

DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING  
SHARON BOARD OF HEALTH  
January 28th, 2013  
Community Center

The meeting of the Sharon Board of Health was called to order at 7:35 PM by Suzi Peck, Chair. In attendance were: Suzi Peck, Chair, Stan Rosen and Ed Welch.

Also in attendance were Bridget Sweet, Health Administrator, Jim Andrews Health Agent for Engineering. Dr. Lester Hartman and Carole King.

Minutes of the January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed. Third paragraph on the bottom needs to be addressed, accidentally added Jay Schwab who was not present at the meeting. Omit Jay Schwab from the minutes.

E. Welch made the motion to approve the minutes as revised, seconded by S. Rosen. All voted in favor. (3-0)

**Discussion of Reports**

The Board of Health submission proposal for the Town Report was reviewed and the Board asked a question regarding the Engineering Aspect of the report. Jim Andrews stated that this is typically done separately. Through discussion minor changes to the report were added; including the specific mention of formaldehyde and revising the vaccination verbiage surrounding available immunizations. Discussion surrounding adding the graphs for beach sampling; the Board decided not to add the graphs at this time.

Discussion regarding how proactive the Health Department has been in providing flu vaccines; and that the department was able to vaccinate approximately 10% of the population. S. Rosen made the motion to accept the Annual Town Report with the minor changes suggested, E. Welch seconded. All in favor (3-0).

**Budget Review**

The preliminary budget was provided to the Board of Health for review. At this time there was some information missing in 2012, and more language from MAHB was added for supporting documents. The salaries budget in 2014 is slightly higher than 2013 budget, however the total budget is less than the 2013 budget. There is a reduction in longevity, an increase in earned time and the inspectional services has been omitted completely allowing the budget to be less than the 2014 budget. Discussion regarding Administrative Assistant salary and how it will be paid in the future, out of revolving accounts or out of the budget. Discussion on when the meeting with FINCOM would occur, and what the instructions were from FINCOM regarding the proposed budget.

**Public Information Meeting regarding Tobacco Regulation**

The Board is proposing to raise the purchasing age to 21 years of age for tobacco products as well as banning smoking in private clubs. The purpose of this meeting is to receive public comment on these issues – if the Board should move to a gradual increase

from 18 to 21 and if there should be an identification of all individuals to purchase tobacco or just those under the age of 27.

There was one individual for observation only, to determine how the outcome would affect the Spring Valley Country club; Carole King. It was discussed that the outcome of this regulation would have no effect at Spring Valley, since smoking is currently prohibited. No comments were made regarding the proposed changes in the regulations.

Dr. Lester Hartman commented on the gradual increase in purchasing age from 18-21. The majority of towns who increased gradually did so to prevent a burden on the potential revenue, as well as the concerns of a 20 year old smoker who can no longer purchase tobacco. Dr. Hartman is not empathic to that; and feels that the increase to 21 in a fell swoop is the best way to approach the regulation. 53,000 people die a year from second hand smoke and this is a good way to reduce those numbers. Marketing is targeted and is attractive to people under 18. Dr. Hartman feels that by increasing to 21 in one step there is a potential to decrease the risks of teenagers becoming life long smokers.

A hearing will be held on February 25<sup>th</sup> in the Community Center prior to the vote being taken.

Brief discussion regarding comparison of Board of Health fees to other local towns. This was at the request of the Finance Director. This was requested of all departments by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Bridget Sweet