

**MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
June 3, 2021**

OPENING: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Health opened at 7:00 p.m. The following members were in attendance:

Sue Brzoska, Chairman

Mikenzie Cain, Clerk

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

This meeting is being held via Zoom.

Ms. Brzoska 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. Cain made a motion to approve the minutes of May 20, 2021. Ms. Brzoska seconded the motion. Roll call vote is as follows:

Ms. Brzoska – yes

Ms. Cain - yes

ATTENDANCE

Doug Moglin, Select Board Chairman, Dr. Kate Johnson, Peter Currier, Reminder Publications

MS. SPENCER'S REPORT

TITLE 5

Ms. Spencer performed final Title 5 inspections at 1 Sawgrass Lane, and 22 Laurel Ridge.

Ms. Spencer witnessed Soil Suitability Tests at 261 South Longyard, 80 North Lake Ave, Lot 14, Lot 16 and Lot 50 Noble Steed Crossing.

Ms. Spencer approved septic design plans for 18 Pineywood, and 80 North Lake.

FOOD SERVICE INSPECTIONS

Sodom Mountain Campground, Bobo's

POOL INSPECTIONS

Lakewood Apartments, Sodom Mountain Campground

MEETINGS, TRAININGS, SEMINARS

MEHA Spring Seminar Part Two-Keynote Address: Tears to Motivate Us

MEHA Business Meeting: Awards and Elections

What's cooking? Residential Kitchens & Cottage Foods Operations

Weekly Public Health Interagency Conference Calls

Hampden County Health Coalition

LEPC Meeting

COVID-19 DISCUSSION

Southwick has had 11 positive cases in the last 14 days. Southwick has approximately 4,037 fully vaccinated individuals. Ms. Brzoska asked what the difference between case count and total positive tests in the last 14 days. Dr. Johnson explained those numbers are supposed to match but sometimes there is a difference between the statistics Dr. Johnson gets from MAVEN and the States statistics.

The State released a new definition for close contacts. Ms. Spencer explained the change to the Board, which reflects the difference between indoors and outdoors. According to CDC guidance individuals are less likely to contract COVID-19 outdoors regardless of masks and distance.

In an effort to increase vaccination rates Ms. Spencer contacted Curative and the school department about hosting a clinic. A poll was sent out to the school community to get an estimate of how many people would like to get vaccinated. There were approximately 50 responses and Curative will hold a clinic with a minimum of 35. The vaccine that will be administered is Pfizer, anyone 12 and up is eligible. Ms. Brzoska asked if there is a charge and where the company is located. Ms. Spencer stated that there is no charge for the clinic and the contact person for our area is located in Westfield. The clinic will be held either after school or on a Saturday.

As of June 1, 2021 the homebound vaccine program will now be operated by the State.

Town Hall is now open to the public as of June 1, 2021.

The Select Board is working on preparing the Land Use room and the Selectman's Conference room and eventually the auditorium so there would be the ability to hold in person meetings with Zoom access. Ms. Spencer has requested the Land Use room for the Board of Health's monthly meetings.

There has been one applicant for the Public Health Nurse Position. Ms. Spencer and the Board discussed the possibility and benefits of regionalizing the Public Health Nurse position. Ms. Spencer saw the potential need for help with the senior community in Town after participating in the homebound vaccination program. Ms. Spencer shared information about the Public Health Excellence Grant Program for Shared Services that is available. The Board agreed that Ms. Spencer should apply for the grant.

Ms. Brzoska inquired as the status of the 2 unoccupied houses on Hastings Road. Ms. Spencer stated that the parcels seem to have been purchased as there is work being done. Ms. Brzoska also inquired about a residence on Hillside that had been condemned in the past. Ms. Spencer will look into it.

Ms. Cain made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49. Ms. Brzoska seconded the motion. Roll call vote is as follows:

Ms. Brzoska - yes

Ms. Cain - yes

The next scheduled meeting is June 17, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Pelley, Secretary

cc:
Select Board
Town Clerk

Sue Brzoska, Chairman

Tammy Spencer, Health Director

Jean Nilsson, Vice Chairman

Mickenzie Cain, Clerk

Date