

BOARD OF HEALTH
Minutes for Wednesday, May 4, 2022, 7:00 PM
Remote Participation

- 7:00 Community Input
- 7:05 COVID – community status

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Benfield Farms
 - PHN Health Visits
 - Septic System Update
- Beaver Management
- Minutes 4/20/22
- Administrative Reports

NEW BUSINESS

The meeting agenda lists all topics reasonably anticipated by the Board of Health at the time of posting. Additional topics not anticipated may be discussed at the meeting under the agenda item New Business.

Attendance members: Tony Mariano Chairman, Patrick Collins, Jean Barry, David Erickson, Cathy Galligan

Attendance nonmembers: Linda Fantasia Health Agent, Tricia McGean RN, Wanda Avril (Mosquito), Michael Joseph

1. Community Input

At 19:00 Mariano opened the meeting—there was no community input.

2. COVID-19 community status

Fantasia asked the school superintendent Jim O'Shea whether the school administration wanted to meet with the Board of Health; he did not believe they did but he will bring it up in their meeting tonight and let us know.

Fantasia reported that the Public Health Coalition has hired an epidemiologist. Fantasia said that they would like her to look into mask efficacy as it could be helpful in the future. Barry said that there have been so many studies, with so many experts looking at this, that she wondered whether it makes sense to have someone else look at it. Fantasia said the study will focus on our area with our particular population demographics.

McGean reported that state numbers indicated that Carlisle had 28 Covid cases in February, 29 in March, and 74 in April, and 11 cases in the last 7 days. McGean has been seeing more fevers and did see 1 hospitalization, which has since recovered. Cases are highest in children, especially preteen kids. She is also seeing hives in this age group. Most cases are due to transmission in households. Last week Concord had 64 cases and Lincoln had 18--these are only official cases and do not count positive results from at home testing. Fantasia covered the MAVEN calls while McGean was away. McGean said residents appreciate when she calls. COVID can be a scary illness when it gets into a household. At the present time there are no

plans to change follow up of COVID cases. The Carlisle school had 3 cases this week (2 are part of the count McGean gave). Mariano asked whether it would drop in May, McGean thinks it will, but it will continue to be somewhat volatile.

Barry said Lowell General only has 12 cases and 5 are asymptomatic (admitted for other reasons) --11 of these were vaccinated. Boston wastewater numbers seem to be coming down. McGean is hearing that a good portion of Covid patients have been put on Paxlovid.

There was some discussion regarding hives seen with COVID (particularly in those aged 9-15). Hives have been noted in prior waves of COVID, but McGean had not seen this in local residents until recently.

Mariano noted that seeing more fever as a symptom is concerning, McGean said that fever is seen mostly in kids (a 17-year-old, and an infant a few weeks old).

3. Benfield – status report

McGean had planned to be at Benfield to meet with residents on May 10th. Fantasia made up a flier and distributed it but then found that was when Benfield will be doing the duct cleaning, so they need to reschedule.

Fantasia said we still do not have a signed agreement but CAQ's invoices are going to the trust. Frado and Fantasia would like to see Carlos Quintal give a report on his next steps and we continue waiting for the agreement from the Carlisle Affordable Housing Trust.

Mariano feels we have made some strides with Quintal coming on board, but he is frustrated that we are not yet discharging to the field. Fantasia spoke with Kate Reid and apparently, they need to take a vote on spending the appropriated money but there are concerns as we have CAQ's invoices and Frado's invoices, and we want to ensure that we are reimbursed.

4. Beaver Management

Mariano said that beaver management has again become an issue for the town.. Fantasia and Mariano spoke and approved a special permit since there is structural damage to Maple Street, the beavers were burrowing under the roadway causing a risk of collapse. Fantasia issued a 10-day permit (we are outside of trapping season) and the DPW hired a company to do the trapping. The DPW has received a call about a culvert at Curve and Forest Park Drive, as well as a call from a resident on Curve Street who was concerned about possible flooding of their septic system. Fantasia went out today and it appeared that the culvert had just been unplugged and the water was running well. Fantasia could not see how the septic could be flooded as it is in the front yard (the owner did not realize this). Fantasia did not think it was a chronic situation, but it would be good for the town to have a beaver management committee, which should have representatives from the DPW and ConsComm and would not be under the BOH. Fantasia noted that while we refer to trapping, we cannot relocate the Beavers so any beavers that are caught must be euthanized (if they do not drown in the trap).

Mariano asked how we initiate this idea--Fantasia will talk to the town administrator to get on an agenda before the Select Board to discuss establishing a Beaver Committee Mariano would be happy to attend the meeting.

5. Minutes 4/20/22

Galligan moved to approve the 4/20/22 minutes as amended. Barry seconded the motion which was approved 4-0, with Collins abstaining.

6. Administrative Reports

See below.

7. Adjourn

Galligan moved to adjourn, Collins seconds approved and adjourned at 20:07. The next meeting will be Monday 5/16/22 at 7:00 pm via zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
David Erickson,
Recorder

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS May 4, 2022

Hazardous Waste Collection – potential companies: Trident Environmental Group; METrecycling;

Great Meadows Regional Coalition and Wayland Contact Tracing Grant – Hired two FT grant coordinators hired (Kelli Calo, Brandon Grunwick), and FT Epidemiologists (Ann Bauer), second interview for the FT Health Inspector (Ann Loree), interviewing 2 FT PHNs

Timbernook – applying for a camp license once a location has been identified

Mental Health First Aid – Fantasia and Gines completed the course; funded by the 2020 Community Chest Grant; Tricia McGean will take the course to be an instructor and offer local workshops

Arbovirus Surveillance – DPH contacts: Fantasia (Primary); Gines (Back Up)

Old Home Day – June 25th; does BOH want a booth or join with COA? Tricia has agreed to attend.

Clark Farm Stand – issued permit 5/4/22; handwashing sink not yet installed; not planning on offering pizzas at this time. They will work with their food consultant before moving forward. Only 2 events scheduled so far.

PFAS – email from resident Jason Suderman about artificial turf. Cathy suggested providing him with the TURI Playing Fields information.

FY23 Budget – slight discrepancy between Town Meeting Article and BOH proposed budget. The Finance Director will check. Also check on additional hours for Assistant.

Ongoing Projects

PFAS Presentation
Large Development Compliance
Operations and Maintenance Template

