

WHEELING BOARD OF HEALTH
SPECIAL MEETING

May 25, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chairperson Pro Tem Melone.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Ball, Freed and Melone were present. Commissioners Birnbaum and Engel were absent with prior notice. Health Officer, Serena Ivaldi was also present.

III. MINUTES – March 23, 2021

Commissioner Freed moved, seconded by Commissioner Ball to approve the minutes dated March 23, 2021 as presented. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

IV. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- (a) Resignation of William Engel, Board of Health Commissioner.

Ms. Ivaldi announced Commissioner Engel's formal resignation through email.

V. CITIZENS CONCERNS AND COMMENTS - None

VI. ONGOING BUSINESS

- (a) Blood Drive - None

- i. Future Blood Drive July 7, 2021 (appointment only)

Ms. Ivaldi announced July 7th as the next blood drive date. They are still screening for COVID 19 antibodies and are requiring appointments with no walk-ins.

- (b) Prescription Medication Collection update – Restarted

The prescription medication collection was restarted on May 15.

Commissioner Ball worked her first collection with Commissioner Melone. She felt it was busy with a steady stream and no long waits. Four bins and two meds were filled and everyone was appreciative that the program had restarted.

There are no large bins, but a lot of small bins. Ms. Ivaldi is in the process of ordering more large containers.

The next collection is scheduled on June 19th with Commissioner Freed.

The signup sheet for August, September, October, November and December was distributed. Commissioner Birnbaum is working the July collection.

Commissioner Ball mentioned many people asked about a battery collection. Ms. Ivaldi thought Battery Plus took old batteries. Commissioner Birnbaum has a connection for recycling batteries and has offered to take them in the past.

Commissioner Melone asked about collections of eyeglasses. Ms. Ivaldi explained they are collected and

at the end of the year she takes them to Pearl Vision.

Commissioner Melone had someone ask about taking IV bags. Ms. Ivaldi was unsure but didn't think they could be recycled.

Commissioner Melone felt most of the people at the collection followed the container guidelines listed on the website.

There was a discussion about needing two people working a collection and it was determined one should be enough.

Ms. Ivaldi asked for a volunteer for the August collection. Commissioner Ball offered.

Commissioner Melone asked for masking tape and a Sharpie pen for the closet.

(c) Wheeling Walks program

Ms. Ivaldi confirmed the Park District was not having a health fair this year but were doing an anniversary event for the health and fitness center. The Park District asked if the Board of Health wanted to showcase any projects.

The Wheeling Walks Challenge is from April 10 – June 5. The Park District is hosting a 5K in October and is looking for partners and sponsors to promote and execute the event. They asked if the Board of Health wanted to help promote and execute the event.

Commissioner Melone asked about Run the Runway. Ms. Ivaldi explained it was a Village of Wheeling event that is being held in August along with fireworks.

Commissioner Freed offered to do a diabetes class at the Park District's 5K event in October. Commissioner Melone agreed the Board of Health should help with the event.

Ms. Ivaldi will get more information about the 5K and will bring details to the July meeting.

Ms. Ivaldi will also get more information about the Park District's anniversary event and will forward the details in an email to the Board of Health and bring for discussion at the July meeting.

Commissioner Melone asked about Board of Health projects in other villages. Ms. Ivaldi mentioned not all villages had a Board of Health. Commissioner Melone felt there should be ongoing education for families in Wheeling and should be offered in multiple languages.

Commissioner Melone mentioned mental health awareness and suggested making resources available to families especially after the pandemic. Commissioner Freed suggested being careful about providing resources since there were many that were not legit. Ms. Ivaldi explained the Village prefers using only governmental agencies.

Commissioner Freed suggested inviting some of the participants from past health fairs to different events in order to get them more involved.

Commissioner Melone asked about the type of phone calls Ms. Ivaldi is current receiving. Ms. Ivaldi confirmed all her current calls were COVID related.

Commissioner Melone suggested conducting a survey to find out what health related topics people are interested in learning about. Ms. Ivaldi asked if she should revisit the results from the last survey.

Commissioner Melone has concerns about the health of children in the Village and the elderly who are unable to get out. Ms. Ivaldi suggested including the topics in the Board of Health section in the Village newsletter.

Commissioner Freed asked for the deadline dates so he can put something together about diabetes. Ms. Ivaldi thought the deadline was around the end of the month or first few days at the beginning of the month.

Commissioner Melone suggested using bullets in the newsletter.

- Are you feeling stressed?
- Are you feeling anxious?
- Have you tried meditation?

Commissioner Freed suggested, "Do you know your quality of life number". Ms. Ivaldi reminded the Board of Health that the Village Manager's office needs to review and approve it.

One of Commissioner Ball's passion is clinical trials. Commissioner Freed suggested listing the current clinical trials being done in the area. Commissioner Ball doesn't want to promote specific trials but mentioned listing www.clinicaltrials.gov to search for specific trials.

Ms. Ivaldi needs any potential articles sent to her in a ready to go format that would fit in the Board of Health section in the newsletter. It also needs to include the source and approval from the Village Manager's office.

Commissioner Melone questioned if the Village of Health was doing enough for the Village. Ms. Ivaldi suggested looking at other Board of Health's projects. She mentioned Skokie and Arlington Heights as Villages with large Board of Health Departments.

Ms. Ivaldi reminded the Commission that the Commissioners need to email her direct without copying any of the other Commissioners. She can then distribute the information to everyone.

Ms. Ivaldi announced the Village of Wheeling is on a waitlist at Jewel for a COVID-19 vaccine clinic.

Commissioner Melone asked if the results from the last survey could be forwarded to everyone. Ms. Ivaldi explained the survey was done on paper so she will need to search the minutes.

Commissioner Freed suggested doing a new survey online. Ms. Ivaldi explained the Village did not approve it in the past since the email blast is for emergencies and upcoming events only. Commissioner Freed suggested including a link for a survey on the Village's website and also mentioning it in the newsletter.

Everyone agreed mental health and fitness had become more popular concerns since COVID. Ms. Ivaldi will look at the old survey from two years ago and update it with vaccines and COVID-19 information.

The Board of Health would like the survey to go out as soon as possible. Commissioner Melone would like the survey to be available in different languages. Ms. Ivaldi will look into it.

Commissioner Ball suggested including a blurb in the newsletter about people scheduling their overdue routine appointments and screenings that had been delayed due to COVID.

Ms. Ivaldi will include the topics in the newsletter in the order they are received.

(d) COVID-19 - None

VII. OLD BUSINESS - None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS - None

IX. VERBAL COMMUNICATION

Commissioner Freed is working with six PharmD interns. He mentioned he could give a project to them if there is one that takes time and would not cost anything.

Commissioner Melone wants to include current and future projects on future agendas. She also wants to revisit the vision statement. Ms. Ivaldi noted it had recently been changed.

Commissioner Freed would like to know the number of people who visit Wheeling's website and the Board of Health section. Ms. Ivaldi was unsure if the Village had the ability to track the number of people visiting the Board of Health section. She will check with IT.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was entered at 8:05 p.m. by Commissioner Freed. Commissioner Ball seconded the motion. The motion received unanimous approval by the Board of Health.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Melone, Chairperson Pro Tem
Wheeling Board of Health

Approved:  Date: 07-27-2021