

BOARD OF HEALTH Minutes

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

9:00 AM

Via Zoom

I. Call meeting to order

Meeting called to order by Chair: Gene Garland at 9:00 am. In attendance: Gene Garland, Susan Gruen, and Sheila Litchfield (not officially appointed). BOS Representative Sue Lively. Absent: Lorraine Berger, FRCOG Health Agent Kurt Schellenberg.

*the BOH did not have a quorum present. However, items on the agenda were discussed with no voting conducted.

II. Topic:

a. COVID Updates.

- COVID test kits will no longer be available after May 12, 2023. The COVID public health emergency ends on May 11, 2023, and the Massachusetts Governor is following the Federal guidelines.
- No new cases reported in Health as of May 10, 2023.
- There is a new COVID booster that is available at Baker's Pharmacy, Walgreens, and Big Y Pharmacy. Residents are encouraged to get boosted as immunity wanes after four months or greater.
- Susan Gruen reported that the concerned over COVID has shifted as evident at the Town ATM. No residents wearing masks or taking COVID information.
- Home bound people identified and signed up for COVID boosters.

b. Review Meeting Minutes.

- Board of Health Meeting Minutes were deferred until June 2023 meeting.

c. Chairman's Report.

- Gene Garland attended the Beaver Trapping Permit Certification for the Town.
- The Town has Vouchers available for partial tick testing payments. We need to decide if we should purchase additional vouchers.

d. FRCOG Update

- Deferred until June 2023 meeting.

e. Property Updates.

- Deferred until June 2023 meeting.

f. Nurses Report

- Susan Gruen reported that the Town Nurse still does not have a dedicated telephone number.
- See April 2023 Nurses report.
- Susan Gruen, Sheila Litchfield, and Claire Rabbitt will be reviewing and updating the Town Nurse job description for BOH vote and submission to the Town Select Board.

g. New Business

- Sheila Litchfield participated in the Web EOC drill to update all EOC members contact information and ensured the Password is valid.
- MEMA Web EOC??

h. Ongoing Business.

- Local Board of Health Report (Berger). No Report
- CPHS Oversight Board Meeting Report (Gruen). Susan Gruen discussed the BOH capacity assessment and the updated training requirements that all members of the BOH will be required to complete:
 - #1. Foundations of Local Boards of Health
 - #2 Racial Equality
 - #3. Incident Command System
- Susan mentioned that with the increased training requirements and expectation of BOH members across Franklin County Towns, there is a trend in the decline of BOH membership.
- Health Herald BOH Corner. Discussed a Tick Article for the next Heath Herald.

III. Adjourn

- Gene made adjourned the meeting at 10:16 am

Minutes taken by Gene Garland