



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS CLERK OF COMMITTEES

March 25, 2015

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John M. Connolly	Chair	Present	
Mary Jo Rossetti	Vice Chair	Present	
Mark Niedergang	Ward Five Alderman	Present	

Others present: Alderman Maryann Heuston, Doug Kress - Health, Corey Mashburn - SCAP, Tom Ross - SFD, Robert Hodnett - SFD, Goran Smiljic - ISD, JoAnn Riviuccio - SOA, Omar Boukili - Mayor's Office, and representatives of Cambridge Health Alliance

1. Approval of the December 10, 2014 Minutes

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
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194939: That this Board requests that the Cambridge Health Alliance cease, or shelve, its proposed consolidation plan until they convene stakeholders to discuss how best to meet the challenges of an ever changing health care landscape, while meeting the needs of our community.

Representatives of Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) spoke about some of the many services offered by their agency, which operates predominately in 5 different communities. CHA formed a partnership with Somerville over the years, supporting Shape Up Somerville and piloting programs with Somerville's Teen Empowerment and Head Start programs. Representatives reported that there is a 41% rate of food insecurity in the city and that there are approximately 100 homeless students in the Somerville school system.

Among the topics discussed were: the health of the community, a 2011 report on the well being of Somerville, outreach to isolated seniors and the outpatient addiction program at their Central Street location. Chairman Connolly read a few emails submitted from the community asking questions about recovery coaches and sensitivity training for CHA staff. The committee directed the city's Substance Abuse Coordinator to attend the next available meeting.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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198424: That the Director of Purchasing and the Director of Capital Projects inform this Board about the faulty bid submissions for a new modular structure to house Engine 3, and a plan for fast tracking such a structure, and that the Chief Fire Engineer inform this Board about current fire protection in the Union Square area.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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198376: That the Administration consider employing a Substance Abuse Coordinator to assist our city's families.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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198383: That the Director of SPCD dispatch the NIT team to inspect 135 Lowell Street for building, health and/or zoning code violations.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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198579: That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect the Rent a Center store on Broadway for trash and other violations.

Alderman Heuston's motion that ISD perform weekly inspections of the Rent-a-Center store on Broadway for trash and other violations, was approved.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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198582: That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect Walnut Street between Medford and Pearl Streets for possible chemical spills.

According to Smiljic, the spill is not there any longer.

Alderman Connolly's motion that ISD perform weekly inspections of Walnut Street, between Medford and Pearl Streets, for any signs of a chemical spill, was approved.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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198256: DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 11/13/14.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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192737: That this Board's Committee on Public Health and Safety arrange for representatives of Riverside Community Care aka Somerville Mental Health Association,

to appear before the Committee to explain where the programs are and how the City can assist them.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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195671: That the Director of the Women's Commission appear at a future Public Health and Safety Committee meeting to update this Board on the city's domestic violence prevention efforts.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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197962: That the Administration and NSTAR provide this Board with an update regarding the numerous blackouts in East Somerville and the surrounding neighborhoods.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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198097: That the Director of SPCD update this Board on its public education campaign concerning appropriate bicycling in central business districts.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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