

**MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
January 7, 2021**

OPENING: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Health opened at 6:00 p.m. The following members were in attendance:

Dr. Jerome Azia, Chairman

Sue Brzoska, Vice Chairman

Jean Nilsson, Clerk

Ms. Tammy Spencer, Health Director, was also in attendance.

This meeting is being held via Zoom.

Dr. Azia read the Virtual Opening of Meeting statement pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020, order suspending certain provisions to the open meeting law.

MINUTES

Ms. Nilsson made a motion to approve the minutes of December 3, 2020, and December 17, 2020. Ms. Brzoska seconded the motion. Roll call vote is as follows:

Dr. Azia – yes

Ms. Brzoska – yes

Ms. Nilsson – yes

ATTENDANCE

Select Board Chairman, Doug Moglin, Dr. Kate Johnson, Health Nurse

Dr. Azia asked the Board if they would like to revisit the discussion they had about reducing or eliminating fees paid to the Board of Health by establishments that have been effected by the pandemic. Ms. Spencer stated that she has spoken to most of the Boards of Health in Hampden County and none of them have reduced their fees. Ms. Nilsson and Ms. Spencer both explained that refunding fees already paid by establishments would result in an immense amount of work. Ms. Spencer informed the Board that there were establishments that have paid a lesser amount this year due to a change in capacity limits. The Board has removed the Milk and Cream permit this year which resulted in reduced fees as well. The Board would like to see a list of establishments and what they paid in fees for their 2021 Permits.

MS. SPENCER'S REPORT

TITLE 5

Ms. Spencer performed final Title 5 inspections at 10 Crystal Drive, and 19 Fernwood.

Ms. Spencer approved septic design plans for 10 Crystal Drive, 19 Fernwood, 12,14, and 20 Noble Steed Crossing,

FOOD SERVICE INSPECTION

Hilltop Cafe

POOL INSPECTION

Wilderness Adventures

MEETINGS, TRAININGS, SEMINARS

Hampden County Health Coalition, Multiple Planning meetings for COVID-19 Vaccinations

TRAVEL ADVISORY

The current list of COVID-19 lower-risk states includes Hawaii.

COVID-19 DISCUSSION

Ms. Nilsson asked for an update on the Southwick Baptist Church. Ms. Spencer visited the church on Sunday and is satisfied with their compliance at this time.

According to the report released by the Department of Public Health today, Southwick has had 8,279 people tested with 344 positive cases. Southwick has had 60 positive cases in the last 14 days. Dr Johnson stated that she is receiving 5-7 positive cases per day, many of them being in the same family. Dr. Johnson stated that the symptoms reported in the last month have been mild and include nasal congestions, sneezing, and head pressure. There have been no new deaths or hospitalizations.

The temporary revisions to the Governor's orders have been extended to January 24, 2021.

Southwick and Agawam will be partnering to hold a First Responder Vaccine Clinic January 11, 2021.

A minimum of 4 sites have been identified to become Regional Mass Vaccination Clinics. They will be open for phase 2 and 3. There will be 2 locations in Western Mass and 2 locations in Eastern Mass. The Town has been preparing for the possibility that towns will need to hold their own vaccine clinics. The Board discussed at length many different aspects of how the vaccine will be distributed. Some of the items discussed included how to register for the vaccine and how the second dose is administered, what types of emergency services would be present at vaccine clinics, how the Town is preparing if they need to hold a clinic, etc...

Ms. Nilsson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:14. Dr. Azia seconded the motion.
Roll call vote is as follows:
Dr. Azia – yes
Ms. Brzoska – yes
Ms. Nilsson - yes

The next scheduled meeting is January 21, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Pelley, Secretary

cc:
Select Board
Town Clerk

Dr. Jerome Azia, Chairman

Tammy Spencer, Health Director

Sue Brzoska

Jean Nilsson

Date