WMPHA

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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MINUTES OF APRIL 8TH, 2025 VIRTUAL MEETING

Attendance *Tom Hibert; Ryan Paxton; Bri Dupras; Tammy Spencer; Phoebe Walker; Laura Kittross; Sharon Hart; Colton Garelli; Rebecca Jurczyk*

TH opened the meeting at 11:37 am

Minutes Review and Approval:
Motion made by LK to accept the minutes of March 11, 2025 meeting and seconded by BD. All approved.

Treasurer's Update

Financial Report: **Checking:** 17,750.60
Savings: 10,616.69
Grant: 10,987.63

BD updated that we are in receipt of second half of the grant. Brief discussion on budget.

Corporate Filing/Tax Discussion
Group discussed that corporate filling has not occurred in several years. Annual report has been filed. RP volunteered to work on corporate filing. PW motioned to authorize RP to spend the

necessary funds to complete the filing; LK seconded; all approved. LK suggested we check with an accountant for any tax obligations. She knows someone we can talk with.

WMPHA Logo Discussion
Group discussed moving forward with meeting the designer. Meeting date and time to be determined.

CLPH and Legislative Update – PW
PW updated that they will be meeting with DEP Commissioner Heiple in May. Hope to discuss NEIWPC and METRIC with her. PW asked group if there are other DEP topics we would like CLPH to discuss with her. Group asked PW to convey our thanks to the Commissioner on allowing Sean Gonsalves to participate in our WMPHA executive committee.

Alexis Walls with MPHA sent out an email asking people to contact their senators/legislators about the budget.

PW asked the group if we wanted to have RCAP back to meet with us to discuss the private well legislation. Group declined for now. Update on bill to require DEP to come up with a committee to work on regulations. Discussion on whether or not WMPHA wants to support the bill. Group decided to not endorse the bill at this time.

RJ discussed putting together a procedure for endorsing bills and other activities. TH volunteered to reach out to Cheryl Sbarra at MAHB about endorsements. RJ also mentioned that MHOA may have similar information that they might be willing to share.

Sponsoring Refreshments at Spring Tier 2 Food Training in Western Mass
BD brought up the idea of sponsoring refreshments for a class of up to 40 people at the Spring Tier 2 Food Training. Items would be something similar to coffee and a baked good. TH made the motion to sponsor up to $100 for refreshments; SH seconded the motion; all approved.

MHOA Conference Collaboration
No update.

Power Hour Ideas
Power Hour on Air Quality will be held on 5/20/25 at 1:30 pm. PW will send out flyer. Still looking into budget and advocacy. Group taking a break from Power Hour planning for now

Training Hub Update
BD updated that they are half way through the Tier 3 Housing Training and that Tier 2 Food training has just started. They are now working on putting together Camps and Pools.

DPH and DEP Updates
No DPH or DEP employees in attendance. Group discussed Pools and Hot tubs at Short Term Rentals and how they do not meet the definition of semi-public pools. DPH providing guidance on subject. Group discussed DPH interns and what they will be doing this summer.

Member Discussion

Gerri Swanson will be retiring May 1. TH made a motion to purchase a gift up to $100; SH seconded the motion; all approved. Congratulations Gerri!

Meeting Adjourned
Motion made by LK to adjourn and seconded by RJ. All approved.

Next Meeting:
The next Executive Committee meeting will be held virtually at **11:30 am on Tuesday, May 13th, 2025.** Next in person meeting will be June 10th at BRPC.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Spencer, Secretary WMPHA