

SUNDERLAND BOARD OF HEALTH - MINUTES

September 21, 2020 - Meeting held via Zoom: meeting ID#:983 414 9518

Present: Caitlyn Rock, Bruce Bennett, Ken Kushi, Steve Ball, Cindy Bennett

Absent: Gina McNeely

Mr. Kushi motion to OPEN MEETING AT 6:07PM, Ms. Rock second, vote 3-0.

APPOINTMENTS - none

MINUTES - Mr. Bennett Motion to ACCEPT MINUTES OF AUGUST 24, 2020, Ms. Rock second, Vote 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- Two laptops are being ordered for Health Agents under COVID-19 funding.
- MASK WEARING GUIDELINES will be tabled. Schools and town buildings already have related guidelines and the need for an additional guideline is not warranted at this time. Request the Town Office Building put their practice in writing to formalize. The Board voted unanimously to table the matter.
- LEGAL FEES for July was \$741 related to Housing matter at 370 Montague Rd, which has been resolved.
- Ms. Bennett announced that GIS layers will be added to the Board of Assessors GIS system on the town website. The layers will be closed and only available to Health Agents and board members at this time. Preparation to add the layer has been going on for some time and will take some time to complete. There is no cost to the Board of Health.

HOUSING HEALTH AGENT – no report available.

HEALTH AGENT

- Title 5 inspections and perc tests ongoing. Food inspections are ongoing. Also working with businesses who are interested in offering indoor seating since the colder temperatures are approaching.
- No information has been received from the Os regarding kitchen plan proposal, etc.
- School inspection is due and is required 2x/year.
- Ms. Rock discussed school closing procedure with School Superintendent if family/staff member should be exposed to COVID-19. The Board of Health has the authority to close the school if warranted and along with the Public Health Nurse, are in constant communication with administration and nurses. March closure of schools came within hours after district decision to address matter. Governor's Executive Order required closure which superseded local decisions. The Governor however cannot order school openings across the state due to each community's need to evaluate its circumstances, this would be addressed by individual towns.
- UMASS testing students regularly and no positive cases have been reported to date. They are doing a good job managing the student population within the surrounding communities.
- Mr. Ball requested the Board consider adopting a policy for septic tank pumping at time of Title 5 inspections. It is not a regulation of Title 5; however, some inspectors make commitment to perform action at another time and do not follow through. Tank should be pumped as part of Title 5 in order to witness certain component operations that cannot be observed when tank is not empty. Mr. Bennett motion to have POLICY OF SEPTIC SYSTEM PUMPING AT TIME OF TITLE 5 TESTING, with TOWN HEALTH AGENT WITNESSING. Mr. Ball will present policy. Information can be distributed to engineers, soil evaluators and haulers at license issuance and as needed to other individuals.

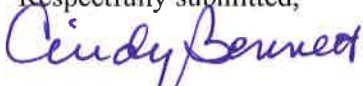
PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

- Written report to be included with minutes. Ms. Rock reviewed report. Noted, still no new COVID-19 cases since May. PHN has been providing technical assistance to FRSD for fall school re-opening. Information from district towns for Frontier Regional is being coordinated by Carolyn Shores Ness in Deerfield.

NEW BUSINESS

- Next Board of Health Meeting scheduled for October 19, 2020 at 6PM.
- Mr. Bennett motion to adjourn, Mr. Kushi second, Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Cindy Bennett
Board of Health Secretary