



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, AUGUST 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- --Board’s approval of the Minutes for the June 6, 2024 Meeting.

III- **REQUEST FOR HEARING AT THIS MEETING.**

VIOLATION OF TOBACCO PERMITS:

- **DEBI’S CONVENIENCE (d/b/a/)**, located at 516 Pleasant Street. Brockton, MA 02302. Date of violation: 14 June, 2024; Offering for Sale a flavored Tobacco Product. This constitutes a second violation within 36 months. A fine of \$2,000 is assessed
- **COUNTRY FOOD STORE (d.b.a.)**, located at 380 N. Main St. Brockton, MA 02301. Date of violation: June 4, 2024; Offering for Sale a flavored Tobacco Product. This constitutes a second violation within 36 months. A fine of \$2,000 is assessed
- **R & k FOOD MART (d/b/a/), /2024)**, located at 77 Legion parkway. Date of violation: 25 June 2024; Offering for sale a tobacco product Not in its original manufacturer’s packaging. This is the first violation for this establishment within 36 months, and a fine of \$1,000 is assessed. This establishment requests a hearing with the Board of Health.
- **GARCIA’S TROPICAL GROCERY (d/b/a/)**, located at 886 Main Street, Date of violation: 3 June 2024. Offering for sale a tobacco product Not in its original manufacturer’s packaging. This is the first violation within 36 months for this establishment. A fine of \$1,000 is assessed. This establishment has requested a hearing with the Board of Health.

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“City of Champions”

- **OLYMPIC MARKET (d/b/a/)**, located at 404 N. Main Street, Brockton. Date of violation: 19 March 2024. Offering for sale a flavored tobacco product Not in its original manufacturer's packaging. This constitutes the first violation within 36 months for this establishment. A fine of \$1,000 is assessed. This establishment has requested a hearing with the Board of Health for the hearing in April but was unable to attend.

NOTE (dated): As of May 11, 2023, CDC and MDPH have decided to remove the Public Health Emergency Authorization for COVID-19. Consequently, changes have been made in COVID-19 protocol, including mask mandate, and Isolation time. COVID-19 remains at a endemic phase, and is likely to become a seasonal communicable infection

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. **CDC/MDPH's Recommendation: individuals, 65+ years of age are eligible for an update COVID-19 vaccine!**

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

V-COVID-19 Dashboard (cases): CURRENT, (as of 7/29/24) New Positive Cases, N=10, Active Cases, N=73, Cumulative, N=35,480, Deaths, N=544.

PRIOR MONTHS→ (as of 6/03/24) New Positive Cases, N=2, Active Cases, N=17, Cumulative, N=35,374, Deaths, N=545.

VI- 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 included in the ongoing report updates.

VII- Vaccination Initiative to date: Our PH Nurses continue to set up vaccination clinics for our residents as we see fit. The Shaw's Center remains a preferred site for such clinics as well. Other vaccination clinic sites include, the Housing Authority Facilities, The Farmer's Market, and at special Community events.

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.

Uptake in COVID-19 cases: For several weeks, we have seen an uptake to double digits in the number of COVID-19 positive cases in the City.

IX- TRENDING UP INFECTIONS IN TB CASES: TB Incidence has been relatively high. The State has seen a significant rise in New TB (14) 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. Another reason, we have a rise in the number of people migrating to the Country and the State.

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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- The 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.

BOH has initiated a series of “Community Wellness Clinics” in Partnership with the Brockton Housing Authority. In May, Public Health Nurses and CHWs hosted a Community Wellness Clinic with IFSI for the New Migrants. It was very successful but ran out of supplies because more people attended than foreseen. Presently, we are expanding to the larger Brockton Community.

Also: For this summer, Farmer’s Market is finalized. As in the past years, BOH Nurses will participate by setting up clinic.

THE STATE OF OUR HOSPITALS: Good Samaritan: As of this week, it looks as if that some potential buyers have made offers to purchase the hospital, but no definitive news as the moment. In the meantime, Steward Healthcare seems to indicate that it is looking to sell 2 of its hospitals in Massachusetts.

Brockton Hospital is still closed, but there is encouraging news: The administration indicates that the hospital will reopen this August!!

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- First Thursday of July of this year is the 4th, therefore, Our Next Board Meeting will be scheduled for September 5th, 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).

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