

MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
August 4, 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
Jean Nillison- Vice Chairperson
Mikenzie Cain- Clerk

Sue Brzoska **motioned** to accept the minutes of July 21st, 2022, with the corrections. Mikenzie Cain **seconded** the motion. The vote of the Board was unanimous in favor.

Roll call vote

Sue Brzoska – Yes
Mikenzie Cain - Yes

PUBLIC COMMENTS & ATTENDANCE

Peter Currier - no comment

COVID REPORT

Alex White—

COVID-19 Report- July 1st-31st there were 72 Covid cases, most are vaccinated and 1 has been sequenced and has been determined to be the BA .3 variant. There are tick-borne illnesses that are still present. Cases are increasing with incidents. The Board of Health Office has Tick identification cards available at the counter and in the lobby by the Clerk's Office.

The Board gave thanks to Valerie Bird for helping out the town with contact tracing and providing COVID-19 updates.

Update on the Academic Public Health Core- This is a grant through the Massachusetts Health Office Association. Masters students would provide assistance to local Boards of Health with any sort of specific project that The Board may have. Alex has a few potential schools who are

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

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interested in working with the town of Southwick including UMass Lowell, Boston University School of Public Health, Tufts University School of Public Health and Mass College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. The projects that these students can help with are the capacity needs assessment of comparing other municipalities that have a similar criteria as Southwicks Board of Health.

Covid Vaccination Clinic - Alex White reached out to the School system to see if The Board can use the one of the schools space. This will take place after school dismissal. The COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic will be open to the public.

Health Director's report & Sign off

Food:

- 141 Congamond Road - Alex White reached out to the new owner's Ken and Dante about doing a food plan review. They stated that at this time they are not going to be working on the kitchen. Alex White would like to do an initial walk-through to see the current status of the kitchen and then do a food plan review with the architect. Alex White will give the owners the FDA food codes, State Codes, and Local Regulations to ensure that they are up to code and aware of what is required.

Housing:

- 16 Congamond Rd - The Board of Health agent Thomas FitzGerald is working on the report following the complaint. The Board will follow up accordingly.

Beach Testing:

South Pond Beach- The Beach has failed the last testing. The E.coli level cut-off for fresh water is 235 colonies per 100 ml. The previous beach testing that was done had a result of 297 colonies per 100 ml. Alex White informed Cindy Sullivan from Park and Rec and DPH that The Board of Health had to Shut Down South Pond Beach. The Board of Health follows these guidelines and regulations to ensure the safety and health of the community.

PHE Shared Services Nursing Grant:

Alex White- There are two additional Public Health Nurse applicants. One of which is interested in the full-time position. As of 8/4, The Board has three part-time individuals interested and two full-time individuals interested. Alex White sent a message out to other towns to see when they can begin conducting interviews.

Disposal Systems Regulations Status:

The Board has reviewed and revised the Disposal Systems Regulations. They were advised by Karl Stinehart the C.A.O to send the revised Disposal Systems Regulations Status to the town's attorney. Alex to follow up with the attorney and then set a possible date for a hearing on October 6th, 2022.

The next meeting is **on September 1st, at 6:00 pm.**

Jean Nillison **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm, and Mikenzie Cain **seconded** the motion. The vote of the Board was unanimous in favor.

Roll Call Vote

Mikenzie Cain– Yes

Jean Nillison- Yes

Sue Brzoska – Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Barton, Secretary

Alex White, Health Director

Mikenzie Cain, Clerk

Sue Brzoska, Chairperson

Thomas FitzGerald, Health Agent

Date

cc: Select Board
Town Clerk