

MINUTES  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
July 21, 2022

**Opening:** The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Health opened at 6:00 pm. The following members were in attendance:

Alex White - Health Director  
Sue Brzoska - Chairperson  
Mikenzie Cain- Clerk

Thomas FitzGerald- Health Agent

Mikenzie Cain **motioned** to accept the minutes of July 7th, 2022, with the corrections. Sue Brzoska **seconded** the motion. The vote of the Board was unanimous in favor.

**Roll call vote**

Sue Brzoska – Yes  
Mikenzie Cain - Yes

**PUBLIC COMMENTS & ATTENDANCE**

Joe Deedy, Peter Currier

**COVID REPORT**

**Alex White–**

Alex White discussed how members of the town are likely to be using at-home tests there for the results are not being reported as frequently at this time. These individuals are still advised to follow the DPH guidelines for quarantine and isolation.

The Southwick Town Hall is still supplying the antigen test in the lobby outside of the Clerk's Office and the Southwick Public Library has a COVID19 test for the public as well. These tests are on a first come first serve basis with a maximum of one test kit per individual in the home.

**Health Director's report & Sign off**

**Well:**

Please review and make edits to theses mins.  
They are the only ones missing from the book  
I will then update, send to Jim and  
put final copy in book.

Thankyou,  
Cindy

1 of 4

- 11 Overlook Lane- Sign off
- 371 North Loomis St- Sign off
- 12 Silvergrass Lane- Sign off

### **Septic:**

#### **PT:**

- 203 South Loomis Rd- Repair
- 3 George Loomis Rd- Repair

### **Final Inspection:**

- 24 Deer Run Rd- New
- 16 Falmouth Rd - Repair

### **COC:**

- 16 Falmouth Rd
- Update on PHE Shared Services Nursing Grant
- Update on BIDLS Tri-town Grant
- COVID-19 antigen tests from DPH
- BOH alternate member
- Disposal Systems Regulations Status
- MEETINGS/TRAINING

DPH interagency communication

Next scheduled meeting TBD, 2022 ADJOURNMENT

#### **KEY:**

PT = *Soils Suitability Test (AKA perc test)*; FI = *Final Inspection*; SO = *Sign Off*; HC/HI = *Housing Complaint/Housing Inspection*; FSI = *Food Service Inspection*; COC = *Certificate of Compliance*

Alex White reached out to the local Pumpers & Haulers to remind them about sending in a pumping record to the Board of Health within a maximum of 14 days after a pump is done. These records are important to report to keep track of when pumping has been done and are also necessary to ensure the proper functioning of the system. 310 cmr15 Haulers and Pumpers.

### **Food:**

- Kettlebread Deli food inspection- Clean well maintained establishment
- MX338 temporary food event inspections- Well-maintained operation
- Southwick Villages food inspection- Passed
- Dunkin Donuts- Paid Fine

Sally Monson called Alex White about the Community Food Pantry. They are moving to a new location. She is looking for a Food Plan review and a pre-operational checklist.

Joe Deedy The President of the Civic Found spoke on the plans for the New Food Pantry. Within the given budget, there is \$150,000.00. Joe has plans to build a new building for the food pantry on the same lot of land where they are currently located. Joe Deedy has hopes that the new Food Pantry will be built by the late fall of 2022. The House that holds the Food Pantry that is currently at 220 College Highway, Southwick, Ma will be rented. The Church on the property is going to remain as a Church that will continue to hold weddings and other events for a small fee. One part of the basement of the Church will be used for the Southwick, Westfield, Agawam, Granville, and Tolland Police Departments as a safe place for Abused Individuals. The other section of the Church, the Back hall area, has plans of holding Spaghetti Suppers, Bingo, and Thanksgiving Dinners and will continue to be a meeting space for various Boards & Committees.

Alex White reached out to the owner of 141 Congamond Rd, Southwick, MA ( The old Crabby Joe's lot) in an attempt to get a Food Plan review in place with the architect with the design of the kitchen to check code compliances. Alex is still waiting to hear from the said owner with these plans.

### **Housing:**

- 16 Congamond Rd- Housing Authority complaint of debris. BOH tried to call the tenant line down. Child Protective Services were notified and asked to investigate. 51 A Field. Debre is also believed to be a fire/safety hazard.
- Ahrend Circle dumpsters- Multiple complaints on public services of dumpsters not being emptied since June 2022. BOH Director did go to Ahrend Circle and saw the overflowing dumpsters. BOH Director Alex White did call the business that maintains these dumpsters and they said they would go to this location that day. The business failed to do so and the complaints continued. Alex White Director, drove by the next day and took note of the dumpsters again. Alex then called Wayfinders who is in charge of maintaining these dumpsters and let them know that this needed to be taken care of ASAP per the Board of Health and the protection of the Environment. After multiple attempts, Alex White was informed that there has been a staff shortage state-wide and that the issue has since been resolved.

### **Beach Testing:**

South Pond Beach- The Beach has passed testing although with the heat increasing and more bathers in the water levels are expected to rise. The Beach is taking protective measures by using wind spinners against the geese which can bring in diseases and can increase the algae in the water.

### **North Pond:**

Alex White and Thomas Fitzgerald have both received complaints about trash, human waste, and potential Public Health nuisances and hazards. Trash is being scattered both on the upper preserved land of North Pond and along the shoreline. The area is patrolled by the Southwick Police Department. People are allowed to respectfully visit this land and use it for Passive Recreation. Individuals are not allowed to have fires, or festivities of any kind, leave trash, or human waste or take part in any kind of vandalism. Clean-up of this Land is to be done by Volunteers. The Towns Boards & Committees that play a role in the preservation of this land are currently working together to form ways to handle and better this situation.

#### **PHE Shared Services Nursing Grant:**

Alex White had a meeting with other surrounding towns. All towns were represented except Tolland and Montgomery; these two towns were notified. DPH was in attendance as well with the grant coordinator. This meeting reviewed the budget of last year, the needs of each municipality, and the needs of Nurses. DPH needs an assessment in the fall for the fiscal year 2024.

Southwick Board of Health has received 6 applicants for the Public Health Nurses positions. Alex White will reach out to the applicants within the week to let them know that their applications have been received and if they are interested in the part-time or full-time position.

Valery Bird as of August 1st, 2022 is going to be stepping down from Contact Tracing and will be replaced by Mary Thomas. Alex White attended the Tri-Town grant meeting. The towns that are part of this Tri-Town grant are Southwick, Westfield, Agawam, and West Springfield. Additional monies were able to be granted for the Fiscal year 2023. The additional \$20,000.00 allotted to Southwick and 30,000.00. These monies can be used to hire a contact tracer.

The Board will look at reaching out to the School System to hold a vaccination clinic in the fall.

The next meeting is **on August 4th at 6:00 pm.**

Sue Brzoska **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm, and Mikenzie Cain **seconded** the motion. The vote of the Board was unanimous in favor.

#### **Roll Call Vote**

Mikenzie Cain– Yes

Sue Brzoska – Yes

Respectfully submitted,

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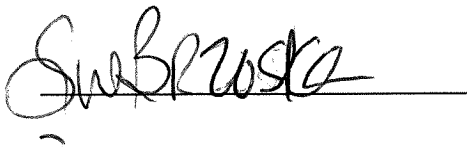
Cynthia Barton, Secretary

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Alex White, Health Director

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Mikenzie Cain, Clerk



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Sue Brzoska, Chairperson

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Thomas FitzGerald, Health Agent

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Date

cc: Select Board  
Town Clerk