HEATH BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
December 20, 2021, 8:00-9:00 PM
Meeting held via Zoom

Board Members Present: Barbara Gordon, Susan Gruen, Gene Garland

Guests Attending: Claire Rabbit (Town Nurse), Cathy Tallens (LifePath), Sheila Litchfield (EMD)

8:00 PM Meeting Called to Order (Garland chairing)

REVIEW AGENDA

• No additions to the Agenda

REVIEW OF 12/16/21 CPHS MEETING

• Barbara Gordon attended the meeting. The main discussion during the meeting was the distribution of the COVID Home self-test kits.
• The Town of Heath was allocated 90 test kits by the Commonwealth and distributed by FRCOG.
• It will be up to each town to independently decide how to distribute the test kits with priority given to families who are underserved, high-risk individuals, and the elder population.
• Clarification of COVID reporting was also discussed due to recent confusion with case counts. The daily case count reflects cases reported into MAVEN that day. The weekly case count is based on the cumulative cases during the specified date range and is based upon the dates the specimens were collected from individuals. It is considered to be the most accurate accounting.

DISCUSSION OF COVID SELF-TEST KIT DISTRIBUTION IN HEATH

• The distribution priority of COVID self-test kits in the Town of Heath was discussed by the BOH members present at the meeting with input from attendees.
• The guidance for distribution provided by the Commonwealth is to: 1) target families who are underserved. 2) distribute test kits before the holidays. Towns do have leeway in using their own judgement and adding their own criteria.
• FRCOG suggestions given at the recent CPHS meeting for identifying recipients included: food pantry attendees, senior center attendees, students receiving free lunch/breakfast at area schools, meals on wheels recipients, and home health care clients from LifePath.
• The desired local target population was discussed to include: the fragile residents list, Heath students attending Hawlemont Elementary, families who utilize the food pantry, and residents who participate in meals on wheels.
• There was further discussion and concern about holiday visitors of fragile residents and that visitors should be tested prior to entering the home.
• Barbara voiced concern about the limited number of test kits allocated to Heath and that only one test kit per family was available.
• After further discussion, a motion was made by Barbara to distribute the 90 test-kits as follows:
  o One kit per family participating at the food pantry on 12/21/21.
  o One kit per family with a student(s) attending Hawlemont Elementary and not accessed the food pantry. (To be distributed on the final day of school before holiday vacation).
  o Barbara and Susan to contact those on the fragile residents list and deliver the remaining test kits to households that desire a kit. (Goal to complete deliveries before Christmas).
The motion was seconded by Elissa

Discussion followed, including solicited input from visitors: Sheila Litchfield,(EDS) Claire Rabbit (Town Nurse), and Cathy Tallens (LifePath rep). Input was supportive of proposed plan.

VOTE on distribution plan:
- YEAS: Gene, Barbara, Elissa, Susan
- NAYS: none
- Motion carried with majority vote in favor of the distribution plan.

COVID-19 COALITION

Gene solicited volunteers to head the COVID-19 Coalition for the Town of Heath.

Barbara proposed that the BOH Chair be the lead on the Coalition with an additional BOH member.

There were no other volunteers for the second member and Gene asked that everyone think about their availability and willingness to volunteer on the coalition.

A motion was made that the BOH Chair be the lead on the Coalition with a second BOH member on the coalition TBA.

The motion was seconded by
- YEAS: Gene, Barbara, Elissa, Susan
- NAYS: none

Motion carried with majority vote in favor of the BOH Chair being the lead on the Coalition with a second BOH member on the coalition.

Barbara moved to adjourn at 9:11 PM; Susan seconded. Ayes: Gene, Susan, Barbara, Elissa. Meeting Adjourned 9:12 PM.