

MINUTES LONGMEADOW BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Monday, January 30, 2006, 7:30 P.M. Longmeadow Fire Station Community Rm

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Dr. Robert Rappaport, Chair.
BOH members present were Maripat Toye, RN, Dr. Barry Izenstein, and Dr. Michael Coppola. Beverly Hirschhorn, CHO, Longmeadow Health Director, was also present.
Dr. Richard Steingart was excused.

- I. Public comment was taken at the beginning of this meeting.
Eleanor Stolar, Longmeadow resident, spoke on her concerns about the fluoride in the town water. Ms. Stolar stated she had new information regarding a town that took Fluoride out of their water and references to another town considering removing it. She was asked to provide the specific references to these situations, so the BOH could investigate these comments.
George Kroll, Longmeadow resident, described himself as a chemist who requests that the BOH read the information he will provide to the BOH in the near future. He states he has read many articles on Fluoridation and he is not in favor of "systemic fluoridation."
BOH members would like to see the peer reviewed evidenced based clinical research that shows documentation of harm from fluoridation from the residents who site research exists.
- II. The minutes of the regular Board of Health meeting of November 14, 2005, and the Emergency Meeting and Executive Session of Dec. 12, 2005 were unanimously accepted and approved without amendment.
- III. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn for a brief Executive Session to discuss medical issues regarding elders whose residence has serious violations of the Housing Code
- IV. Old Business-CHO Updates and Reports:
Repair of Septic System-74 Dunn Road.-BOH recommends sending a letter to the owner to respond to the BOH with a follow up letter and plan of action for the septic system upgrade. The BOH will give 7 day notice for this owner to respond.
- V. New Business
 - A. Infectious Disease Report: A latent case of TB exposure noted from individual applying for position in the school. The BOH has recommended the person be seen in DPH TB clinic for evaluation and follow up. A letter to this effect was served to the individual. An appt. at the TB clinic was expedited by Beverly.
 - B. Multiple cases of Pertussis noted in Baypath College students. Forty students received prophylactic treatment
 - C. A child was given notice of exclusion from grade school due to lack of previous immunization for varicella (chicken pox). Parents requested religious exemption from the schedule of vaccinations required by state regulation for school attendance. The child will be excluded from school during each and every incubation period following a chicken pox exposure, per DPH guideline
 - D. The BOH discussed consideration of the approval of BOH members as "agents" of the board for enforcement purposes should the CHO is unavailable. The BOH unanimously approved the assignment of members of the Longmeadow BOH as BOH agents for the town for the purposes of enforcement in the event that the CHO is not available.
 - E. Application to operate a massage establishment has been submitted by Mary Demers, R.N., in an office suite at 734 Bliss Road. Mary is a licensed RN in MA. and holds a Longmeadow BOH license as a massage operator. She has experience working at two establishments licensed by the BOH. The BOH approved the application to operate a massage establishment at 734 Bliss Road in Longmeadow.

- F. A request by Mary Demers, RN, for a variance in the standards of the facility at 734 Bliss Road due to the lack of a hand washing sink in the office suite, was discussed at length by the BOH members. There are public restrooms in the hallway with hot and cold running water which she has access to at all times for hand washing between patients. Mary proposes also using an alcohol based hand cleaner immediately prior to beginning her work with each client. MDPH Epidemiology Division gave the opinion that “alcohol based products are an effective germicide in preventing the transmission of most organisms that can cause skin infections; alcohol-based products, however, are not effective in removing dirt.” Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter III, Section 31 and Chapter 140, Section 51,52 and 53 of the General Laws (Tercentenary Edition), and section 7-Standards for Establishments and Schools of Massage 7.1.5.1 “An adequate supply of hot and cold running water must be available constantly during hours of operation,” and 7.1.5.3. “Every practitioner of massage shall thoroughly cleanse his or her hands by washing immediately before serving any patron.”

Reviewing these rules and regulations pertaining to Massage establishments, the BOH voted in favor of “a variance allowing the massage establishment at 734 Bliss Road, Longmeadow, to operate without a sink in the immediate office suite but that Mary Demers, the massage therapist and operator, have constant access during hours of operation to hot and cold running water in the adjacent hallway for hand washing immediately prior to serving any patron, and that the operator will utilize a alcohol based hand rub that is available at all times directly in the massage suite area.” Voting for the motion-Dr. Rappaport, Dr. Izenstein and Maripat Toye, RN, MS. Voting against the motion-Dr. Michael Coppola.

- G. The BOH reviewed a request for a variance from the Longmeadow High School Department to continue to operate the LHS pool with anti-vortex drain covers (2) that do not strictly conform to the regulatory provisions of the state pool regulations. The BOH unanimously disapproved this variance and recommends that the LHS department comply with the regulatory provisions as stated in the state pool regulations.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maripat Toye, RN, MS, Longmeadow BOH