



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS CLERK OF COMMITTEES

May 21, 2012

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
William A. White Jr.	Chair	Present	
William M. Roche	Vice Chair	Present	
Rebekah Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Sean T. O'Donovan	Ward Five Alderman	Present	
Dave Shapiro	Asst. City Solicitor	Present	
Paul Upton	Deputy Police Chief	Present	
David Lutes	Environmental Programs Manager	Present	
Eddie Nuzzo	Supt. of ISD	Present	
Ellen Schneider	ISD	Present	
Stan Koty	DPW Commissioner	Present	
Omar Boukili	Administrative Assistant	Present	
Michael Glavin	Exec. Director, OSPCD	Present	

190058 - That the Director of SPCD Provide This Board with the Latest Revision to the City's Rodent Control Policies before the Next Meeting of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, and appear with Appropriate Designees at Said Meeting.:

Members of the committee expressed concern regarding the city's long range pest control plans, the importance of the MBTA removing trash from areas along their train tracks, funding for rodent control and the vacant trash inspector position. Mr. Koty spoke about a new rodent control contract with Best Pest Control and Ms. Schneider said that ISD is taking the lead in working with the Board of Health on the rodent issue. Chairman White suggested that the Board of Health prepare a written report addressing the concerns for a long term plan, in response to a request by Alderman Roche. (See item 190956)

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

190375 - That the Commissioner of Public Works appear before the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety to discuss the impact of the use of brick cross walks, their impact on the handicapped community, the measures in place to ensure that such cross walks

comply with all state regulations and whether such cross walks should be used in future road work.:

Mr. Koty stated that all crosswalks have been checked and found to be fine, however, there are a few curbs that need to be repaired. Mr. Boukili stated that he is not aware of any problems with the brick pavers.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

190537 - That the Commissioner of Public Works provide the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety with a listing of ramps that have been requested to be made ADA compliant, indicating those that have been completed.:

Mr. Koty stated that ramps are replaced as required by law by street contractors and Mr. Boukili discussed a plan to repair ramps.

RESULT:

WORK COMPLETED

190956 - That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Health update this Board on the public awareness campaign to address rodent control, and describe specific problem areas and plans to address rodent control in those areas.:

Members of the committee expressed concern regarding the city's long range pest control plans, the importance of the MBTA removing trash from areas along their train tracks, funding for rodent control and the vacant trash inspector position. Mr. Koty spoke about a new rodent control contract with Best Pest Control and Ms. Schneider said that ISD is taking the lead in working with the Board of Health on the rodent issue. Chairman White suggested that the Board of Health prepare a written report addressing the concerns for a long term plan. (See item 190058)

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

191021 - That the Director of SPCD initiate a full NIT evaluation at 47 Harrison Street and report the findings to this Board's Committee on Public Health and Public Safety.:

Mr. Shapiro discussed the receivership process and informed the committee that this property has been put under agreement. Mr. Nuzzo spoke about some repairs that are needed, including the chimney, and reported that the building is secured. (See item 193196)

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

192050 - That the Chief of Police and the Director of SPCD (ISD) respond to the attached list of problem addresses and be prepared to provide an update at this Board's October 24 Public Health and Safety Committee Meeting.:

Mr. Nuzzo reported that he visited the property and that the owner is being cooperative about fixing the violations.

RESULT:**KEPT IN COMMITTEE**

192058 - That this Board requests that a representative from the Administration appear before the Public Health and Safety Committee to provide an update on the proposed Bicycle/Pedestrian Public Safety Campaign.:

Deputy Chief Upton discussed the regulations pertaining to bicycles and noted that bicycle riding on sidewalks is not permitted in a central business district. Police officers are receiving training on bicycling laws and the department is following legislation that would allow police officers to issue citation to bicyclist for infractions. Chairman White suggested placing announcements on the city's cable channel to make the public aware of the regulations. (See item 192179)

RESULT:**WORK COMPLETED**

192096 - That the Committee on Public Health and Safety place Albion Park and its related noise issues on the next possible agenda to discuss lighting and basketball play at all hours of the night.:

