



City of Brockton Health Department

Robert F. Sullivan
MAYOR

Dr. Eno Mondesir
EXECUTIVE HEALTH OFFICER

CITY OF BROCKTON BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH) MEETING NOTICE THURSDAY, DECEMBER 02, 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 month of October 2024 Meeting (given that the Board did not meet in the month of November).

III- REQUEST FOR HEARING AT THIS MEETING.

VIOLATION OF TOBACCO PERMITS:

- Lifestyle Vape 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.
- 2 Debi’s Convenience Mart located at 516 Pleasant St. 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. A \$5,000 fine was assessed. This constitutes a third violation within a 36 month period. The proprietor has requested a hearing and is represented by Attorney Philip Nessralla.
- Cheer’s Liquors 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

“City of Champions”

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constitutes the first violation for within a 36 month period. The proprietor has a requested a hearing and is represented by Attorney Philip Nessralla.

- 2 Debi's Convenience Mart located at 516 Pleasant St. During a routine inspection on 09/26/2024, flavored tobacco was observed offered for sale. This constitutes a fourth violation within a 36 month period. A \$5,000 fine was assessed. This violation makes this vendor subject to revocation of their tobacco sales permit. The proprietor has a requested a hearing and is represented by Attorney Philip Nessralla.
- Gas Depot located at 1123 Main St. During a routine inspection on 10/11/2024, flavored chewing tobacco and ENDS with a 5% nicotine content was observed offered for sale. This constitutes a fourth violation within a 36 month period. A \$5,000 fine was assessed. This violation makes this vendor subject to revocation of their tobacco sales permit. The proprietor has a requested a hearing and is represented by Attorney Philip Nessralla.
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NOTE: 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:

SPECIAL REPORT: I am pleased to report that from the initial vaccination clinic for COVID-19 to October 2024, the BOH Public Health Nurses have administered a total of 243,314 doses of COVID-19 vaccine!

COVID-19 Dashboard (cases): CURRENT, (as of 12/3/24) New Positive Cases, N=3, Active Cases, N=10, Cumulative, N=35,637, Deaths, N=546.

PRIOR MONTHS→ (as of 11/30/24) New Positive Cases, N=2, Active Cases, N=7, Cumulative, N=35,629, Deaths, N=546.

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.

NEW INITIATIVE: The City of Brockton is among the Cities that have a very low percentage of Vaccination. To help mitigate this issue, BOH proposes the following solution: In partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Board of Health is developing a new "Long Term Immunization Program" for Brockton. Currently, the plan is to create a revolving account where money

for vaccination reimbursement will be deposited to help sustain the program. Brockton City Council has moved on a proposal to open the account, we are waiting for their final approval to launch this project.

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.

VI-Eastern Equine Encephalitis (known as EEE), & Western Nile Virus (also known as WNV): in recent weeks, DPH has updated the risk level regularly. Brockton was fortunate that it did not register any case among humans, and at this time of the season we are almost out of the woods!

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: A)-One vacancy: Public health Nurse...; B)-Findings on the Community Health Needs Assessment...; C)-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.

THE STATE OF OUR HOSPITALS: Good Samaritan Hospital: BMC has taken over and we are hoping for the best Healthcare Service for Brockton residents from the New Administration.

Brockton Hospital: The Hospital still has a way to go to fully reopen all its specialties. The administration continues to report the City on Progress made!

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, January 2nd, 2025

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Respectfully submitted,

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Eno Mondesir, Executive Health Officer BOH, City of Brockton

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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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