

MINUTES
Oak Park Board of Health
Tuesday, January 28, 2020- 7:00 PM
Village Hall – Room 102

Present: Board of Health: Florence Miller, Noel Chavez, Jennifer Fritz, Timothy Halt, Natalie Serratos, Ryan Patrick

Guests: Laura Derks (Chair of Energy & Environment Committee), John Wielebnicki (Public Works Director)

- I. Call to Order @ 7:04 pm
- II. Approval of Agenda: Approved, first by Chavez, second by Patrick
- III. Approval of the Minutes of November 26, 2019: Approved, first by Patrick, second by Halt
- IV. Public Comment: None
- V. Old Business
 - A. Creation of an Outreach Plan to Educate Residents on Issues of Lead in Drinking Water

Fritz communicated that the education should provide information to all Oak Parkers that is accurate, relevant and educational. Miller communicated that although the Village Board requested the BOH look at “lead in water” that the BOH education/recommendations on lead will also include education on other sources of lead such as lead-based paint, since providing education on all sources of lead are all important to prevention.

John Wielebnicki provided an overview of Oak Park’s water supply and how lead gets into drinking water. Wielebnicki presented information on a CDBG funded program that is new to 2020 where property owners meeting certain income requirements can get financial help to replace water service lines. Fritz asked if water filter pitchers will be distributed in 2020. Wielebnicki said providing pitchers to residents during project is very likely in 2020. The cost of the pitchers being built into project costs. Laura Derks asked if David Martin had spoke to the BOH regarding lead in drinking water. Derks communicated that David Martin has done work with the Sierra Club and recently spoke to the Energy & Environment Committee regarding lead. Derks commented that David Martin was advocating filtered pitchers for each home.

Derks and Fritz communicated that it’s important that correct information goes out regarding Public Works’ testing for lead to ensure residents understand that the Village has safe drinking

water. Derks asked whether routine water testing has been done in multi-family properties. Wielebnicki communicated no, but there is information and direction on the Village's website on how a property owner conduct their own testing lead. Derks asked whether it is required that children are tested in Oak Park. Charley communicated that all children prior to attending day care, pre-school and/or kindergarten are required to be tested in Oak Park, due to the age of Oak Park's housing stock.

Fritz referred back to the document titled "National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week – Partner Information Kit" that had been handed out during this meeting and communicated that this packet has sample lead education that the Village can refer to for public health lead education. Fritz commented that the Village material that is shared should communicate to residents that if they are worried about lead, they can contact their physician directly for consultation.

Miller inquired to the group "What's the plan/next steps"?

The group agreed that the next step is to draft a written recommendation to the Village Board to be reviewed at the February BOH meeting. After the document is approved by the BOH, it will be referred back to the Village Board as an agenda item.

Fritz asked about whether the BOH wanted to recommend that a "panel" be convened with other taxing bodies to discuss lead. Halt and Patrick did not support forming a panel, however focusing on providing public education through the Village's communication tools. Chavez recommended that Public Works staff that deal with water service are trained. Wielebnicki communicated that specific Public Works staff are trained and that he ensure that Public Works staff are prepared to answer questions regarding lead in drinking water.

Miller thanked Wielebnicki and Derks for attending the meeting.

VI. New Business: None

VII. Adjourn @ 8:15 pm, first by Patrick, second by Fritz

Next meeting February 25, 2020