

**MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
March 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

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. Brzoska made a motion to approve the minutes of February 25, 2021. Dr. Azia seconded the motion. Roll call vote is as follows:

Dr. Azia – yes

Ms. Brzoska – yes

ATTENDANCE

Dr. Kate Johnson, Health Nurse, Peter Currier, Reminder Publications, Dennis Hackett, Reminder Publications, Karen Martindell, Secretary of Inspectional Services

MS. SPENCER'S REPORT

TITLE 5

Ms. Spencer performed final Title 5 inspections at 63 North Lakeland 19 Sawgrass Lane.

Ms. Spencer witnessed a Soil Suitability Test at 2 Sodom Mountain Road (New).

Ms. Spencer approved septic design plans for (New)17 Gableview, 1 Sawgrass Lane, 5 Honey Bird Run, (Repair) 25 Birchwood, and 33 Ranch Club Road.

MEETINGS, TRAININGS, SEMINARS

MHOA/DEP seminar week 2: Recycling and Solid Waste Update; Title 5 Update Part I - Sifting through Title 5; Title 5 Update Part II - Stakeholder Group Update & Mass TC Virus Study, Hampden County Health Coalition, as well as the twice-weekly Public Health Interagency Conference Calls

TRAVEL ADVISORY

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

COVID-19 DISCUSSION

The Baker-Polito Administration announced that starting March 11, 2021, K-12 educators, child care workers, and k-12 staff will be eligible to schedule COVID-19 vaccine appointments.

Ms. Spencer informed the Board about the possibility of being able to participate in a homebound vaccination program. There is not a lot of information available at this time. A survey will be available tomorrow for Towns to fill out regarding the number of homebound residents within the community. Ms. Spencer is working with Cindy Sullivan, Council on Aging, to compile a list.

Ms. Brzoska asked how Ms. Spencer is informed about any information regarding the regional clinic that was proposed by the Town of West Springfield. Ms. Spencer stated that Mr. Karl Steinhart, Town Administrator, is the point of contact and any information is forwarded to her.

Dr. Azia asked if the Board will publicly promote the CDC guidance regarding accepting whichever vaccine is available to you. Ms. Spencer stated that the department that has been running the campaign to increase awareness and acceptance of getting vaccinated, has been releasing videos and graphics to promote acceptance of whichever vaccine is available to you, which are then being forwarded to channel 15.

Ms. Brzoska asked about the status of the 7 restaurants that hadn't paid for their Food Permits as of the last meeting. Ms. Spencer informed the Board that she has contacted all of the restaurants and is waiting on 1 payment.

Dr. Johnson informed the Board that Southwick has had 22 positive cases in the last 2 weeks putting us into the yellow category.

Ms. Brzoska made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:28. Dr. Azia seconded the motion.

Roll call vote is as follows:

Dr. Azia – yes

Ms. Brzoska - yes

The next scheduled meeting is March 18, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 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