



Robert F. Sullivan
MAYOR

City of Brockton

Health Department

Dr. Eno Mondesir
EXECUTIVE HEALTH OFFICER

2024 JAN 26 P 3:08

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
BROCKTON, MA.

CITY OF BROCKTON BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH) MEETING NOTICE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 01, 2024 AT 4:30 PM. This public hearing will be held as a via zoom with strict accommodation for State Partners to join in and anyone who calls the BOH beforehand, to request zoom access!

Join Zoom Meeting

This meeting is being held in accordance with Governor Maura Healey's signed Open Meeting Law dated March 12, 2020, which relieves a public body from the requirement of Section 20 of Chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body for interested members of the public through adequate, alternative means.

Here is the YouTube link that you can post on the website permanently and it will never change:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/TheBrocktonChannels>

AGENDA

I-Welcome/Introduction of Dr. Craig Andrade, Chairperson.

II- (a)--Board's approval of the Minutes for the December 7, 2023 Meeting. Vote was not taken. We did not have quorum!

(b)—Board's approval of the Meeting for January 4, 2024 Meeting

III- REQUEST FOR HEARING AT THIS MEETING.

(A)-

- **Pending the Board of Directors' decision** (item presented last month for a hearing): Attorney Philip Nessralla, Jr., representing **Cigar and More located at 530 Forest Avenue**, has requested a hearing on behalf of his client for the purpose of asking the Board to permit the transfer of their current smoke and tobacco license, under the "**EXISTING NAME**" to a different location, namely: 423 Belmont Street. Brockton,

(B)- Attorney Philip Nessralla has further requested hearing for the purpose of reintroducing a petition to the Board's Final Determination in "REINSTATING TOBACCO PERMITS TO"

1-Applicant's Name (d/b/a/): "**448 Mart LLC**, which intends to reopen and conduct business for a convenience store currently located on 448 East Ashland Street, Brockton. This has served as a convenience store for over 40 years and had maintained a tobacco license for all of that time. There are

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no other applicants which would venture to reopen this store and conduct a much demanded convenience to the surrounding public without having a tobacco license as part of their items offered to the public....”

2-Applicant’s Name (d/b/a/): “**662 LLC...**” (Correct legal name of business.....). The applicant of this business “...owns and manages a building at Belmont Street which again had previously served as a 7 Eleven convenience store for dozens of years. This applicant has been in the convenience store business for many decades and has operated such business without incident....”

(C)-The following business, d/b/a/: Saisha, Inc., has received notice to CEASE AND DESIST ORDER for “selling a tobacco product to a person under the MINIMUM Legal Sales Age”:

- **Saisha Inc.**, Located at 443 Crescent St. Brockton, MA 02302. This particular owner has been on the agenda for the December meeting but requested to have the hearing moved January due to schedule conflict. This ended up being a “NO SHOW”, and the fine incurred was not honored by **Saisha Inc.**

(D)-ADDITIONAL BUSINESSES IN VIOLATION OF THEIR TOBACCO PERMITS:

- **Gas Depot (d/b/a/)**, located at 1123 Main Street, Brockton. Dates of violations: October 3, 2023, and January 11, 2024. Violation types: a)- “Selling a flavored tobacco product or tobacco product flavored enhancer; b)-Failure to pay monetary citation stemming from October 3, 2023 violation within twenty-one (21) days thereby constituting a separate offense under 105 CMR 665.045 (.C), c)- A Third violation within a 36-month period from the first violation.
- **Vanshika Corporation (d/b/a/)** 1666 Liquors: located at 1666 Main Street, Brockton. Dates of violations: a)-November 4, 2023, type of violation: the “sales of tobacco product to a person under 21 years of age. B)-next Violation: November 18, 2023, type of violation: failure to adhere to the terms of a mandatory suspension of sales of tobacco products. Subsequently, Vanshika Corporation fails to pay monetary citation within twenty-one (21) days thereby constituting a separate offense under 105 CMR 665.045 (C.); c)- A Third violation within a 36-month period from the first violation.
- **Petro Save Group Inc., (d/b/a/)** Petro Save II: located at 514 N. Main Street, Brockton. Dates of violation, November 4, 2023; a)-type of violation: “Selling a tobacco product to a person under the Minimum Legal Sales Age; b)- January 19, 2024: type of violation: failure to pay monetary citation within twenty-one (21) days thereby constituting a separate offense under CMR 665..045 (.C), a second violation within a 36-month period from the first violation.
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IV-NO NEW UPDATE ON “Life science”, Bio Ready Community, Adoption of NIH Guidelines for Recombinant DNA (rDNA):

V-Vacancies and Hiring: We have hired a new Epidemiologist, Dr. Victor Sebastian), his first day with the City was January 2, 2024; also, we have hired a CHW (Community Health Worker), Jessenia Urrea; her first day with the City was January 22, 2024.

