



**TOWN OF BROOKLINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**11 Pierce Street, Brookline, Massachusetts, 02445
Telephone: (617) 730-2300 Facsimile: (617) 730-2296
Website: www.brooklinema.gov**

**Dr. Swannie Jett, DrPH, MSc
Director of Public Health
& Human Services**

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HEALTH

Board Meeting Date: February 21, 2019

Location: Brookline Public Health, Library

**Members: Anthony L. Schlaff, MD, MPH, Chair
Cheryl Lefman, MA
Patricia Maher, APRN, MA MS
Peter Moyer, MD MPH
Nalina Narain, Ph.D.
Gretchen Stoddard, MPH
Swannie Jett, DrPH, MSc, Ex-Official**

Agenda Item

Call to Order	6:00 PM
1. Welcome	Members in attendance: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anthony L. Schlaff, MD, MPH, Chair• Cheryl Lefman, MA• Patricia Maher, APRN, MA, MS• Gretchen Stoddard, MPH• Dr. Swannie Jett, DrPH, MSc
2. Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Budget (report by Dr. Jett)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Expansion request has been denied for last 2 years○ BCF Grant for Substance Abuse Program Staff (25k) cannot sustain salaries, past agreement included the town matching the grant○ Request for Community Health funds to support Health Educators, none in the town○ Request for Epidemiologist funding to provide metrics for community health/needs assessments. No statistics available for any department, creating the position benefits other departments. All

departments conducting their own surveys.
Epidemiologist would approve data being released in publications, i.e. Healthy Brookline.

- Marijuana funds will include 3% to the town (taxes) and 3% community impact fee; Health will receive a portion to support staff salaries.
- Request for Accreditation Coordinator (town-funded) to assist with the Accreditation process. Dr. Jett recently met with Rep. Tommy Vitolo and Sen. Cynthia Creem to discuss health policy, SAPHE which addresses standards of performance, core services of Public Health. The accreditation process was initiated, but unable to move forward with the complete process because there is not enough staff to support components. (Dr. Schlaff mentioned CDC grants for accreditation)
- Health Dept. cannot meet the needs of the community because it is short staffed.
- Dr. Jett would like to get positions in Substance Abuse off of soft money.

3. Other Business

Advisory Board joined Dr. Jett for the Budget Subcommittee Meeting in Town Hall at 7:00 pm.

- Introduction of Budget Subcommittee members, ACPH members and community members.
 - Dr. Jett provided an overview of the year for the Health Department
 - Three of the budget expansion request were prioritized
 - Substance Abuse Program staffing
 - Epidemiologist (part-time)
 - Accreditation Coordinator
 - Dr. Jett made an argument with ACPH support for Epidemiologist that was favored by Budget Subcommittee
 - Providing metrics for marijuana
 - Boston Children's Hospital at Brookline Place – unable to provide data to receive community impact fee, Brookline is not currently receiving any funding
 - No community needs assessments
 - Data collection will improve opportunity for grants, showing needs of the community
 - Hospital provided data scrubbing
 - No expansion requests granted for Public Health since Health Specialist for plastic bag by-law
 - The Subcommittee suggested that this be brought before the Advisory Board and requested a strategic plan to use in support of this expansion request.
 - Motion to approve budget, 4-0; recommendations to fund
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#1 & #3 of the budget expansion request (Substance Abuse/School Health and Administration/Epidemiologist)

- Community member asked question regarding daycare use of parks and open space, referred to the Day Care Consultant team.
- Meeting was concluded at 8:00 pm

Meeting Adjourned

8:00 PM
