Longmeadow Board of Health
Minutes of Meeting
Wednesday, June 26, 2019, Longmeadow Community House -7:00P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Dr. Robert Rappaport, Chair, and BOH members present were Dr. Robert Baevsky, Dr. Barry Izenstein, Maripat Toye, MS, RN and Dr. Richard Steingart. Beverly Hirschhorn, CHO, Longmeadow, Health Director, was also in attendance.

I. Public Comment Period-No community members were present to comment on any items.
II. Approval of the meeting minutes from April 8, 2019, was unanimous with no corrections.
III. New Business

1. Discussion to grant a variance to POSTO Restaurant in regard to two regulations: (A) Longmeadow BOH Grease Regulation: a variance to be exempt from the requirement to install in-ground grease separator and substitute alternative system used by prior restaurant on the same site with similar menu and (B) Federal and State Food Code (FC6-202.15 “Outer Openings, Protected”): Variance to be exempt from the requirement to install windows, screening or physical or electronic air curtains (effective for flying insects only) for open wall from non-enclosed outdoor patio into interior of the restaurant for the purpose of protecting against the entry of insects or rodents. Unanimous vote to approve the variance for the Grease Regulations for POSTO Restaurant. The BOH approved the “Outer Openings, Protected” variance for POSTO Restaurant by a unanimous vote with the stipulation that an inspection will be conducted to re-evaluate and assess the area within a three month period.

2. The BOH discussed the restatement that a new category of food service license has been designated for retail food establishments that sell non-time/temperature-controlled (non-perishable) foods. This local regulation is more stringent than the Federal Code but allows for enforcement in regard to CBD-containing food products. CBD cannot be in food products- CBD oils and products can be sold but can make no mention of any improving or helping health in any way. Unanimous vote to include this new category of non-time/temperature-controlled (non-perishable) foods that allows for enforcement in regard to CBD-containing food products. The CHO gave the BOH an update to the many new Food Code changes for the state of MA. The CHO has a plan to develop and present an educational in-service to all Longmeadow food vendor business’ to update them on new recommendations and requirements regarding food safety, food borne illness’, sanitation and new codes. All will be expected to attend or have representatives from their business in attendance. The unanimous BOH vote was to request mandatory attendance of at least one representative from each food/vendor business/restaurants or any food handler facilities in town to attend the session.

3. The BOH discussed the request to give a recommendation to the Longmeadow Select board to consider moving ahead with an Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) with the Town of East Longmeadow in regard to shared public health services. After members raised questions and concerns about the proposal, the Longmeadow BOH will defer this vote until more information and a more complete version of the IMA is available. Members of the BOH agreed to attend the Longmeadow Select board meeting on July 1, 2019 in which this item is on the Select board agenda.

4. The BOH discussed the issues concerning contaminant levels of combined chlorine in the water supplied to Longmeadow by the City of Springfield. The BOH unanimously
voted to recommend that the Longmeadow Select board work with the Town of E. Longmeadow regarding this and with the stipulation that the Longmeadow BOH is notified concurrently at the same time when the Select board is given any updates and information regarding the timetables for capital and maintenance projects to prevent exceedances of the maximum contaminant level of combined chlorine products in the water supplied to Longmeadow from the City of Springfield.

5. The BOH discussed the October 23, 2019 order to vacate and order condemnation of a resident home in Longmeadow. The recent inspection of the home has verified that all violations cited in the orders have been fully abated. The BOH voted unanimously to revoke the order to vacate and order of condemnation.

6. A resident called the Longmeadow BOH office to report that a home has violated the Bee Regulation in regards to the limit in the regulation in relation to the number of bee hives/houses that may be added at one location. The CHO will investigate the issue.

7. The proposed new business at the Longmeadow Shops named a “Spa” has not progressed since the last BOH discussion in April. The owner had been referred to the MDPH Division of Health Care Facility licensure and certification unit for direction. At issue is the possible MDPH to require a license as a clinic by the MA. Dept. of Public Health in accordance with Mass. General Laws Chapter 111, Sec 51 and subject to MA. 105 CMR 140.00 Licensure of Clinics. There has been no update to this facility or business to date.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Maripat Toye, MS, RN
Longmeadow Board of Health