NOTE: As of May 11, CDC and MDPH have decided to remove the Public Health Emergency Authorization for COVID-19. Consequently, few changes have been made in COVID-19 protocol, including mask mandate.

Other COVID-19 Vaccination changes: CDC, and MDPH have updated COVID-19 vaccine. The Government (Federal and State) indicates that free vaccine will continue for individuals 18 years old and younger, and for people who are economically challenged. As for the rest of the U.S. population, People can reach out to their PCP who may bill their health insurance. We do have Vaccine supplies, both: Flu & COVID-19.

VI-The latest Statistical Data on COVID-19 cases for Brockton, and on vaccination updates, including other related interventions:

VII-COVID-19 Dashboard (cases): CURRENT, (as of 01/26/24) New Positive Cases, N=14 Active Cases, N=100, Cumulative, N=35,197, Deaths, N=542. Since January, Brockton has recorded 3 new deaths due to COVID-19, bringing the it to the total of 542. Prior to that, the last death we've had was in September 2023!

PRIOR MONTH→ Beginning of 2024: (as of 01/02/24) New Positive Cases, N=5 Active Cases, N=133, Cumulative, N=35,010, Deaths, N=539.

Per comparative analysis: as of 12/29/23, when we ran the last report for the year, the stats were as follows: New positive cases, N=15, Active cases, N=131, Cumulative, N=35,001, Deaths, N=539!

VIII- Dashboard on COVID-19: As of May 11, 2023, **NO regular COVID-19 dashboard is supported by DPH.** COVID-19 Prevalence has dropped during prior months but in August, Brockton did experience an uptake; nevertheless PCR/molecular tests remain the confirmed data recorded on MAVEN (Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiological Networks). NO Antigen Home Test results are not included in the ongoing report updates.

IX- Vaccination Initiative to date: Our PH Nurses continue to set up vaccination clinics for our residents as we see fit. Also, we concurrently continue to offer seasonal flu vaccines to the residents. The Shaw's Center remains a preferred site for such clinics as well. Other vaccination clinic sites include, City Hall employees, BPD, the Housing Authority Facilities, and at special Community events.

N.B.: Public Health Nurses have already scheduled Flu and COVID-19 clinics for the City Residents.

VIRAL LOAD (Concentration): Brockton has access to COVID-19 data from sewer wastewater samples that show the concentration or the viral load in the City. DPH has retained Biobot analytics to continue to provide stats from the wastewater sample for COVID-19

X- TRENDING UP INFECTIONS IN TB CASES: For several months, the State has observed a significant rise in New TB (10) cases. At least, three main factors account for that: the significant drop in COVID-19, giving rise to more mobility, more people travel now than during the pandemic. A second reason, we have a rise in the number of people migrating to the Country and the State.

XI-A- Health Promotion & Public Health Education: MDPH has provided tremendous support throughout the pandemic. We continue to partner with various stakeholders around the City: BNHC, community organization like Cape Verdean Organization, the School Department, Clergy groups, BAMSI, Brockton Housing Authority, IFSI (Immigrant Family Services Institute), and with different media outlets, etc.

XII- On Friday, January 19, 2024, I have a very productive Meeting with DMH Commissioner Brooke Doyle. Moving forward, we aim at working to address the mental Health needs of Brockton residents in a more collaborative fashion. DMH and its allies are exploring innovative interventions in order to help solve the Mental Health challenges. **With New Administration, Gov. Healey and Lt. Gov. Driscoll at the Corner Office, much remains to be determined. Also, the New National Mental Health Emergency Hotline is in service: 988.**

XIII-Miscellaneous: Governor Healey has reauthorized the order that was previously signed by former Administration to extend remote meeting through 3/31/25.

NEW THING: With the hiring of new epidemiologist, we continue to promote the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHA) for the Residents of Brockton. BOH has a QR Code on its website page that Brocktonians can easily download on their cell phone to complete the survey.

THE STATE OF OUR HOSPITALS: Good Samaritan: update from a meeting this week City Officials, and all area health service providers...

Brockton Hospital remains closed, due to a fire in its electrical room. The efforts continue by the Signature Healthcare and all the stakeholders to make sure that the required work is done in the hope to reopen. The repair work continues with an anticipation of a tentative reopening within a few months...

Medical Advisory Committee for the Elimination of Tuberculosis (MACET): As an active member of this Statewide Committee, I continue to be a voice at the “Local Municipality” and at the State Level. MDPH continues to significantly support our work in this regards. The latest over the cases in Brockton:

XIV- Our Next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 2024

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Respectfully submitted,

Eno Mondesir, Executive Health Officer BOH, City of Brockton

P.S.: ANYONE WHO WISHES TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING BEYOND JUST WATCHING VIA YOUTUBE, NEEDS TO CALL THE BOARD OF HEALTH IN ADVANCE TO REQUEST THE ZOOM LINK. THEY WILL BE ASKED FOR THEIR NAME BEFORE THEIR REQUEST IS GRANTED (the phone: 508-580-7175).