



Board of Health

June 8, 2022
 City Hall Auditorium
 229 Main Street,
 Nashua, NH 03060
 12:30 PM

Our **mission** is to promote, protect, and preserve the health and wellbeing of the Greater Nashua Region through leadership and community collaboration. Our **vision** is to have an informed, safe, healthy, and resilient community where all people can thrive and prosper. We subscribe to the following **values**: integrity, leadership, adaptability, and respect.

Facilitator: Board Member, Dr. Stephanie Rosenblum

Note Taker: Foqia Ijaz

Informational Session

Attendees
Board of Health (BOH): Dr. Stephanie Wolf-Rosenblum
Board of Alderman: Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Jette
City Employees: Bobbie Bagley, Flavia Martin, Foqia Ijaz, Lyndsey Bond, Heidi Peek, Bob Mack, Ren Beaudoin

Updates and Announcements

Board Chair Dr. Storace and Board member Dr. Cappetta were not present for the meeting. Board member Dr. Rosenblum consulted with Attorney Bolton and Dr. Storace over the phone and decided to hold an informational session instead of a meeting. She said that the department reports can be read but the voting business will be tabled as the quorum is not complete.

There will be an additional BOH meeting on Wednesday June 15, 2022 at 12:00 PM

Meeting Called to Order	Dr. Wolf-Rosenblum called the informational session to order at 12:42 PM.
Mission Statement	Director Bagley read the mission of Department of Public Health and Community Services (DPHCS).
Situational Update: Epidemiologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current State and local COVID-19 situational update was given. • NH has updated their dashboard- active cases, positivity rate, and city/town vaccinations are no longer available. Transmission levels are no longer available on the dashboard. • 28 cases of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children since the beginning

of the pandemic.

- There are 35 identified cases of Monkeypox within the US, 0 identified in NH.
- Symptoms: fever, headache, swollen lymph nodes, and lesions/rash.
- It is transmitted by close contact with lesions. It is not transmitted by passing by a stranger. Family members or health care workers in close contact are at risk. Vaccines for smallpox can be used to treat.
- Acute Pediatric Hepatitis of Unknown Etiology. Adenovirus is the most likely the cause of this disease.

Questions and Comments:

- Q: Was there any death out of the 28 children reported with multisystem organ failure? A: There was no death in NH but there have been 69 deaths nationwide.
- Q: why is CDC is reporting that there is a low community transmission rate in Hillsborough County whereas neighboring MA country has high transmission rate? A: there are more hospitals in MA County as compared To NH County. This can affect the number of reported patients with COVID-19.

Director's Report

- Continue to perform the core functions of public health and deliver essential public health services to accomplish the vision and mission of DPHCS.
- Re-Accreditation process has begun. Ren Beaudoin is the leading it.
- Performance Management and Quality Improvement Review was reviewed by the Epi consultant.
- Public Health Professional Core Competency Assessment of Division Staff was completed.
- The Division is in recovery mode. Still taking the mitigating measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 virus. There were 3 positive cases among staff in May.
- Continue to hold weekly IRT meeting, Bi-weekly Joint Partner calls and weekly outbreak team calls.
- DPHCS open house is on June 29th.
- Received funding for RPHNS- Proposal encompasses serving as the lead organization to coordinate public health initiatives.
- List of House Bills supported by policy action institute is in the report.
- Community Services: all staff contributed towards a funding request. Kresge-key informant interviews were reviewed by EpiPath.
- Behavioral Health: provided mental health first aid training. There were 27 participants. Mayor's Suicide Prevention Task force and Mayor's Opioid Task Force met in May.
- PHEP: Emergency Preparedness trainings for community members with support from Community Health Workers in their first language.
- Epidemiologist and PH Network Strategist working on the COVID-19 Year 2 Annual report and continue to engage partners in Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC) workgroups.
- Health Promotion & Communication Specialist maintains social media and website information.
- Several conferences and trainings attended by the Director and staff.

	<p>Questions and Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is Public Health Department doing about gun violence? A: planning to circulate information on gun safety. There will be a presentation on gun violence at the NE Annual Public Health Conference. • Board Member: would like to have a quick summary of what our plans are and what is being done about mental health around gun violence at one of the next meetings. • Director: Behavioral and Mental Health issues have been long standing issues. We hired two new trained staff about six months ago.
<p>Community Health Department</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID boosters approved for 5-11 year olds and available in our clinic. • Protocol in place for any suspected case of Monkeypox. • Planning HIV Day and Pride event activities for June • New location for SSANA moving to parking lot adjacent to library parking lot. • Letter sent urging Governor Sununu to veto HB1606. • Celebrated our nurses during nurse’s week. Communicable Disease Nurse Coordinator attended National TB conference. <p>Questions and Comments:</p> <p>Board member: please post a sign where SSANA is done so that people don’t smoke in that area.</p> <p>Q: Is there an ordinance that prohibits smoking at public places in Nashua? A: There is no special legislation. Smoking is prohibited in public buildings only.</p>
<p>Welfare</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a decrease in the need for assistance primarily because of the Emergency Rental Assistance program by the CAP agency. We fill the gap for the 4 to 6 week time period it takes to process the application. Predictions are that the funds will run out by the end of this year. • Staff continue to refer people to motel placements as these is no place in shelters. • There was representation from hospitals at the Greater Nashua Continuum of Care meeting. A sub-committee was formed to look into hospitals referring clients to homeless shelters after they are discharged from the hospital. <p>Questions and Comments:</p>
<p>Environmental Health (EH)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departmental report will be deferred till next meeting. • Update: Did not hear back from Department of Environmental Services about who oversees the beaches. Was able to talk to State’s Public Health Veterinarian. People were not using beaches so signs were not posted. There is always a risk involved if you are bathing at beaches where wild life is present. There is low risk right now but will post signs if there is increased risk. • An incident happened in Derry at a private farm where all animals had to be euthanized due to testing positive for Avian Flu. • The numbers for avian flu can be tracked from the USDA Website.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Additional Items

None

Informational Session adjourned at 1:31 PM.

Please join us for our Next Meeting:

June 15, 2022 at 12:00 PM

DRAFT