



Robert F. Sullivan
MAYOR

City of Brockton

Health Department

Dr. Eno Mondesir
EXECUTIVE HEALTH OFFICER

CITY OF BROCKTON BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH) MEETING NOTICE THURSDAY, MARCH 07, 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- --Board's approval of the Minutes for the February 1, 2024 Meeting.

III- REQUEST FOR HEARING AT THIS MEETING.

VIOLATION OF THEIR TOBACCO PERMITS:

- **Gas Depot (d/b/a/)**, located at 1123 Main Street, Brockton. Dates of violations: May 13, 2023; Sale of a tobacco product to a person under the age of twenty-one. October 03, 2023; Sale of a flavored tobacco product. January 11, 2024. Violation types: Sale of a flavored tobacco product. This hearing is a continuation of the previous month's hearing in which members of the Board sought guidance from the City's Law Department regarding periods of suspension for tobacco violations. The City's Legal Department states its advice on this matter, pertaining to the language stipulated within the City Ordinances for such violation: "Suspension SHALL BE 14 days..."

IV-NO NEW UPDATE ON "Life science", Bio Ready Community, Adoption of NIH Guidelines for Recombinant DNA (rDNA):

NOTE: As of May 11, 2023, 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.

"City of Champions"

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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.

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

VI-COVID-19 Dashboard (cases): CURRENT, (as of 3/1/24) New Positive Cases, N=3, Active Cases, N=29, Cumulative, N=35311, Deaths, N=544 (1 new death in February).

PRIOR MONTHS→ Beginning of 2024: (as of 01/02/24) New Positive Cases, N=5 Active Cases, N=133, Cumulative, N=35,010, Deaths, N=539. However, toward the end of January (as of 01/26/24) New Positive Cases, N=14 Active Cases, N=100, Cumulative, N=35,197, Deaths, N=543. During the month, Brockton has recorded 4 new deaths due to COVID-19

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!

VII- 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.

VIII- 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

IX- TRENDING UP INFECTIONS IN TB CASES: For several months, the State has observed a significant rise in New TB (11) 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.

X-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.

XI- On Friday, January 19, 2024, I have had 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.

XII-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 regard. The latest over the cases in Brockton:

XIII- Our Next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 4, 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).