



CITY OF WALTHAM
MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF HEALTH

MICHELLE M. FEELEY
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Waltham Board of Health Minutes
May 17, 2026

The Board of Health meeting was called to order at 5:06PM by Member Dr. Lerner.

At 5:22PM, Member Dr. Lerner turned the meeting back over to Chairman Dr. Merola, as he was a little late. Last month minutes were approved before Chairman Dr. Merola got to meeting.

Chairman Dr. Merola – Present
Member Mary Baker – Present
Member Dr. Patricia Sweder - Present

Vice-Chairman Bernie Mullin – Absent
Member Dr. Lerner – Present

Member Dr. Lerner asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting, April 22, 2026. Member Dr. Sweder made motion to approve, second motion by Member Baker. Minutes approved by all members.

Kathleen Dufour of Mass Health Officers Association (MHOA) oversees tobacco compliance checks for tobacco sales to minors in Waltham. She discussed the following violators individually:

First item on the agenda – Safe House Vapors – Inspector Delfino explained correspondence with Safe House Vapors. Kathleen Dufour from Mass Health Officers Association (MHOA) told the Board Members the violation of Safe House; not asking for ID of an underage person, and the fine; first offense is mandatory \$1,000. Member Baker made original motion to suspend tobacco permit for 3 days, May 26, 27, and 28. Dr. Sweder made second motion. All members approved.

Second item on the agenda – Blue Moon Smoke Shop – Kathleen Dufour from MHOA explained fine; not asking for ID of an underage person, and the mandatory fine of \$1,000. Member Dr. Sweder made motion to not suspend their tobacco permit, however, to pay the mandatory fine of \$1,000. Second motion was made by Member Baker. Motion approved by all members.

Safe House Vapors showed up at 5:25, was able to explain what happened at his establishment. Member Dr. Lerner makes the motion to not suspend the tobacco permit for the 3 days in May as originally stated, must pay the mandatory fine of \$1,000. Member Baker made second motion. Motion approved by all members.

Old business: Member Baker asked for an update on the rat situation on Moody St. that she saw on the news. Director Feeley explained that it was an isolated incident and that the landlord of the property was working hard to remediate the issue. Member Baker was satisfied. All other members were satisfied. Next Board meeting will be Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 5PM.

Motion to adjourn made by Vice-Chairman Mullin, second motion by Member Baker, meeting adjourned at 6:20PM