



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, SEPTEMBER 05, 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 August 1
, 2024 Meeting.

III- REQUEST FOR HEARING AT THIS MEETING.

VIOLATION OF TOBACCO PERMITS:

- **R&K FOOD MART(d/b/a), located at 77 Legion Parkway.** During a routine inspection on 06/25/2024, tobacco not in its original manufacturer's packaging was observed offered for sale. A \$1,000 fine was assessed. This constitutes the **FIRST VIOLATION** for this establishment within a 36 month period. The proprietor requested a hearing at the August BOH monthly meeting but failed to appear. The proprietor has made another written request for a hearing at the September meeting.
- **DEBI'S CONVENIENCE (d/b/a/), located at 516 Pleasant Street. Brockton, MA 02302.** During a routine inspection on 06/14/2024, flavored tobacco was observed offered for sale. A \$2,000 fine was assessed. This constitutes the second violation within a 36 month period. During a visit to this location on 08/06/2024 to verify compliance to a DOR ordered suspension of tobacco sales, flavored tobacco product was observed offered for sale. \$5,000 fine was assessed.

"City of Champions"

BROCKTON CITY HALL • 45 SCHOOL STREET • BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02301

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This constitutes a **THIRD VIOLATION** within a 36 month period. The proprietor has requested a hearing and is represented by Attorney Philip Nessralla

- **LIFESTYLE VAPE(d/b/a), located at 1380 Belmont St.** During a routine inspection on 05/30/2024, flavored vaping product was observed offered for sale. A \$1,000 fine was assessed. This constitutes the **FIRST VIOLATION** for this establishment within a 36 month period. The proprietor has requested a hearing and is represented by Attorney Philip Nessralla.
- **CHEER'S LIQUORS (d/b/a), located at 1380 Belmont St.** During a routine inspection on 08/12/2024, flavored tobacco was observed offered for sales. A \$1,000 fine was assessed. This constitutes the **FIRST VIOLATION** for within a 36 month period. The proprietor has a requested a hearing and is represented by Attorney Philip Nessralla.

NOTE: 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 an endemic phase, and is categorized as a seasonal communicable infection, joined with the Seasonal flu and RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus), considered as "**Triple Infections**".

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:

COVID-19 Dashboard (cases): CURRENT, (as of 8/30/24) New Positive Cases, N=7, Active Cases, N=56, Cumulative, N=35,568, Deaths, N=544.

PRIOR MONTHS→ (as of 7/29/24) New Positive Cases, N=10, Active Cases, N=73, Cumulative, N=35,480, Deaths, N=544.

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.

V- 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.

VI-Eastern Equine Encephalitis (known as EEE), & Western Nile Virus (also known as WNV): in recent weeks, DPH has updated the risk level regularly. The risk level, as of 8/27, has been raised to Severe for EEE due a positive case on human and a horse, and the risk for WNV has gone up between moderate and high. BOH has placed several calls to BEMA (Brockton Emergency Management Agency) to send out PSA on the reverse 911 calls

VII- 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.

VIII-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.

IX- The National Mental Health Emergency Hotline is in service: 988.

X-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: The Incident Command Commander, Dr. Gregg Meyer has updating the City on progress made with Steward Healthcare. This week, a deal a the sale is expected...

Brockton Hospital: as of August 13, the Hospital has up some key Service specialties. Many more services will be up and running this September!!

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:

XI- Our Next Board Meeting will be on Thursday, October 3rd, 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).