



Town of Boxford

Meeting Minutes of the Board of Health

September 29, 2020

NO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE - REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY

6:30PM

Virtual Participation Only

**This meeting will be audio and video recorded
To View: FIOS #39; Comcast #22; BCATv website
For Directions to Participate via Zoom Click Here
ZOOM Meeting ID: 990 2198 6331**

Present: Richard Taylor, Richard Fahrner, Heather Forand, Hans Jeppesen, Kendell Longo, Lance Cluster, Susan Inman, Kristin Kwiatek, Jim Scanlan, Michelle Fallis, Jess MacDonald, Alison Addario, Carol Hubbard, Mary Ellen Autiello, Matt Andrade

Meeting opened at 6:30 PM by D. Taylor

Roll call indicated that the following members of the Board of Health were present remotely: **D. Taylor, R. Fahrner, A. Constan, H. Forand, H. Jeppesen.**

Announcements

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day will be held Saturday October 24, 2020 at Masconomet High School parking lot. It will be suggested to the Recycling Chair to have people stay in their cars when dropping off materials to protect the workers.

Flu Clinic is scheduled for October 13, 2020 from 10:00am-12:00pm at the Town Hall outside under a tent. It has filled up but currently working on more time slots to be available.

Minutes

Minutes were reviewed from the August 19, 2020 meeting. A **motion** was made by **A. Constan** to accept the minutes, **seconded** by **H. Jeppesen**. Approved unanimously by a roll call vote.

Bills

D. Taylor reviewed with the Board the current bills payable. The Board of Health approved all bills payable unanimously with a roll call vote:

VNA Care: \$750.00 accepted unanimously
Waste Management: \$7,486.69 accepted unanimously
Waste Management: \$54,798.84 accepted unanimously
2020 MHOA Virtual Conference: \$100.00 accepted unanimously
Waste Management: \$7,383.08 accepted unanimously
East Coast Recycling: \$1,350.00 accepted unanimously
JRM Recycling: \$2,832.05 accepted unanimously
B&D Associates, Inc.: \$125.00 accepted unanimously

Director's Comments

K. Longo stated that currently she is working on having more time slots added for flu vaccinations. She also stated that she was in contact with a resident who is a pharmacist at Walgreens who asked us if we wanted any additional clinics. **D. Taylor** and **H. Jeppesen** both suggested we have another clinic. **K. Longo** and the Tri Town Health Directors had a meeting with the Tri Town Superintendents of the elementary schools, the Masconomet Superintendent, and the Town Administrators and discussed being ahead of the curve with the state risk map. Each Town will have an advisory team that will include the health director, two school committee members, the superintendent or designee, town administrator or designee, the school nurses, and the public health nurse. The advisory team will have a Zoom meeting if the area changes color on the State risk map. It was also agreed upon to hire with the combined Tri Town Cares Act funding one temporary fulltime nurse liaison that could assist the Town's Public Health nurses and the School's nurses. **H. Jeppesen** mentioned that there should be a backup nurse if one becomes sick and a protocol if a student begins to have symptoms. **K. Longo**, through a Zoom meeting with the Masconomet nurses stated that positive Covid-19 results in town go through physician's offices to Maven and then on to the public health nurses and school nurses. **D. Taylor** said that Masconomet and the Tri town schools have sent the Board protocols to view. He also said that he has been talking with the head nurse at Spofford about specific protocols. The Board needs to look at the plan soon and make suggestions. **D. Taylor** stated there needs to be a set of very clear criteria in which everyone agrees. **H. Jeppesen** stated that the mortality rate in children from Influenza is higher than from Covid-19.

Town Meeting

D. Taylor thanked **A. Constan** for presenting the Article at Town Meeting regarding trash stickers. **D. Taylor** then said with regards to the two approved town renovation projects that he felt that the Selectmen should be reminded of the laws that were broken last year with the Asbestos removal. With

these projects he said to file with the State and make sure the Building Inspector knows where the debris will be discarded. **R. Fahrner** stated to also make sure the lead paint is properly abated. **A. Constan** mentioned to the Board that there was some discussion at Town Meeting with a request of possibly eliminating trash stickers and having an annual fee. He suggested putting the topic on a future meeting agenda.

Toll Brothers Development

Jim Scanlan of Scanlan Engineering was present for the meeting to give the Board his review of the proposed plans for the waste water treatment plant. **D. Taylor** said once the Board receives a report from Jim that they will be in a position to schedule a meeting for the Toll Brothers to present their plan. **D. Taylor** stated that an in-person meeting would be better as long as it can be done with masks and social distancing. **R. Fahrner** mentioned the aggregate flow with the clubhouse and what exceeds the permit. **D. Taylor** stated if the club house doesn't fit in that there is no point in going forward with the meeting.

Stiles Pond Algae

It was discussed if there should be a testing plan for Stiles Pond. The Board talked about the blue/green algae. **D. Taylor** said that he is not against testing if it makes sense and is not overly expensive. **D. Taylor** stated that ponds are not sterile places. **A. Constan** mentioned that some residents had a concern over Cyanobacteria and had taken a few photos. **A. Constan** went out on the pond and noticed a small area of blue/green algae. The EPA went out and sampled the water. **A. Constan** stated that the residents living on the pond would like to know if the pond could be monitored for Cyanobacteria and also what might be done to prevent it. There was also concern for potential nutrient run off from some horse farms in close proximity to the pond. **A. Constan** spoke with EPA Scientist Hilary Snook on monitoring the pond. **A. Constan** also spoke about possible preventative measures regarding nutrient runoff. **A. Constan** stated that Hilary Snook would be willing to attend a meeting to offer recommendations on monitoring the pond. **D. Taylor** stated that nutrient loading is a factor in algae blooms. **R. Fahrner** said he would want scientific based decisions. Having an expert on the topic would be great to have to discuss the ecology of the topic to guide the Board. The Board stated that they are looking into a plan for monitoring Cyanobacteria in Stiles Pond and given the general assessment of Cyanobacteria levels, the Board did not feel that it was a threat to residents.

Covid-19

K. Longo reported one new case since the last report. The Masconomet and elementary school's plans were sent to the Board and will be looked and then consolidated into suggestions. **D. Taylor** stated that residents are looking into a safe plan for Halloween. **A. Constan** gave an update that Andrews Farm has up to One Thousand people during Halloween which is something that cannot be supported during Covid-19. Chief Riter and the PTO are planning a safe alternative for the children to go trick or treating. Co-President of the PTO Michelle Fallis spoke more on the plan. A **motion** was made by **A. Constan** for the approval of the PTO moving forward with the understanding that the Board of Health will be reviewing the plan involved **seconded** by **H. Forand**. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote.

D. Taylor expressed concern for Andrews Farm and Halloween. **A. Constan** said the event is in place of trick or treating and possibly the Police can put up signage up at Andrews Farm. The Board will make a decision about door to door Trick or Treating with-in the next week.

Other Business

Resident Matt Andrade asked the Board if they had heard of any issues regarding the ventilation system at the elementary schools in town. **D. Taylor** stated that the Board had not received any information but that they can ask the superintendent for an update on the ventilation. The Board assumed that the schools were following the guidelines. **D. Taylor** will ask the Superintendent for an update and if there is a reason for the Board to issue a statement they will. **K. Longo** stated that the Health Department was not notified of any complaints regarding the air quality.

Adjourn 8:15pm

With no further business, on a **motion** made by **A. Constan**, second by **R. Fahrner**, the Board of Health voted **unanimously** by roll call vote to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Kwiatek
Minutes Secretary