

**Board Members**

Eric Lindstrom, Chair  
 Jack Mill, Vice Chair  
 Khalid Abdi, Member  
 Katherine Tonelli, Member  
 Leanne Yarosz-Harris, Member  
 Beth Hallal, Agent  
 Kelly OBrien, Secretary



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**TOWN OF MEDWAY**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**MINUTES**

**Date/Time of Meeting:** Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 4:30pm  
**Location of Meeting:** Via ZOOM  
**Committee Members Present:** Jack Mill (VC) Khalid Abdi, Leanne Yarosz-Harris  
**Visitors Present:** Nimah O'Connell (Glow Factory)  
 Julia Prisco (Glow Factory)  
 Alliey Tancrell (Glow Factory)  
 Susan Dietrich (School Committee Liaison, Medway)  
 Melissa Greenfield (School Committee Liaison, Medway)  
 Armand Pires (Superintendent of Schools, Medway)  
 Cindy Sullivan (School Committee Liaison, Medway)  
**Town Employees Present:** Beth Hallal, Kelly OBrien  
**Call to Order:** 4:36PM  
**Minutes Review:** July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 *APPROVED*

<b>Agenda Item 1:</b> <i>Body Art Regulations</i>	<p>The meeting was opened up with following section read aloud by Ms. Hallal:</p> <p>(A) Body Art Establishments may permit Body Art Apprentices according to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) The apprentice must be at least eighteen (18) years of age;</li> <li>(2) The apprentice must submit a completed application for a Body Art Apprenticeship Board of Health permit;</li> <li>(3) No person shall practice body art or perform any body art procedure without first obtaining the appropriate Board of Health Apprenticeship permit;</li> </ol> <p>(B) Training for the permit must consist of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) The apprentice will need to complete 25 supervised client visits and 50 hours of observations (documented in or outside of the Medway body art establishment;</li> <li>(2) The apprentice must submit a completed Medway Board of Health Department Apprentice Task Sheet upon apprenticeship completion for each client;</li> <li>(3) The body art establishment shall have no more than one actively tattooing apprentice in the establishment at a time, with a maximum of two apprentices per establishment.</li> </ol> <p>This section was to be added to The Body Art Regulations as section 11, entitled "Body Art Apprenticeship Program." Ms. Harris noticed some verbiage on the task sheet and inquired to Ms. OBrien whether it was correct or not, and Ms. OBrien said she would review it prior to the Board signing off on the Regulations.</p> <p><i>Mr. Mill put forth the motion to approve the new section 11 of the Body Art Regulations, seconded by Mr. Abdi, approved by all.</i></p>
<b>Agenda Item 2:</b> <i>Julia Prisco Apprenticeship for Body Art</i>	<p>Ms. Hallal stated that she had reviewed the application in full and recommended to the Board that Ms. Prisco's application for an Apprenticeship for Body Art be approved.</p> <p><i>Mr. Mill put forth the motion to approve Ms. Prisco's Apprenticeship for Body Art, that was seconded by Mr. Abdi, and approved by all.</i></p>
<b>Agenda Item 3:</b> <i>9 Cedar Farm Road (Septic System Repair)</i>	<p>Ms. Hallal presented to the Board that she has reviewed the plan and recommends approval for this septic system.</p> <p><i>Ms. Harris made the motion to approve the septic system repair for 9 Cedar Farm Road, seconded by Mr. Mill, and approved by all.</i></p>

