



City of Rochester, New Hampshire

Board of Health

MINUTES OF THE ROCHESTER BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING HELD ON October 11th at 4:30pm

The Chair, Thomas Moon called the meeting to order at 4:43 p.m. in the Annex conference rooms located at 33 Wakefield St. Rochester, NH.

Roll Call: Silent Roll Call was taken.

Members Present

Thomas Moon- Chair
Toni McLellan-
Dr. Archana Bhargava
Jim Grant
Jackie Fitzpatrick

Members Excused

Also present:

Jessica Chavez, Secretary for Building and Licensing Services
Bob Veno, Health Inspector for Building and Licensing Services
Katie Ambrose, City Manager

These minutes are the legal record of the meeting and are in the format of an overview of the Board of Health meeting. It is neither intended nor is it represented that this is a full transcription.

Approval of Minutes:

The Board reviewed the minutes of the June 20th, 2023, meeting and approved unanimously.

New Business:

Chair Dr. Moon asked for an update on the request for City badges. Ms. Chavez provided an update she received from HR.

Ms. McLellan shared that she reached out to the City Attorney with the draft ordinance. The feedback he shared was positive, and supportive. It was suggested by Mr. Veno that the City Attorney attend the next meeting.

Dr. Bhargava arrived at 4:47pm

Members discussed finalizing letter to the City Manager. The board is recommending that all city council and school board members attend an education session on Lead Paint. Members discussed a timeline for the education session. The members agreed to wait until after the election and inauguration of council and school board members.

Mr. Veno will reach out to Beverly Drouin and Gail Gettens from DHHS to see if they are available to present during the February 20th council meeting. The presentation is approximately 45mins long.

Mr. Veno informed the group that he has signed up for a Dust Sampling Technician Certification class.

Ms. McLellan started the conversation on ways to inform the public of the hazards of lead paint. The members had a discussion on ways to share information effectively. Dr. Bhargava suggests we create a "topic of the season" on the City of Rochester Board of Health website. Board members will be sending Ms. Chavez links to add on the city's website. Dr. Bhargava suggested that we use the electronic message board at the entrance to the city hall parking lot. Ms. Chavez will reach out to Public Information & Community Engagement Manager Matt Wyatt on the process.

Ms. McLellan suggested we change the layout to the City's website to have the Board of Health page easily found and accessible and to rebrand Building and Licensing Services to include Health Department in the title.

Other Business:

Ms. Ambrose started a conversation on the APRA funding that is currently being set aside for Lead Hazard/Mitigation Program. The finance committee is waiting for the Board of Health to provide a presentation and a detailed use of the funds. The board decided to do the presentation to the Finance Committee during their March 12th, 2024, meeting with the full vote during the City Council meeting April 2nd.

Mr. Veno suggested that the Board of Health look into adding radon and arsenic to the required testing of well water on new construction homes. The board talked about the health issues related to ingesting arsenic and radon. They discussed the current well testing requirements which only test for total coliform bacteria and e-coli bacteria.

Mr. Grant mentioned inviting Ian Rohrbacher from DPW to have a discussion on the city's water infrastructure.

Chair Dr. Moon makes a motion that all new construction homes on a well will include radon and arsenic in their well test. Dr. Bhargava seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Chavez will bring this information back to the Building and Licensing Department to update the permit application.

Adjournment:

Dr. Moon motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:16pm, Ms. McLellan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Chavez

Jessica Chavez
Secretary for Building and Licensing Services