

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

DATE: October 25, 2021

Place: Town Office Bldg.

Present: Ms. Rock, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Kushi; Inspectors: Ms. McNeely and Mr. Ball; C. Bennett

Others Present: T. Zimnowski, P. Gagarin

APPOINTMENTS

- Mr. Zimnowski of 62 Howard Hepburn Dr. re: septic testing. Title 5 was performed without town health agent present to witness as required by bylaw. Engineer declared system in failure without full title 5 testing which is required before a system can be deemed "in failure." Regulations are in place to protect the homeowner. Next steps, 1) Title 5 needs to be performed; 2) hire an engineer for system design; 3) perc and soil evaluation needed for a new system location, if system repair is required; 4) engineer can submit design for approval before winter and arrangements can be in place for spring installation. Ms. Rock noted that all fees collected for testing go to the town and not the individual inspectors.
- MASK MANDATE review. There are currently 7 cases for the last 14 days, 5 are students, 2 are identified as non-UMASS cases. The state database is for testings performed in MA only and information is not shared interstate for any testing or vaccinations, i.e., 2nd vaccine doses or boosters performed outside of MA are not recorded in our data. Franklin County case numbers are below state numbers. Whately and Deerfield have not had mask mandates and the schools have their own mandate from DESE. Frontier students are still required to wear masks due to younger student population in the communities not yet eligible for vaccinations. After discussion, Mr. Bennett motion to lift mask mandate for all Sunderland indoor public spaces; masks required for unvaccinated persons in all public indoor spaces effective immediately, Ms. Rock second, Vote 3-0. Health Agent McNeely and Board member Mr. Kushi will personally visit businesses tomorrow and all businesses will be sent emailed information as well.

MINUTES: Mr. Kushi motion to accept minutes of September 20, 2021, Mr. Bennett second, Vote 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS - none

HOUSING HEALTH AGENT UPDATE

Ms. McNeely reviewed status of housing cases: 1) THE SOCIAL AMHERST - continued trash complaints; primary issue is tenants are leaving trash outside of the containers rather than inside; this is being monitored; 2) complaint of mask requirements not being observed at NORTH 116 FLATTS – unannounced inspection observed everyone inside the various complex areas were wearing masks; 3) 54 AMHERST RD - order sent to property owner to remove remaining tires.

HEALTH AGENT UPDATE

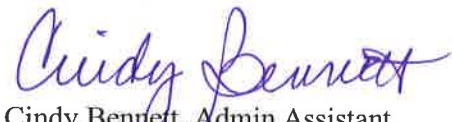
- Food inspections and septic related work still being conducted.
- Agent will be out Nov. 10-17, 2021. Housing Health Agent will cover services as needed.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE UPDATE – no further reports

NEW BUSINESS - none

Next Board of Health meeting scheduled for November 22, 2021, at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Cindy Bennett, Admin Assistant
Recording Secretary