<p><b>Agenda Item 4:</b>  <i>Mobile Food Trucks  (liability working in  town-owned buildings)</i></p>	<p>Ms. OBrien wanted to bring to the Board an update on last meetings' conversation regarding town-owned properties and vendors working in them. Ms. OBrien sent an email to the Town Administrator, Mr. Boynton and the Director of Community and Economic Development, Ms. Saint Andre, inquiring about the liable responsibility. The response received from Ms. Saint Andre stated she did not know the complete details of the town's insurance policies, however the town has a lease with the VFW that probably has provisions governing liability. Ms. OBrien stated to the Board that she would look into this further.</p> <p><i>The Board appreciated the updated and agreed that this would be tabled for the time being until more information was gathered.</i></p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 5:</b>  <i>CORI Checks for  Vendors and  Vulnerability</i></p>	<p>Ms. OBrien stated that this topic was brought up at the last meeting as well. Information from mass.gov was sent out to the Board, as well as an example of how a CORI check is completed from the start; with the application process, to finish, the final product of a CORI report. Ms. OBrien went on to explain that if a vendor had a history of sexual offenses or felonies, they would be on the CORI report. Mr. Abdi wanted to continue this discussion with the entire group, inquiring about other types of vendors, because as it currently stands, only Ice Cream Vendors are required to have CORI checks done. Ms. Hallal offered to check with the state, seeing if CORI checks could be opened up to other vendors. Ms. Harris suggested speaking to the chief of police as to whether or not we would be able to CORI check these people, who is logical to CORI-check, and potentially inviting him to a meeting to discuss. Mr. Abdi then chimed in stating that CORI checks cost \$25.00 per person and questioned where would we draw the line.</p> <p><i>Mr. Mill made the motion to table this for further discussion when the entire Board was together and when we have more information from the state.</i></p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 6:</b>  <i>Mask Consistency</i></p>	<p>Ms. Harris introduced this agenda item stating that she had gone to the school committee forum to listen to the discussion of masks for the 21-22 school year, grades Pre-K through 12. She went on to say that the school committee chairperson had received over 50 emails from parents when it came to their child(ren) wearing masks at school. She noted that 20 parents had gone up to the microphone to speak their opinion; 9 wanting mask mandate at some level, 9 wanting no mask mandate/parent choice, 2 wanting all-or-none. Ms. Harris proceeded to share information on a July 30<sup>th</sup> State Advisory regarding masks, noting it is a <i>mandate only</i> in limited situations (i.e. foster care facilities, transportation, day providers, hospitals...) Another document Ms. Harris brought up was a release from the Department of Early Education and Care/Commonwealth of Massachusetts, focusing on health and safety guidance where they continue to track ill children; with still no masks are mandate at this time. Ms. Harris wanted to bring forth the following comments overheard at the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns of children with chronic illnesses (are at higher risk)</li> <li>• Although chances low, parents do not want to take the risk of their child getting sick</li> <li>• Children are hot and uncomfortable (with masks on)</li> <li>• A lot of people are vaccinated</li> <li>• Breathing impairment (with mask)</li> <li>• Parents feel it would be more beneficial without mask for expressions and face view (developmental impact)</li> <li>• There were several stories of children coming home with their masks wet or chewed</li> <li>• Some felt it was emotionally harmful</li> <li>• Some felt masks cause more harm than good to blood and oxygen levels</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Mill inquired what the breakthrough rate was, and if it was a significant number. Ms. Harris did not have the data at the time of the meeting, but said she could look into it. Ms. Harris continued with her observations at the school committee forum, noting that most in attendance were not wearing masks or social distancing, and the meeting was at full capacity. Mr. Mill chimed in, questioning Ms. Hallal whether or not it was under the purview the Board of Health to mandate the entire town; public and privately owned sectors. Ms. Hallal confirmed yes, the Board of Health does have the authority to mandate a mask order throughout the town</p>

if the Board of Health deems necessary. Ms. Hallal gave examples of 6 towns throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that have either recommended or mandated masks through their Select Board, Mayor/Town Administrator, or Board of Health for the protection of their residents. Ms. Harris continued that the masks are used as protection from droplets and because the virus is obtainable through the mucus of the eyes, we would have to question the mandate of goggles.

Ms. Harris posed the question of if a mandate were to be put in place, how would this effect the Police and Fire department functionalities.

Mr. Mill then proposed that if the vaccine becomes FDA approved, he would like to see all town employees vaccinated, as we would then have very broad authority. Ms. Hallal reminded the group that the focus right now is a discussion on whether or not we're mandating masks, and we still have to have further discussions with the rest of our Board. Mr. Mill then proposed at a future meeting if/when vaccines become FDA approved, mandating town employees, and discussing mandating all residents. Ms. Harris wanted to amend Mr. Mill's proposal to a discussion, and Mr. Mill concurred.

