

Board of Health
September 20, 2018
42 Cross Street
Somerville, MN 02145

Attendance: Board Chair Brian Green
Member Paula Machado
Director Doug Kress
Tobacco Control Director Bonny Carroll

Absent: Member Robert Ciccio, excused

Guests: Silvia Ren, Medford MA – Tufts student
Michael Booth, W Barnstable MA – Tufts student
Christian Seneral, Medford MA – Tufts student

Call to order by Chair Green at 6:03, second by Machado

Approval of Minutes, postponed

Restaurant Hearings - Kress informed the Board that the applicant requested a postponement this morning as they were not able to make the meeting.

Chair Green opened the public hearing, no comments from the public, Chair Green made the motion to suspend the public hearing until the next Board of Health meeting. Second by BM Machado, passed

Tobacco Update - Tobacco Control staff Bonny Carroll

Carroll provided an update on the FDA “unprecedented activity” on their response to Juuls that included letters to the manufactures and retails. She also shared the new marketing materials that are being distributed by FDA, copies are included in the minutes. The FDA has called the current situation “an unprecedented epidemic”. Staff requested the BoH consider expanding the current regulations that allow for flavored nicotine delivery products to include all e-cigarettes, as all oils have flavors added to have a taste. Kress noted that in the recent Youth Risk Behavior Survey data the use of e-cigarettes double since the last survey. Data from the FDA validates these alarming trends.

Carroll informed the Board of a new curriculum that is being developed by HRIA, who work with the Tobacco Control officers throughout the state. The items being developed will include trainings and curriculums on various tobacco delivery products. Trainings will include teacher and student trainings. Staff was asked to review the materials and recommend Somerville as a pilot site. Although this does not need board approval, support was voiced.

Menthol: Carroll asked the members if they heard about black lives black lungs. She provided some new evidence on the marketing efforts of manufactures that target Black and LGBT community members. Additionally data supports an increase in use from the same population under age 21. This has raised concerns locally with staffing who will look at the most recent Youth Risk Behavior Survey results. The state tobacco control partnership has discussed modifying current tobacco regulations to include menthol flavor as part of the “flavor ban”.

Chair Green –reminded staff that we have regulations on flavors and offer concerns with the removing only menthol and leaving regular tobacco. He issued a concern that this could be looked at as a racial segregation/targeting. Kress reminded the Board of their charge - to reduce access to those under the

draft proposal. Aldermen will have the opportunity to modify the proposed language prior to adoption. The goal is to have an adopted ordinance by year end after multiple public hearings.

Kress reviewed the current proposed language including the locations and change of languages. Kress noted that one concern raised is the distance from Argenziano School. He also stated the Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) is being proposed to replicate the CBA in place for RDMs and keep the same priorities. Kress noted that the Cannabis Control Committee (CCC) had issued some concerns that other communities have over extended the CBAs and not meeting the intent of the law. Somerville believes the implemented CBA does meet the intent of the law.

Kress distributed other guidance materials from the State. This includes potential sale regulations that would mimic those of tobacco sales for singles, signage, and marketing. Chair Green asked about the signage he has seen in Cambridge. Kress informed the Board that additional clarity is being requested from the CCC.

Next meeting – October 25-5:30pm

Motion to Adjourn: 6:49pm moved by Green, second by Machado