



# TOWN OF TEWKSBURY BOARD OF HEALTH

Raymond Barry, Chairman  
Robert Scarano, Vice Chair  
Melissa Braga, Clerk  
Charles Roux, Member  
Susan Amato, Member

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## MEETING MINUTES May 19, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Raymond Barry, Chairman, at 6:01 p.m. Present at the meeting were Robert Scarano, Vice-Chair, Melissa Braga, Clerk and Susan Amato, member. Member Charles Roux participated remotely. Also in attendance was Shannon Gillis, Director of Public Health.

### Approval of Meeting Minutes

- April 21, 2022 Meeting minute were presented for approval

**MOTION:** Ms. Amato made the motion to approve the April 21, 2022 meeting minutes as submitted; seconded by Ms. Braga and the motion unanimously carried 5-0 by roll call vote.

### New Business:

- **Dunkin Donuts 1220 Main St.** – to appear before the Board for critical food violations

Thomas Adie, representative for Dunkin Donuts, approached the table. Mr. Adie gave an opening statement regarding the food safety violations found during the food inspection. Mr. Adie stated that in the audience were family members as well as two district managers. Mr. Adie stated that his family has been in the Dunkin Donuts franchise for 53 years and has been serving the Tewksbury community for 35 years. He offered his sincere apology for the conditions that were present at the most recent inspection and failure to perform and communicate properly with the Town. He stated that food safety is paramount. Mr. Adie stated that it was his understanding that they were meeting the expectations identified by the Department and any issues were being handled in a productive and proactive manner. Within the past few weeks, he found out that this has not been the case and him and his staff take full responsibility to the break down in performance and communications with the Tewksbury Health Department. Mr. Adie stated that he had previously met with Ms. Gillis and outlined the actions that were taken. Mr. Barry thanked Mr. Adie for his remarks and commended him for taking responsibility and willingness to work with the Department. Mr. Adie again stated that he takes full responsibility and expressed his embarrassment. He stated that he has never been brought before the Board in any community in all the years he has been in the business. Mr. Barry stated that the focus of the Board is to make sure things are on the right path moving forward and this is a learning tool for everyone. A discussion ensued. Ms. Gillis stated that last July the Health Department met with the Director of Operations to express the problems that was found during inspections. Temperature and cleaning logs were to be sent to the Health Department weekly. Only two weeks of logs were received then and this year they still display the same continuous problems that occurred during the last year's inspections especially at the establishment at 1220 Main St. Ms. Gillis described what was found at the inspection conducted on April 25, 2022. A fine was issued as well as a letter to the owner to

come before the Board. The inspection was conducted due to a complaint that was received at the Health Department. This specific location cannot handle the number of full-scale operations as a stand-alone store can. Ms. Gillis stated that Ms. Grant went out before tonight's meeting and stated that it is improving and cleaner than it was during Ms. Grant's initial inspection. The temperature logs are being completed however the cleaning logs aren't. Ms. Gillis stated that the temperature and cleaning logs need to be submitted to the Health Department and stated that the wooden case that was put over the internal grease trap should be replaced as it cannot be properly cleaned. Mr. Adie has submitted two weeks of temperature logs. They are working towards compliance and better communication with the Health Department. Mr. Adie discussed changes that have been made. Mr. Scarano stated that there is a full-service operation in a space that is designed for half of that. There is a lot going on in one small space and Mr. Scarano suggested a professional come in to see if there is anything that can be done to address this. A discussion ensued regarding training and cleaning. Ms. Amato stated that she has been in this business for thirty years. Her concern was that Mr. Adie has been in the business for a lot of years and what has been discussed is basic steps that should have been taken. This has been going on since July. Training needs to be on going. Ms. Amato stated that she likes what she has seen presented but wants to make sure that this is not going to happen again. Mr. Adie stated that he appreciated each members comments. Changes have been made with personnel and that he goes into each establishment that he owns three to four times a day. There will be constant monitoring. His words will be put into action. Mr. Adie stated that he will also be going down to the Building Department regarding the space. Ms. Gillis asked if he was referring to the walk-in which Mr. Adie stated yes. She stated that the walk-in would help the facility a lot. A discussion ensued regarding the walk-in and discussions Mr. Adie has had with the landlord regarding the property. Ms. Braga thanked Mr. Adie for his attention to the matter. Mr. Roux asked if there have been any thoughts on third party oversight. Mr. Adie stated that the brand is contracted with Eco-sure which is a division of Eco-labs. They are a national firm who the brand contracts to go into the establishments and inspect. The firm has recently had their own struggles with personnel but just announced that on May 1<sup>st</sup>, they have contracted out with a third party to do inspections within the stores. Mr. Roux stated that it would be good if the Health Department could get copies of those inspections. Mr. Barry stated that communication needs to be ongoing and thanked Mr. Adie for coming to the meeting.

