



**Town of Westwood**  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
**BOARD OF HEALTH**

**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

*Jared Orsini, REHS/RS, Health Director*  
*Lorraine Donovan, Administrative Assistant*  
*Margaret M. Sullivan, R.N., M.S.N., Public Health Nurse*  
*Jessica S. Kent, Food Inspector/Sanitarian*

*Roger L. Christian, M.D., Chairperson*  
*Carol Ahearn, R.N., B.S.N*  
*Shelley Reeve, R.N., B.S.N., J.D*

Minutes of the Westwood Board of Health meeting held on March 28, 2023

The meeting began at 5:00 PM and was held at the Carby Street Municipal Office Building, 50 Carby Street, Westwood.

Members Present: Roger L. Christian, M.D., Chairperson  
Carol Ahearn, R.N., B.S.N  
Shelley Reeve, R.N., B.S.N., J.D.

Staff Present: Jared Orsini, REHS/RS, Health Director  
Lorraine Donovan, Administrative Assistant  
Margaret M. Sullivan, R.N., M.S.N., Public Health Nurse  
Jessica S. Kent, Food Inspector/Sanitarian

Others Present: Sarah McColgan, Mass. Health Officers Association  
Tobacco Control Program Director

**Approval of Minutes: January 17, 2023**

Ms. Ahearn moved to approve the minutes, Dr. Christian seconded, approved 3-0-0.

**Public Hearing – Vote to revise the Westwood Board of Health Tobacco Regulation entitled “Regulation Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products” Proposed policies in the draft regulation include, but are not limited to the following**

- Increasing fines for sales of tobacco/ electronic nicotine delivery systems to minors
- Increasing the length of permit suspension for tobacco/ electronic nicotine delivery systems to minors
- Adopting regulations related to the nicotine content of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems

Ms. McColgan attends the meeting via phone to answer any questions from the Board regarding the proposed revisions. Mr. Orsini explains that the biggest change will be to the mandatory fines imposed by the State in the revised regulation. The first violation will be \$1,000, and if the sale was to someone under 21 the permit is suspended for 7 days. A second offense within 36 months will be a \$2,000 fine and the permit will be suspended for 30 days. A third offense within 36 months results in a \$5,000 fine and the permit suspended for 180 days.

There has been no feedback from the tobacco permit holders or the public prior to the meeting. A legal ad was placed in the paper for 2 weeks and a letter went out to the permit holders as well. The Shell station on Providence Highway is closing in May and Colbea Enterprises has already applied for this one available permit; they have purchased the property and a new gas station will be built at this location. Dr. Christian states he is ready to vote and Ms. Ahearn and Ms. Reeve also would like to vote. Ms. Reeve makes a motion to accept the revised Westwood Board of Health Tobacco Regulation entitled "Regulation Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products" with the proposed policies in the draft regulation. Ms. Ahearn seconded, approved, 3-0-0. Another legal ad will be placed in the paper and posted on the website prior to the regulation becoming effective.

**Public Health Nurse Report:**

Ms. Sullivan provides the Board with a report outlining cases from Jan-March in MAVEN. There continues to be some COVID cases, however, any formal reporting has ended. There has been an increase in tick borne illness and it is considered endemic in Maine, New Hampshire & Vermont. There has been an increase in Candida Aureus, a rise by more than 200 percent from 2019 to 2021. This is especially concerning in those with compromised immune systems and patients who use invasive medical devices such as breathing or feeding tubes or people in long term care facilities.

**Health Director Report:**

Mr. Orsini reports that there are still many things going on in the department at this time including housing issues, food inspections and new food establishments still coming to the Gatehouse Kitchen facility in Southwest Park. Ms. Kent provides the Board with a written report outlining her inspections from March. Blue Orchid and Chipotle have been contacted regarding recent inspections at their establishments and if needed, they will be brought in for a hearing so the Board could determine the next steps required to bring them into compliance.

The Body Art establishment in Lambert's plaza has not opened yet, however a new food establishment called Playa Bowls has opened on High Street. Poke Bros is another new food establishment that will be opening at University Ave.

Spring season brings preparation for camps, ticks & mosquitoes and all food establishments must renew their permits by May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Orsini will be hosting a Mental Health First Aid class here on April 27<sup>th</sup>. The intent of the class is to offer training to people so they can offer support and resources to someone who appears to be in a mental health crisis. There is a pre-class component participants will take part in and then attend the all-day session.

Meeting adjourned 5:50PM