Ms. Hallal asked Mr. Abdi if he had any input on this subject and in response, he stated while reviewing the Massachusetts state advisory, he feels there is a lot of "gray area" and feels it would be in the best interest of the Board if a full panel was present. Ms. Hallal then asked for the guests from the School Committee to introduce themselves and speak. The first to speak was Ms. Sullivan who stated the school department was waiting for guidance from DESE (Department of Early and Secondary Education) regarding contact tracing and quarantining, and feels a lot of the parents who were pro-mask had children between the grades of Pre K – 6. Ms. Deitrich was the next to speak. She expressed that there was a lack of comprehensive data they have yet to receive from DESE, as it has not been yet released. She referred back to the spring when the high school students returned to in-school learning, and almost 70 students reported to have close contact (less than 6 feet), but none were reported as being ill; the state ammended their definition of close contact to 3 feet and the problem went away. Ms. Deitrich stated that "we", as a school committee could not make a decision based on one element and that it has to be based on a comprehensive strategy.

Ms. Greenfield, the final representative from the school committee was having technical difficulties, but was still able to text the group, noted she would like to mirror what Ms. Sullivan and Ms. Deitrich said; which was relayed by Ms. Hallal.

Ms. Harris inquired to any/all the School Committee representatives if they knew what the teacher preferences were regarding vaccines and masks, and Mr. Mill chimed in asking Ms. Hallal to inquire to the Teachers Union in regards to Ms. Harris' question so we had it on record. Ms. Deitrich then noted that the teachers are requesting that the superintendent for feedback on how the teachers are feeling right now because although its important, and it is factor, it is not the determining factor, and they are still waiting for the response from state officials.

Mr. Pires, the Superintendant of Medway Schools announced that he was on the line and would share information to the school department.

Ms. Harris wanted to share the total COVID deaths of children is low in the US; 288 total a very sad but very reassuring number. Mr. Mill asked Ms. Harris to send those records to Ms. OBrien for the next meeting.

Ms. Deitrich had one point she wished to add in regards to data that was just shared by Ms. Harris; this 21-22 school year is there will no option for the children to learn remotely – it will be in-person and full-time as opposed to last year when the children/families were given options; giving this school year new challenges.

Ms. Harris then inquired about the filtration system throughout the schools, specifically about hepafilters; clarification and where are they located. Mr. Pires responded by stating that they purchased new filtration systems last year and were placed in teaching spaces, office spaces, the cafeteria and gym.

Mr. Abdi noted that upon reviewing Massachusetts recommended requirements, if there were any other programs housed within the schools that have to be looked into. Ms. Deitrich took down the information that Mr. Abdi spoke of and Ms. Sullivan stated that Headstart is in the

	elementary school, but has their own hallway, adding on she would look further into his inquiry.
<b>Correspondence:</b>	Arbovirus Surveillance Program Report – Ms. Hallal reported that Medway received their first positive mosquito for West Nile Virus, and was currently posting the information on the Town’s website. She went on to explain that this was no surprise due to the recent heat wave and excessive rainfall. To date, DPH Arbovirus Surveillance program reports that there have been 23 positive in MA total.
<b>Tabled Items From July 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting:</b>	<p><b>Dig Safe:</b> Ms. Harris made efforts to investigate the process of a Dig Safe Ticket. The process is as follows: 1) the “digger” obtains a ticket, 2) the “digger” concludes that Dig Safe has marked the wrong spot. If the spot is 18+ further from where Dig Safe marked, the “digger” is supposed to report to Dig Safe. 3) if “digger” hits underground wires/pipeline, “digger” is to call 911. Ms. Hallal wanted to make it clear that Dig Safe does indeed help us significantly, and Mr. Mill concluded this conversation by saying that this topic should be re-tabled for when we have the full Board here to discuss.</p> <p><b>Board of Health Assistance:</b> Ms. Harris told the rest of the Board that she had spent some time in the office, and observed that both Ms. Hallal and Ms. OBrien have more incoming work that 2 people are capable of completing within a 40 hour workweek. Mr. Mill again suggested that this subject be tabled until we have a full Board for discussion.</p>
<b>Next Meeting Date:</b>	August 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
<b>Adjourn:</b>	5:42pm

*Respectfully submitted by KOBrien on 08.13.2021*