

Sudbury Board of Health Virtual Meeting

May 2, 2023

Attendees: Carol Bradford- Chair, Linda Huet-Clayton – Member, Susan Sama – Member, Vivian Zeng – Health Director, Patricia Moran – PH Nurse, Bethany Hadvab – Social Worker, Beth Porter – Admin.

4:00 PM - Meeting called to order

Public Comment: None

The Board welcomed Vivian Zeng to the new position of Sudbury Health Director.

Bethany Hadvab Social Worker Update:

New Full Time Social Worker: Kristine Crean has been hired as a full time Associate Social Worker. She will start her position on June 5th. Kristine was a SW intern in the Health Department prior to being hired.

Gift Cards to be Purchased with a \$30,000.00 Grant that was just approved. The gift cards will go to residents in need of food, gas and staples. EBT card services and amounts have been cut back. This impacts many residents in Sudbury causing food insecurity.

Sharing Services with residents: Bethany and her interns are working on improving how to provide residents with services that are available to the public.

Housing Insecurity: 15 hours was devoted to helping a family from being evicted. Housing shortages have increased substantially create housing insecurity.

Patty Moran – Public Health Nurse Update:

COVID/Infectious Diseases: Last month there were 13 positive cases of COVID reported. The total for 2023 is 111 cases in Sudbury. There were 3 Suspect Food Borne Illnesses and 1 confirmed. No Tick-borne illnesses were reported last month. The Health Department strongly urges residents to take precautions when outdoors in order to mitigate infection from mosquitos and ticks.

Blood Pressure Clinics: Patty has been training Cynthia Duggan (part time nurse) to conduct Blood Pressure Clinics at the Senior Center and The Coolidge.

Camps: Applications have been steadily coming in. There are currently 12 camps in total. Three of the camps are new camps. Most camps open in late June and early July. Cynthia Duggan will be trained and will assist with inspecting camps.

Great Meadows PHE Grant Mental Health Initiative: Great Meadows has created a webpage devoted to Mental Health resources, such as, MH First Aid, Self-Care, Substance Abuse, Digital Wellness, Scheduled Stress Management. This initiative will be funded thru April of 2024.

Vivian Zeng Sudbury Public Health Director Update:

Thanked the Health Team: Vivian thanked the Health Team for keeping the Health Department afloat in the absence of a key team member. She particularly thanked Patty Moran who took on the role as Interim Health Director for 4 months.

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Vivian Zeng Sudbury Public Health Director Update Cont.:

Septics: 3 Major projects are near completion. Sudbury Crossing, Cold Brook Crossing and the Sudbury Community Center are in the process of wrapping things up.

State Housing Codes Updates: The state will be releasing updated housing Codes. A major area in the code changes that will most impact Health Departments will be Mold. Mold will be redefined along with regulations.

Opioid Funding: Vivian will start investigating on how to best use the funding. She would like to partner with the Schools, Police, Fire and Social Workers.

Great Meadows PHE Grant Update: Has posted a position to hire a part time Communications Specialist. This position will help with branding and exposure to the public.

Digitizing Health Records: Vivian will meet with IT and an outside vendor (Meta Data) to come up with a viable plan for digitizing Health Department septic files. The scope of the project is huge and will require coordination.

Patty Moran – Public Health Nurse is retiring on June 30th. The Health Department will retain Patty on a part time basis until a full-time replacement has been hired. The Board expressed deep appreciation for everything Patty has done while in the role of Public Health Nurse and as interim Health Director. Patty brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to this position. She will be missed.

Body Art: Many businesses have been inquiring about opening in Sudbury. Most establishments are focused on permanent make up. Vivian has completed a first draft of Body Art Regulations. She wants the regulations to be cohesive and easy to follow and implement. New Businesses will need to comply. Established businesses will be granted a grace period to achieve compliance. There will be pre-opening inspections, annual inspections and compliance inspections. Spaces that are being considered for Body Art must be retrofitted (if possible) to accommodate state and Sudbury regulations. Some challenges include reviewing practitioner experience from various backgrounds, including internationally trained practitioners. Updating the Fee Schedule for Body Art Fees. Proposed Fees would include \$600.00 for establishments, \$600.00 per Practitioner, \$300.00 per practitioner assistant and \$200.00 for Plan Review.

Body Art Concerns: Susan Sama pointed out that dyes used in Body Art, although under the jurisdiction of the FDA, are not regulated by the FDA. Many of the brighter colors and saturated pigments can contain carcinogens. Susan fears that the general public assumes that these inks are safe. Prior to the year 2000, Body art in Massachusetts was banned due to a Hep B outbreak in NYC stemming from body art shops in Coney Island. This was later challenged in court and the Court ruled against the prohibition of body art, citing freedom of expression. In 2000 Massachusetts reinstated Body Art with model state regulations. Susan Sama also expressed wanting local regulations going through Town Counsel approval prior to voting on local Body Art regulations. Vivian will contact Legal and send first draft for approval (along with other insights) and report back to the Board. Linda Huet-clayton inquired about the sterilization process. Vivian and Patty assured Linda that the industry has largely shifted to one-time single use, disposable medical supplies for the procedures. Vivian has offered to bring the Board members to a Body Art Establishment once the regulations are in place.

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VOTE: Susan Sama motioned to Approve updating Fee Schedule to include Body Art Permitting. Carol Bradford seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

VOTE Linda Huet-Clayton motioned to approve minutes from March 3, March 14 and April 11, 2023. Susan Sama seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Next Virtual Meeting to be held Tuesday, June 13th 2023 at 4:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 5:17 PM