' experience.
- The school curriculum has changed because probably 7 out of the 10 courses aren't necessary.
- The apprentice hours will be documented for the 2-year apprenticeship program. It was suggested that if the apprentice is not ready, the regulations should include language for a minimum of 2 years, but months could be added.
- Maybe consider adding continuing education too.
- The new regulation requires the establishments to be an open concept but must have one room in case someone wants privacy.

### 6. GENERAL BOARED OF HEALTH DISCUSSION

The Covid mandate will be lifted next week, no masks and covid shot mandates will be gone.

The Public Health budget was submitted, no major cuts.

Lally informed the Board that there is a horse tranquilizer, xylazine, that is being used in the drug supply. Dangerous because it doesn't react to Narcan and eats human flesh.

With no further business at hand, the Board adjourned at 7:45pm

Respectfully submitted for your approval,

Frank Giacalone  
Director of Public Health