

Minutes
Health Advisory Council
February 12, 2013

Present : Dori Zaleznik, Marva Serotkin, Indira Desai, Kiran Milunsky, Aric Parnes,
Peter Buechler, Betty Cohen
Absent: Julia Feldman, Brenda Mulligan

The minutes of the meeting of January 23, 2013 were reviewed and approved.

The Council members reviewed the areas of focus that had been identified at the previous meeting. A proposal was made and approved that the Council focus for the coming year on one short-term and one long-term goal as follows:

Short-term goal: To evaluate and propose cancer prevention initiatives in regard to tobacco use. Target date: June 2013

- a. Review existing ordinances and regulations in Newton concerning access to and use of tobacco products.
- b. Review the examples of tobacco ordinances provided by the State of Massachusetts in conjunction with the MA Tobacco Control Program grant to the five community collaborative in which Newton is a participant.
- c. Determine whether additional ordinances and regulations should be proposed that would enhance the health of Newton residents.
- d. Enlist support from and present a proposal to the Board of Aldermen.

Long-term goal: To investigate the feasibility of conducting a city-wide survey to gather baseline information about the health of the residents of Newton, and to make a proposal for implementing such a survey to the Mayor.
Target date: January 2014.

In addition, a subcommittee will evaluate the website and make recommendations for improving the presentation of information on the site.

Dori will invite her staff member Teresa Kett to the next meeting to discuss the grant that the Newton Health Department received to reduce smoking. She will also provide us with copies of existing ordinances related to smoking and tobacco use in Newton.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 12

Future meetings: Tuesday, June 11, Tuesday, October 8