➤ **Invitation to sit on the School Department's Wellness Committee**

Mr. Keith Sullivan, member of the school committee, approached the table with Mr. Barry's invitation. Mr. Barry stated that the school committee asked if there was anyone on the Board to sit on the school's wellness committee. There was discussion that board member Ms. Braga would be a good person for the committee. Mr. Sullivan stated that although he is a member of the school committee, he is not representing the school committee tonight. Mr. Sullivan discussed the wellness committee and what they do. They meet quarterly. The committee promotes wellness for students and families and includes topics such as substance abuse issues and bike rodeos. It's about people from the community coming together for wellness. The new chair of the committee thought it would be great to incorporate an elected official from the Board of Health to be part of the committee. The committee does not involve anything pertaining to the Board of Health such as compliance, etc. but just to have a member from the Board of Health on the committee makes sense. Mr. Sullivan stated that the committee is not part of the school department but a sub-committee of the school committee. Ms. Braga stated that she is to be involved with Tewksbury Cares but does not see that being on the Wellness Committee would be more work. Both Tewksbury Cares and the Wellness Committee together are beneficial for the kids, parents and for the community to be aware of what's going on with the Board of Health. Mr. Scarano stated that there is a lot to come for Tewksbury wellness in regard to the effects on the community from the past two years and is in full support of having someone from the Board of

Health on the committee. Ms. Amato asked if it was the Wellness Committee that changed the lunches in the schools. To her recollection, it was the committee who took part in that. Mr. Sullivan stated that he was not on the committee then and does not believe that to be the case. The Wellness Committee is an advisory to the School Committee. A discussion ensued. Ms. Braga stated that her goal is to help the community and appreciates the opportunity.

**MOTION: Mr. Scarano made the motion to appoint Melissa Braga to the Wellness Committee; seconded by Ms. Amato and the motion unanimously carried 5-0 by roll call vote.**

#### **Old Business:**

➤ **Oliveira Farm – Indefinite Suspension of Piggery and Animal Permits and Order for Removal of All Animals by 9/21/2021**

Ms. Gillis stated that she has met with Town Council. There has been no communication from any representative at 199 Marston St. stating there has been any compliance with the outstanding order that all animals were to be removed from the property. Animal Control went out to the property around 2:00 pm and there was no one at the property. They didn't see any loose birds but there are still ponies and goats left. The area was clean, and the animals had food and water however, they do not have a permit to keep those animals and they were to be removed back in September. Mr. Barry stated that he was going to remove the item from old business since it is at Town Council level. Mr. Roux stated that in his opinion, it would be wise to keep it on the agenda even if there are no updates. There are still animals on the property and neglect is a form of abuse. The MSPCA is getting involved with another legal situation there which is independent of what the Health Department is doing. Mr. Barry stated that he would have the ACO's go out the day before or the day of the next BOH meeting to give the Director an update to which she can give the Board an update under Director Reports. Mr. Roux wants to community to be aware that the Board is keeping an eye on the situation.

#### **Director Reports:**

Ms. Gillis stated that there has been a small spike in Covid cases. This past month we have had two hundred and seventy-five cases in town. These cases are the ones that are tested through facilities and reported through the State. These numbers do not include those taking home tests. Mr. Roux stated that in the Commonwealth, there are thirty-four hundred new cases. Mr. Roux send a message to the State to ask about hospitalization numbers and deaths regarding co-morbidity and has not heard back from them. A discussion ensued regarding Covid and numbers. Ms. Braga stated that it is important know your body and always talk to you doctor. It is important to take care of yourself, eat healthy, stay hydrated and to get fresh air and sunlight. This is not going away and taking care of yourself and staying healthy is important. Ms. Amato stated that when the numbers spike, businesses should revert to safe practices that were done previously. Mr. Roux stated that regarding Covid and how it is managed, it should be addressed from the bottom up not the top down as what was done in the past. Residents of Tewksbury should address what is happening in Tewksbury.

Ms. Gillis stated that the Bike Rodeo will be held June 12, 2022 at the High School from 1:00-3:00 pm. This event is held by the Police Department.

#### **Board Reports:**

Mr. Barry stated that if you are not signed up with the Town to get the E-alerts, you can go to the Town's website to sign up. The Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control project just sent a letter to the Town with the tentative dates they will be in Town to spray. Those dates are May 31<sup>st</sup>, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. These dates are tentative depending on the weather. You can go to their website at <https://www.cmmcp.org/> to request a spraying of your yard. Mr. Scarano stated that residents should do their due diligence to eliminate trapped water which attracts mosquitos.

Mr. Barry stated that he will forward the Tewksbury Cares emails to Ms. Braga for contact information.

Ms. Braga reminded residents to check themselves as well as their pets for ticks. Remove the tick but do not put anything on the tick to suffocate it. The CDC website has useful information. The tick can be brought to your doctor's office or there is a website where you can send the tick to be tested for determination of Lyme Disease. She will get that website information to the Chairman. Mr. Barry stated that the Health Department's old website use to have a tick identification card but wasn't sure if it is on the new website. (Note: the tick identification card is on the new Town website under the Health Department webpage: quick links. The website Ms. Braga spoke of is <https://www.ticknology.org/>).

**Announcements:**

**Adjourn:**

**MOTION: Mr. Roux made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Scarano and the motion unanimously carried 5-0 by roll call vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.**

**Approved on:** 6/16/22

**List of documents for May 19, 2022  
Documents are located at the Tewksbury Health Department**

**Approval of Minutes:**

April 21, 2022

**New Business:**

1220 Main St. Email dated 5/6/22  
1220 Main St. inspection report dated 4/25/22  
1220 Main St. certified letter dated 4/26/22  
1220 Main St. inspection pictures  
1220 Main St. violation ticket dated 4/26/22  
1220 Main St. activity list 5/1-5/8 and 5/9-5/15

**Old Business:**

199 Marston St. letter dated 5/10/22

**Director Reports:**

**Board Reports:**

**Announcements:**