

**WESTON BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Meeting Minutes for**  
**Wednesday, September 13, 2023**  
**11:31 AM – 12:43 PM**  
**Zoom Meeting**

Present: Laura Azzam – Chair  
Dr. Jennifer Kickham – Member  
Diana Chaplin – Member  
Kelly Pawluczzonek, RS, MS - Public Health Director  
Beth Ann Boles, RS – Health Agent  
Michelle Hubbard – Administrative Assistant, Meeting Minutes

I. Residents’ Concerns

Meeting called to order by Laura Azzam at 11:31 AM.

No resident concerns unrelated to agenda items.

II. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Jennifer Kickham made a motion to approve the minutes from May 10 and July 12, 2023. Diana Chaplin seconds. All in favor, the motion is carried.

III. Director’s Monthly Review/Update – Kelly Pawluczzonek RS, MS

- 51 Loring Lane - Animal Permit – All information has been submitted to Town Council so that they can draft the paperwork to receive a court order to remove the goats from the property. Animal Control Officer Karen O’Reilly received a complaint about the chickens being on neighboring properties. If she receives another one, she will remove the chickens from the property. No fines have been paid by the owner.
- 740 Boston Post Road – Do Not Reoccupy Order – There is currently no one living at this property. The owner submitted a demolition application for the bathrooms which has just been approved due to asbestos being found in the tile. The asbestos has been removed and they will be renovating the bathrooms.
- Community Compact Grant in the area of Age and Dementia Friendly Best Practices – Kelly is working with Michele Schuckel, Joan Ingersoll, and a representative from the library on a Community Compact Grant. We are specifically reaching out on the grant for the age and dementia friendly best practices. The COA wants to create a memory café. They are looking to do programs that address the social detriment of health, facilitate connections and engagement, promote intergenerational engagement, improve mobility,

facilitate technological access, develop digital literacy, support older workers, job seekers, and volunteers. We are looking to launch a memory café for people with memory changes and their caregivers. Kelly has a meeting next Wednesday at the library to discuss further. The projected annual cost is around \$5000, but to offer some of the additional programming, we will probably ask for a little bit more money. We have the support from Town Manager, Leon Gaumond.

- West Nile/EEE – There are 3 human cases for West Nile Virus and 0 human cases for EEE in Massachusetts. Our department used money from our 53E account to purchase bug spray for fire, police, DPW, as well as the inspectors in the building department and conservation.

- Contact Tracing Grant-Upcoming Projects – There is approximately \$485,000 to spend with this grant that ends in 2024. There was a vote between the seven towns to put out an RFP to hire a consultant to look at equity needs in each town. This was going to be the brunt of the cost, however, there has been a change and we will be getting a new proposal this Friday. A food consultant will be hired. The plan for this is to have the food consultant train and have ServSafe or some sort of Certified Food Manager Programs for churches. A lot of churches aren't certified in this but always want to do a little bit more.

For the last couple of years, Carlisle has had a program where you can send ticks at no charge to the individual and have the tick tested to see if it is carrying any diseases. We believe we will have the money to test 80 ticks out of Weston.

We are going to work with the Middle School and Garden Club out of the middle school regarding mental health and the Yellow Tulip Project. It works by buying tulip bulbs and anyone who wants to show will plant about 500, and when spring comes, you have a speaker series by the garden.

- Public Health Excellence Grant- Upcoming Projects – The state modified this grant for everyone to focus only on their mandated responsibilities. We were using the Public Health Excellence Grant to fund Hidden in Plain Sight. We are trying to identify needs for housing in each community whether it is inspections, health equity, line of work, etc. All of the communities besides Carlisle, Lincoln, and Weston are in a Tobacco Coalition, so we are trying to get into one of those. We are working with Framingham to see if we can get that done. Being in a coalition would allow us to have someone come in and do our inspections and update our regulations. As far as nursing, it would help to maintain support for MAVEN, keep up with flu and COVID vaccinations, and provide no-cost Narcan training. The region has been approved to become a Narcan distribution site. Narcan can now be purchased at pharmacies for \$54.99. The Town of Weston can become a distribution site and offer Narcan for free. Kelly has received positive feedback from police, fire, and the school Health Director. We can offer it from the Board of Health window, and Police Chief Linehan has offered to hold it at the police station. The regional nurses are creating Narcan bags which would include the Narcan, a face shield, the instructions, a handout for parents, and Great Meadows substance use resource cards. We would receive 50 bags to hand out. All of the Board members approve of distributing Narcan in Weston.

Kelly has a regional meeting on Friday and will get an update then. Michele has resources on how to use it, as well as extra paperwork to hand out.

We will be using some of these funds to hire another health inspector. They will hopefully be able to help out with some of the Innovative Alternative Technology systems that are in the ground for septic purposes.

- WERC/Metrowest MRC- Preparedness Month – The current focus is older adults. Kelly sat down with Joan at the COA and they discussed a good schedule to get information out. This includes information and guidance on isolation/loneliness in older adults, scams, and falls. There will also be someone on preparedness in general for everyone.
- Flu Clinics – Kelly is getting commitment from some of the nurses regarding which clinics they can work. The system we use to make appointments, Color, is now allowing us to offer private appointments. The school department would like us to sit at the schools and vaccinate teachers and employees and this would allow us to do so. The Rivers School is looking for us to host a flu clinic for their employees, but we have not heard back from them.
- Relationship with Weston Media – WERC and Board of health sat down with Weston Media and conversation was had about them posting information to the public for us. It was discussed that WERC may be able to put together a 15-20 minute video on how to prepare for an emergency (how to do it at home, get in your car, and if you are at a shelter). Weston Media typically uses 1-2 minute blurbs in between segments on their channel. We are also looking into doing a mental health segment with the schools.
- Planning Board By-Law – The Planning Board is working with the Housing Trust on a by-law right for the allowance of accessory apartments. The proposed allowance would be limited to structures in existence for eight years. Kelly spoke with Imai to see if anything would change in the Board of Health. For us, there will not be many changes and our review process will stay the same. A discussion was had on how this may affect existing septic systems on the property.

We got a quote regarding getting the Board of Health on the online permitting system, and it will cost \$15,000 to get us started in the first year. We are working with Town Manager Leon Gaumond about having it discussed at Town Meeting in November.

We got notified on Monday that all vaccine we have for COVID can no longer be used. They are coming out with a new vaccine that will be tailored to the new variants. We were waiting on ACIP approval and they had their meeting yesterday. We will order in the next week or two depending on cost, if it is an option for us to do this. We are out of COVID test kits.

Kelly sat in on a call regarding a grant called MA in Motion. This grant will be awarding up to \$18,000 to four communities. This grant would allow the town to be more inclusive and accessible to everyone. Kelly is going to talk to

Conservation and how this money could possibly be used in town. We are just collecting information on this right now.

IV. Public Health Nurse Update – Michele Fronk Schuckel, MBA, BSN, RN

Was not discussed.

V. Next Meeting Date

November 1, 2023 at 10:30 AM via Zoom.

VI. Adjourn

Dr. Jennifer Kickham made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Diana Chaplin seconds. Laura Azzam adjourned the meeting at 12:43 PM.