RESULT:**WORK COMPLETED**

192179 - That the Chief of Police appear before the Committee on Public Health and Safety to present a plan to enforce bicycling regulations for Spring, 2012.:

Deputy Chief Upton discussed the regulations pertaining to bicycles and noted that bicycle riding on sidewalks is not permitted in a central business district. Police officers are receiving training on bicycling laws and the department is following legislation that would allow police officers to issue citation to bicyclist for infractions. Chairman White suggested placing announcements on the city's cable channel to make the public aware of the regulations. (See item 192058)

RESULT:**WORK COMPLETED**

192243 - That the Chief of Police, Superintendent of Inspectional Services, Director of Public Health and City Environmental Officer appear before the Committee on Public Health and Safety to address issues pertaining to the recent Oxford Street crystal meth lab incident.:

Mr. Lutes reported that there is no evidence of external dumping at the property.

RESULT:**WORK COMPLETED**

192438 - That the Chief of Police appear before the Committee on Public Health and Safety on January 23, at 6:30 PM, at the Mystic Development, to address crime activities, especially house breaks, in the Ten Hills section.:

Deputy Chief Upton reported that since the last meeting, the home break-ins in the area have ceased.

RESULT:**WORK COMPLETED**

192496 - That the Commissioner of Public Works (Lines and Lights) analyze the streetlights on Bailey and Temple Roads, under Route 93, and report the findings to the Committee on Public Health and Safety.:

Commissioner Koty has been in contact with Mass Highway and will update the committee at a future date.

RESULT:**KEPT IN COMMITTEE**

192681 - City Clerk conveying a Resolution forwarded by the Chelsea City Council opposing the transportation of ethanol by rail to Revere.:

Mr. Lutes advised the committee that this is item is more of an issue for the Fire Department and Chairman White recommended that a resolution be drafted opposing the use of ethanol trains. (See item 192920)

RESULT:**WORK COMPLETED**

192791 - That the Director of SPCD (ISD) and the City Solicitor appear before this Board's Committee on Public Health and Safety to explain why the city is unable to enforce the unregistered vehicle ordinance passed last year.:

Mr. Shapiro, Deputy Chief Upton, Mr. Nuzzo and Mr. Koty addressed this item with the committee and discussed unregistered vehicles left on a property for more than 90 days, unregistered vehicles on private ways, ticketing unregistered vehicles on private property and campers that sit on pick-up trucks. Chairman White requested a written report from the Law Department explaining whether campers and/or trailers fall within the scope of the ordinance regarding unregistered vehicles.

RESULT:**KEPT IN COMMITTEE**

192920 - Revere City Council conveying a Resolution opposing the transportation of ethanol by rail to Revere.:

Mr. Lutes advised the committee that this is item is more of an issue for the Fire Department and Chairman White recommended that a resolution be drafted opposing the use of ethanol trains. (See item 192681)

RESULT:**WORK COMPLETED****192950 - That the Director of Constituent Services (311), the Commissioner of Public Works and the Chief of Police appear before the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety to explain the procedures involved in responding to citizen complaints about construction vehicles driving over public sidewalks, in general, and in particular, an incident that was reported to 311 on or about November 28, 2011, with respect to 1298 Broadway.:**

Mr. Boukili stated that 311 has no record of a report for 1298 Broadway. Chairman White questioned 311's reporting procedures and also questioned police action regarding trucks driving over a sidewalk.

RESULT:**WORK COMPLETED****193079 - That the Neighborhood Impact Team inspect 7 Greene Street for code violations, and report back to this Board with its findings and actions taken.:**

Mr. Nuzzo reported that he visited the property and that there is a family dispute going on. Chairman White suggested that a criminal violation be cited.

RESULT:**KEPT IN COMMITTEE****193196 - That the City Solicitor update this Board on the status of legal proceedings related to 47 Harrison Street.:**

Mr. Shapiro discussed the receivership process and informed the committee that this property has been put under agreement. Mr. Nuzzo spoke about some repairs that are needed, including the chimney, and reported that the building is secured. (See item 191021)

RESULT:**KEPT IN COMMITTEE**