

Town of Gorham, Board of Health
Meeting Minutes for December 21st, 2023
Online Zoom Meeting

1. Meeting called to order at 5:31 pm
 - a. Attendees: Eric Thistle, Melissa Vanmeter, Dr. Colby Wyatt and Councilor Ginny Wilder-Cross
2. Meeting minutes from 5.1.23 reviewed
 - a. Eric Thistle approved minutes. Melissa Vanmeter seconded the motion.
3. Discussion regarding smokeless flavored tobacco question
 - a. Councilor Wilder-Cross provided update on state bill to ban the sale of flavored tobacco products.
 - b. Colby Wyatt shared request from Councilor Seigel to speak at Town Council.
 - i. Invited to the Town Council session for workshop to present information on effects of flavored smokeless tobacco.
 - c. Members reviewed flavored smokeless tobacco products with market to children, potential ban impact on Gorham businesses, and communities that have banned sale of products – Falmouth most recent town to ban.
 - d. Members discussed the effects of smokeless flavored tobacco products on adult and pediatric health.
 - i. Purchasing of smokeless flavored tobacco age/access
 - ii. Education provided to school-aged children
 - iii. Brands/flavors of smokeless tobacco products including menthol
 - iv. Evidence and statistical data – use peaked in 2019; approximately 40% of 7th/8th grade children tried
4. Discussion about request for federal money distribution to treat opioid dependency
 - a. Councilor Wilder-Cross shared communications by phone and email from Rob Korobkin, owner of Courage House regarding Town of Gorham federal money to assist people in need of opioid dependence treatment.
 - b. Members agreed to recommend Mr. Korobkin to appeal to the Town Council.
5. Next meeting planned for 1-2 weeks prior to BOH attending to Town Council session
6. Meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm