



Board of Health Town of Southwick

454 College Highway, Southwick, MA 01077
Phone: (413) 569-1212 Fax (413) 569-5284

MINUTES October 5, 2023

OPENING: The regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Health opened at 6:00 p.m.

Members in attendance:

Sue Brzoska - Chairperson
Dr. Terry Putnam - Member

Town Staff:

Tom Hibert - Health Director
Meghan Lightcap - Board of Health Administrative Assistant
Tricia Sedelow – Public Health Nurse
Christine Southworth – Public Health Nurse

Members of Public:

Doug Moglin - Board Member

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

MINUTES

Dr. Putnam made a motion to accept the minutes from September 7, 2023 and to include the Nursing Reports. Ms. Brzoska seconded the motion. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor to approve.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES' REPORTS

Refer to the attached September 2023 nursing reports. This was Chistine Southworth's last meeting as the part-time Public Health Nurse. The Board and Tricia Sedelow discussed various hourly options to post in order to fill the position.

DISCUSSION

West Springfield Covid test kits – Mr. Hibert said the Federal Government announced they are giving away free test kits to the public. As of yet, they are not providing free test kits to Health Departments. The West Springfield Health Department can order test kits for our Board from Amazon as part of the grant program. Mr. Hibert would like to order one case of 288 single test kits for \$1850.00. The Police and Fire Department were interested in getting some kits. Mr. Hibert suggested keeping the kits under the counter for the public to ask for instead of putting them out on counters. This should discourage the public from hoarding them. The Board members agreed with him.

Updated permit applications – The Board Members discussed the revisions to the permit applications and the permit application renewal letters.

Rising Corner: Public Indecency – Dr. Putnam said there is an access point to the Metacomet Trail and a small parking area next to the property at 5 Rising Corner Road. There has been an uptick of people changing clothing and publicly urinating there this summer. Mr. Hibert contacted the Police Chief but he has not had any complaints. Mr. Hibert will talk to the Conservation Coordinator to try to come up with a solution to this problem such as a sign about public indecency.

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Disposal Septic System:

- 219 Vining Hill Road - A repair plan was approved. A final inspection was conducted and a COC was issued.
- 232 Feeding Hills Road - A repair plan was approved. A final inspection was conducted and a COC was issued.
- 25 Fernwood Road – A repair plan was approved. A final inspection was conducted and a COC was issued.
- 18 Hudson Drive – The plan was approved for the new Whalley computer building.
- 28 Noble Steed – A final COC was issued for a new building.
- 18 Silvergrass Lane – A plan was approved for a new building.
- 20 Silvergrass Lane – A plan was approved for a new building.
- 14 Sheep Pasture Road – A plan was approved for a new building.
- 3 South Loomis Street – A plan was approved for a repair.
- 40 Woodside Circle – A plan was approved for a repair.

Housing Inspection:

- 108 Point Grove Road – Mr. Hibert needs to go back for a re-inspection at the 30 day mark.

Food Service Inspection:

- None

Other:

- PHE Grant - Mr. Hibert said there was no quorum at the September meeting. The members present discussed the inspection software and replacing the outgoing part-time nurse, Ms. Southworth. Mr. Hibert sent out a survey asking what each town would like to get out of the grant, but has had no responses yet.
- Yankee Conference was September 20-22 in Northampton. Mr. Hibert attended. It was an Environmental Health Conference. They discussed the FDA Health codes and some septic topics.
- Southwick Safety Committee – Mr. Hibert is part of this committee. They are starting to gather members to meet as it pertains to employee safety.

MEETINGS

- PHE Grant Meeting – Already discussed above.
- Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting – Mr. Hibert said they met last Thursday as a “Meet and Greet” and he was elected the Treasurer. They meet with all town departments and some businesses to discuss any major emergency events in town.
- Unanticipated items 48 hours prior to meeting – Mr. Hibert received a complaint from a resident at Ahrend Circle regarding poison boxes on the property for pest control. He spoke with the company doing the work and the chemicals are approved by the state and EPA.

Next Meeting - November 2, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Putnam made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 pm. Ms. Brzoska seconded the motion. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
 Meghan Lightcap
 Administrative Assistant Planning Board/Board of Health

 Tom Hibert, Health Director

 Sue Brzoska, Chairperson

 Dr. Terry Putnam, Member

 Mikenzie Cain, Vice-Chairperson

 Date

Monthly Report Tricia Sedelow PHN
Southwick, Granville and Tolland
October 2023

Southwick –

Food pantry meetings monthly and 4th Wednesday of every month assist with distribution
Monthly blood pressure clinics at Depot Court through the housing authority
Donated a basket to the Southwick Library for the holiday raffle Blood pressure clinic Southwick Library on October 3 & Nov 1

Tolland –

Coffee hour with seniors at the public safety complex twice a month and blood pressure clinic monthly Each month I create a list of events and activities at Southwick Senior Center to post on the Tolland website

Granville –

Flu clinics @ town hall on Oct 18 & Nov 1 3p-7p
Blood pressure clinics held on alternating Thursdays at Granville library and town hall
Each month I create a list of events and activities at Southwick Senior Center to post in the Country Caller via the Town Administrator

Other (for all towns):

Stop the Bleed training October 11

MAVEN cases, DPH webinars, MAPHN Meeting monthly, research health information, up to date articles, NAACHO website/emails, and programs for towns

October (no longer including COVID numbers in this list)

Southwick

none

Granville

Anaplasmosis - 1

Tolland

None

Blandford

None

Montgomery

Lyme – 1

Varicella - 1

Russell

Influenza – 2