

WHEELING BOARD OF HEALTH
SPECIAL MEETING

July 27, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Chairperson Birnbaum.

II. ROLL CALL

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

III. MINUTES – May 25, 2021

Commissioner Freed moved, seconded by Commissioner Melone to approve the minutes dated May 25, 2021, as presented. Chairperson Birnbaum abstained. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

IV. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - None

V. CITIZENS CONCERNS AND COMMENTS - None

VI. ONGOING BUSINESS

(a) Blood Drive - None

i. Blood Drive July 7, 2021 - 30 units collected

Ms. Ivaldi announced 30 units were collected at the July 7th blood drive which is typical for July. They are still doing the screening for COVID-19.

(b) Prescription Medication Collection update – July 17, 2021

Commissioner Freed worked the June collection and filled two containers. Commissioner Melone worked the July 17th collection.

Commissioner Ball is scheduled to work the August 21st collection with Chairperson Birnbaum.

Commissioner Melone collected two bins of sharps, one container of meds and also replaced the bin from the kiosk. She will continue to check the kiosk on a bi-weekly basis.

Ms. Ivaldi reminded the Commission to never accept sharps without being in a container. It is a liability for the Village.

Ms. Ivaldi referred to the “At your door” program where Waste Management picks up medication directly from someone’s doorstep. She believes it is a free program.

Commissioner Melone asked if the Commission wanted to continue working the collection alone or if they wanted to go back to having a second person. Commissioners Freed and Birnbaum had no issues working alone. Commissioner Birnbaum thought the most difficult task working alone was putting up the signage. Commissioner Melone placed the signs on the sidewalk and Commissioner Freed puts them in his car and drops them at the locations and returns to pick them up.

The kiosk for sharps is located in the Police Department lobby. It is for the public to use instead of the monthly collection.

Commissioner Melone mentioned the closet was currently full of containers.

(c) Large sharps containers issues

Ms. Ivaldi announced the large sharps containers were in after taking a long time to be delivered.

(d) Wheeling Walks Program

Chairperson Birnbaum announced Wheeling Walks was still ongoing. They just finished a challenge where participants could choose to walk 150 miles, 100 miles or 50 miles. Everyone who participated and walked their miles was awarded a certificate to be picked up at the Health and Fitness Center's second anniversary party. Miles were logged weekly using an online form. The program was an incentive for participants to reach their own individual goals. The program lasted six weeks. Commissioner Freed suggested making it a contest and used as a motivational tool for those *interested*.

Ms. Ivaldi announced a Village of Wheeling walking competition for Village employees. It requires at least 2.5 hours of walking weekly. The participants use an app to track their mileage/hours. It is being run as a contest for either the most hours, mileage or they will pull a name from all participants.

Commissioner Freed referred to the Des Plaines River trail that begins near Wheeling and goes north for 33 miles. Chairperson Birnbaum mentioned you could also start on Dundee. Commissioner Freed suggested having a bike or walking event using the trail.

Ms. Ivaldi will encourage the Village employees to join Wheeling Walks.

(e) BOH website page update

Ms. Ivaldi reported the COVID-19 page had 14,885 views, the sharps page had 402 views and the vaccine page had 632 views.

Commissioner Freed asked if they had used the blurbs the Commissioners had provided. Ms. Ivaldi sent both for use if they had room. Commissioner Freed wondered if their blurbs were used if it would increase the number of views.

In response to Commissioner Melone's question, Ms. Ivaldi confirmed the blurbs would be used in the Village's newsletter and on the website.

The Board of Health page is located within the Public Health Division page. The Public Health Division had 737 views from January 1 to July 27 and the Board of Health page had 259 views during the same period.

Commissioner Freed felt there was so much more that could be done on the webpage than just having a static page. He mentioned the library's website which offers programs on health. He wants the Village to think out of the box regarding the Internet.

(f) Flu vaccination clinic (open to employees and public)

Ms. Ivaldi announced September 23 (between 1:30-3:30p) as the date for the Flu Vaccination Clinic with Jewel Osco hosted by the Village of Wheeling. Last year's clinic was for employees only and this year is for the public. They are also offering tetanus, pneumonia, shingles, COVID-19 (first shot) and the COVID-19 booster if available. It will be by appointment only and scheduled online.

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Ms. Ivaldi confirmed a link to a Survey Monkey on the Board of Health of Health Division page was permitted. The type of questions for the survey needs to be determined. Commissioner Melone asked about the focus of the survey. The last survey had a small response, but Ms. Ivaldi felt a Survey Monkey would attract a larger response. She wants it to be basic, quick and short. Nothing was done with the information from the last survey. Commissioner Melone thinks the timing would be good. The Commission came up with the following list for the survey:

1. Mental health
2. Physical health
3. Nutrition
4. Substance abuse
5. Board of health's duties
6. Chronic health conditions
7. Vision and hearing challenges

Ms. Ivaldi mentioned she receives a lot of phone calls from parents who want free vaccines for their children. Cook County no longer offers them except for preexisting clients. She'll ask Jewel Osco about any resources. Commissioner Freed mentioned that Walgreen's corporate office in Deerfield may be interested in working with the Village of Wheeling. Ms. Ivaldi wasn't sure since they would be looking for no cost vaccines. The flu shot clinic charges out of pocket for HMOs and is only free for PPOs. Jewel is running it through their insurance. Chairperson Birnbaum hopes a local doctor can assist with the vaccines for those in need. Ms. Ivaldi noted four nearby villages came together and offered vaccines to their residents, she'll contact them for information. Commissioner Melone will contact the township for any contacts.

VII. OLD BUSINESS – None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Melone asked if the Board of Health would consider hosting a food drive. Ms. Ivaldi confirmed the Village had done it before and offered to do it again. Commissioner Melone wants the Board of Health to get involved. Commissioner Melone offered to take the food to the Wheeling Township Food Pantry. Chairperson Birnbaum also offered to help. Commissioner Melone offered to contact Wheeling Township. It could be combined with a coat drive. It would be advertised on the website, Facebook, reader board and newsletter.

Commissioner Melone asked if Public Works could donate boxes for the food/coat drive. Ms. Ivaldi will ask Public Works and Waste Management.

Chairperson Birnbaum announced some future Park District events that are allowing community organizations to join them. There is a family pizza and bingo night on Friday, September 10 from 6:30-8:30 p.m., she thought it could be a way to advertise the Board of Health by having a table and volunteers. The Park District is also inviting community groups and organizations to:

- Fallapalooza on September 19
- Oktoberfest on October 2 (3:00-8:00p)
- Boonanza on October 22 will be held inside
- Holiday Hoopla on December 5

- Happy Noonyear on December 31

Commissioner Melone asked for a sign-up sheet for the different events. She didn't think everyone needed to attend each event. Ms. Ivaldi will provide a volunteer list to the Board of Health. She also mentioned volunteering at the Park District's 5K event.

IX. VERBAL COMMUNICATION - None

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Birnbaum, Chairperson
Wheeling Board of Health

Approved:  Date: 9-28-2021

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