

**MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
February 4, 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 January 21, 2021. Dr. Azia seconded the motion. Roll call vote is as follows:

Dr. Azia – yes

Ms. Brzoska – yes

Ms. Nilsson – yes

ATTENDANCE

Select Board Chairman, Doug Moglin, Select Board Vice Chairman, Joe Deedy, Peter Currier,
Reminder Publications

MS. SPENCER'S REPORT

TITLE 5

Ms. Spencer witnessed Soil Suitability Tests at the Greens east and Sodom Mountain Road.

Ms. Spencer performed a final Title 5 inspections at 642 College Highway.

MEETINGS, TRAININGS, SEMINARS

Hampden County Health Coalition, Weekly Vaccine Task Force Meeting, PVPC Affiliates Meeting with Hampden and Hampshire County Partners, FEMA Public Assistance-Vaccination Costs, a variety of Immunization and PrepMod Trainings and Seminars, as well as the twice-weekly Public Health Interagency Conference Calls

TRAVEL ADVISORY

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

BUDGET

Ms. Spencer and the Board discussed current and past practice of the budget submittal process. There was minimal change from last year's budget. Dr. Azia requested a copy of the budget to be given to Board members.

COVID-19 DISCUSSION

Ms. Spencer discussed with the Board vaccine clinic preparations that she has been participating in. Ms. Spencer has created a Vaccine Task Force that holds weekly meetings to go over any new

information on when the vaccine will be available and resources available from the State to help facilitate successful clinics. Ms. Spencer further explained that local municipalities are only able to request 100 vaccines at a time and the vaccine we would be receiving would be the Moderna vaccine. Ms. Spencer also discussed how people will register for a clinic and how the second dose clinics will be run. Ms. Brzoska asked if Granville and Tolland will be participating in our clinics. Ms. Spencer stated that Granville and Tolland withdrew from the agreement to be a regional dispensing site.

Governor Baker announced that effective Monday, February 8, 2021, at 5:00am the temporary 25% capacity restriction will be lifted and returned to 40% capacity, as previously allowed. The Gatherings Order will remain in place. The Commonwealth remains in Phase 3 Step 1 of Reopening (Order No. 58).

As of the date of this meeting Southwick has had 430 positive cases.

Dr. Azia informed the Board that a letter that was sent out by Dr. Willard regarding the closing of schools and referenced a consultation with the Board of Health as the basis of her decision. Ms. Spencer has been in contact with Dr. Willard regarding the letter and asked her to revert the language back to her previous language which is in consultation with the Safety Committee not the Board of Health .

Dr. Azia informed the Board that there is an environmental group that would like to speak to the Board about the use of pesticides and town.

Ms. Nilsson requested that the Board review the Annual Town Report before it is submitted.

The Board revisited a previous discussion regarding possibly reducing fees for Food Establishment Permits. The Board will continue the discussion at the next meeting.

Peter Courier asked how it is decided who gets notified of positive cases within the schools. Ms. Spencer stated that it is up to the schools as to how that information is released.

Ms. Spencer requested our next regularly scheduled meeting date be changed. The Board agreed and decided on February 11, 2021 at 6:00pm as our next meeting date.

Ms. Nilsson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:05. 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 February 11, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 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