

Town of Gorham, Board of Health

Meeting Minutes for March 29th, 2023

6pm VIA Zoom

1. Meeting called to order
 - a. Attendees: Dr. Colby Wyatt, Melissa Vanmeter, and Councilor Ginny Wilder Cross
2. Meeting minutes from 2.15.23 reviewed
 - a. Melissa Vanmeter approved minutes. Dr. Wyatt seconded the motion.
3. Continued discussion on flavored nicotine products
 - a. Discussed findings from literature evidence reviewed since last meeting
 - b. Question posed of number of towns & municipalities that have banned sale of flavored nicotine products – South Portland, plus 3-4 more
 - c. Councilor Wilder Cross shared recent activity at state level with proposed bill to ban these products
 - d. Reviewed statistical data
 - i. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services study results
 - ii. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report 1 in 5 high school (HS) students using electronic smoking device; 1 in 20 high school students smoke cigarettes
 - iii. 2019 30% of e-cigarette use in HS students; 2022 14.1% national data
 - iv. Discussed statistical findings for middle school students
 - e. Dr. Wyatt shared presentation/slides on flavored nicotine products
 - i. Impacts on pediatric population health – physical and mental
 - ii. Discussed different brands being sold
4. Proposed next steps for flavored nicotine products
 - a. Dr. Wyatt plans to follow up with Maine Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics and team that worked on ban in South Portland
 - i. Develop presentation for town council to discuss proposal to ban flavored nicotine products

- b. Councilor Wilder Cross plans to follow up with Town Council Chair Lee Pratt to determine agenda item versus town council workshop. Town council meetings in-person on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm.
 - i. Considering proposal for agenda in May
 - c. Melissa plans to communicate with high school nurse and middle school nurse to determine level of problem in schools and when education introduced to children
5. Next meeting scheduled for Monday, April 17th at 6pm VIA Zoom
 6. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm

Minutes submitted by Melissa Vanmeter