

TOWN OF UXBRIDGE

Board of Health

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REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK 2023 SEP 21 AW7:56

Minutes of the Uxbridge Board of Health hybrid meeting held on August 16, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Present: Dr. David Tapscott, Chairman; Dr. Joann Lindenmayer, Vice Chair

Also present: Erin Hightower, Health Director; Kaitlin Donahue, Health Inspector Missy Kakela-Boisvert, Administrative Assistant and Joan E. Hamlett, Director Boards of Health Tobacco Control Alliance

Not Present: Dr. Cay DenHerder, Member

Join Zoom Meeting

https://uxbridge.zoom.us/j/83845502291

Meeting ID: 838 4550 2291

Meeting called to order:

The time being 6:02 PM and a quorum present, Chairman Dr. David Tapscott called the meeting to order.

Discussion and vote on updated Uxbridge Tobacco Regulations

The Board reviewed proposed changes to Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products Regulation. This regulation was updated to be more in line with Mass State law. Some changes that were proposed

- No new permits within 1,000 feet of a school (existing businesses are grandfathered)
- Ban smoking bars
- New definition of rolling papers and flavor enhancers to capture blunt wraps
- Unified fining structure to be more in line with State law.

No changes were made to increase or to decrease the number of permits to sell tobacco products. A copy of the proposed regulations were hand delivered to retail establishments, posted with the agenda and on the Board of Health page of the Town website.

Joan clarified for everyone that if a tobacco permit was revoked, that permit would be available for another establishment to apply for and receive. At this time there are only 14 tobacco permits available and all 14 are spoken for. There is a wait list for those who are interested in obtaining a tobacco permit. So, if a current permitted establishment has their permit revoked, they do run the risk of losing the permit permanently.

The effective date if approved tonight will be October 16, 2023. This will give retailers a chance to sell any inventory that will be banned once these regulations go into effect.

Some store owners were in the audience, their main questions were regarding the different regulations from town to town. The Board understood and sympathized but unfortunately there are 351 cities and towns which means 351 different ways of doing things. Joan does cover some of the same towns as the Blackstone Valley Partnership for Public Health (BVPPH) and is working with them to update their tobacco regulations. There were no other comments from the audience or from anyone on zoom.

Dr. Joann Lindenmayer moved to approve the Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products Regulation with corrections made a tonight's meeting. Dr. David Tapscott seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 2-0-0. Dr. David Tapscott – aye, Dr. Joann Lindenmayer – aye,

The Board thanked Joan and those in the audience for attending the meeting. Next the Board and staff talked about any on going issues, projects and inspections that they have been involved in.

Dr. Joann Lindenmayer made a motion to approve the March 15, 2023 meeting minutes as written. Dr. David Tapscott seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 2-0-0. Dr. David Tapscott – aye, Dr. Joann Lindenmayer – aye,

Motion to adjourn: Dr. Joann Lindenmayer moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 pm. Dr. David Tapscott seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 2-0-0. Dr. David Tapscott – aye, Dr. Joann Lindenmayer – aye,

David Tanscott Chairman

Joann Lindenmayer Vice Chairman

Cay DenHerder, Member