

**MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
April 1, 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. Brzoska made a motion to approve the minutes of March 18, 2021. Dr. Azia seconded the motion. Roll call vote is as follows:

Dr. Azia – yes

Ms. Brzoska – yes

Ms. Nilsson - yes

ATTENDANCE

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

MS. SPENCER'S REPORT

Ms. Nilsson made a motion to begin our regularly scheduled meetings at 7:00pm. Ms. Brzoska seconded the motion. Roll call vote is as follows:

Dr. Azia - yes

Ms. Brzoska - yes

Ms. Nilsson - yes

TITLE 5

Ms. Spencer performed final Title 5 inspections at 25 Birchwood Avenue and 33 Ranch Club Road.

Ms. Spencer witnessed Soil Suitability Tests at 47 Fernwood, 356 Granville Road, and 5 Nobel Steed Crossing.

Ms. Spencer approved septic design plans for 4 Honey Bird Lane, 1 Sawgrass Lane, 1 Silver Grass Lane, Lot 2 Noble Steed, 2 Noble Steed, 373 Granville Road, and 5 Tree Top Lane.

MEETINGS, TRAININGS, SEMINARS

- MEHA Title 5 Seminar I/A Technologies

- COVID-19 School Safety Committee-discussed changes to the travel order and quarantine guidance
- Press Conference for the Regional COVID-19 Vaccine Site at the Big E
- Hampden County Health Coalition-the towns predominately discussed vaccination issues
- Vaccine Task Force Meeting-discussed the homebound vaccination program
- COVID-19 Community Corps Meeting with Founding Members Confirmation-US Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy, VP Kamala Harris-discussed the new community forum for public health leaders
- as well as the twice-weekly Public Health Interagency Conference Calls

FOOD SERVICE INSPECTIONS

Inspections were performed at Moolicious Snack Shack and a future holistic farmers market at the Brass Rail. The farmers market will be applying with the Agricultural Commission for a farmers market permit. A website will be set up so that anyone that will be selling food will be able to apply for a food permit through the Board of Health. Ms. Spencer proposed to the Board adding a Seasonal Temporary Permit to cover an entire season rather than using the current Temporary Permit which is only valid for 14 days.

COVID-19 DISCUSSION

Southwick has had 24 positive cases in the last 14 days.

Ms. Spencer has been working with our local restaurants to ensure that they understand all the workplace standards including what is allowed regarding entertainment and large events such as bridal showers.

Ms. Spencer put out a code red call informing residents about the homebound vaccination program. There was an abundance of calls received in response to the code red call. Ms. Brzoska asked who would be administering the vaccine to the homebound residents. Ms. Spencer informed the Board that we will be receiving 50 doses of the vaccine and we have approximately 25-30 residents signed up to receive the vaccine as of the date of this meeting. Southwick EMT's will be administering the vaccine. Chief Anderson will be present as well as Ms. Spencer. Ms. Nilsson asked how long the vaccine will be viable. Ms. Spencer stated that the vaccine can be frozen for longer shelf life.

Ms. Brzoska asked for any updates regarding The Wick 338 motocross track. The office of Energy and Environment as the governing authority has issued guidance that the track is using to design a plan for this years season. Mr. Deedy who was present at the track on Saturday stated there are numerous 4x4 signs posted stating the mask requirements and that most patrons follow the guidelines.

The Big E has been accepted as a regional vaccine clinic site. Meetings will begin tomorrow to discuss particulars. The website will be live a week before the vaccine clinic opens for the public to begin scheduling appointments. They expect to start off at 1200-1500 immunizations per day. Ms. Brzoska asked who would be overseeing the clinic. Ms. Spencer stated that West Springfield will be in charge of the clinic with support from Agawam, Granville, Southwick, Tolland, and Westfield.

As of last week 1,240 Southwick residents were fully vaccinated.

Ms. Brzoska asked Ms. Spencer if Southwick will be receiving another COVID-19 grant from the State and when it will be received. Ms. Spencer stated that Mr. Moglin just signed off on it and it should be delivered to us immediately. Dr. Azia asked how much it is for and what the money will be used for. Ms. Spencer stated that it will be around \$5600 and will mostly go to Dr. Johnson due to the significant increase in time spent contact tracing. Ms. Spencer further explained how the Town has received and been reimbursed any extra money that has been used during the pandemic.

Peter Courier asked for clarification on the vaccination rate for Southwick residents.

Ms. Brzoska made a motion to enter into an executive session at 7:21 p.m. in accordance with Chapter 30A, S21B, to discuss Ms. Spencer's Health Director Contract. Ms. Nilsson seconded the motion. Roll call vote is as follows:

Dr. Azia – yes

Ms. Brzoska - yes

Ms. Nilsson - yes

Ms. Nilsson made a motion to return to the regular scheduled meeting at 7:25 p.m. Ms. Brzoska seconded the motion. Roll call vote is as follows:

Dr. Azia – yes

Ms. Brzoska - yes

Ms. Nilsson - yes

Ms. Brzoska made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:26. 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 April 15, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 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