

SUNDERLAND BOARD OF HEALTH - MINUTES

June 22, 2020

Present: Caitlyn Rock, Bruce Bennett, Ken Kushi, Steve Ball, Gina McNeely, Glen Hamill

6:06PM Mr. Kushi Motion to open meeting, Mr. Bennett second, Vote 3-0.

Pursuant to Open Meeting Law, the Zoom meeting (83095361474) was posted with the Board of Health Agenda for the public to join virtual meeting. Meeting was recorded with Zoom and is available to view on YouTube.

REORGANIZATION

Mr. Kushi nominated Ms. Rock as Chair, Mr. Bennett second, Vote 2-0.

Mr. Bennett nominated Mr. Kushi as Secretary, Ms. Rock second, Vote 2-0.

Mr. Bennett was welcomed as the newly elected Board member.

APPOINTMENTS

Glenn Hamill – owner of Sunderland Corner Store. It was noted that multiple complaints have been received by the Board of Health regarding employees and customers not wearing masks in the store. Non-compliance was observed in the store on more than one occasion and also in the health inspector's presence. At the time of recent visit, Mr. Hamill was given Governor's mandate, MGL and federal information related to COVID protocols and policies. Violations could result in fines or business closure. The Food Code allows enforcement of cessation of a food business if there is a pandemic or communicable disease matter for non-compliance. Mr. Ball encouraged Mr. Hamill attend a Board of Health meeting to discuss further. Mr. Hamill did not dispute non-compliance of himself or employees for not wearing masks and assured the Board that full compliance has been implemented with himself and staff from this point forward. He did express concern with being penalized if a customer entered the store and refused to comply with mask policy. Options were discussed and suggested he consider offering curbside pickup for non-compliant customers as other businesses have been seen to offer, with success. Ms. Rock reiterated the goal of the Board of Health was to maintain health and safety of the community and visitors, however, complaints must be investigated and used as an educational opportunity. Sunderland has low COVID exposure numbers because the community and surroundings areas have been compliant with recommendations.

MINUTES

Mr. Kushi motion to approve Minutes of 5.18.2020, Ms. Rock second, Vote 2-0. Mr. Bennett was not on the Board at the time of last meeting and therefore abstained.

OLD BUSINESS

- Online Permitting tabled until next month and requests representative presentation at future meeting.
- Pool Protocols: there are two (2) semi-public pools, one at Cliffside Apartments and one at Sugarloaf Apartments. Effective 6/15/2020, protocols were implemented. All must have an attendant and enforce social distancing protocols as outlined. Temperatures are to be taken upon entry to the pool area, sanitization of common equipment, and maximum occupancy of 40% bathers allowed in pool. Mr. Ball delivered protocols to pools and both were receptive to the mandates outlined and agreed to be compliant. Both locations had hired guards for the pools and were allowed to open and will be subject to additional inspections.
- Restaurant sales of groceries. Selectboard entertained a request from the Blue Heron. Temporary zoning changes were authorized by the Selectboard and Board of Health regulations related to food safety and storage are still required to be maintained. Blue Heron's request to sell groceries was reviewed with them. Health Agent will communicate with other interested businesses.

HOUSING HEALTH AGENT UPDATE

- 370 Montague Rd – Unit J. Owner retained an attorney and an agreement was arranged to allow Health Agent inspection; order expired today. The family would vacate for 6 weeks to allow work to be done and an inspection will be conducted tomorrow.
- 28 Silver Lane – there was a delay from the court due to COVID-19 requesting Sunderland inspect the property as recommended due to complaints. Order has now been received and will be arranged.
- Illegal apartment was discovered at 75 Russell Street during a Title 5 inspection. It is reported as a single-family home.
- Mr. Bennett asked if the town has purview to enter buildings that appear to be abandoned, such as Cozy Corner Nursing Home building. Discussion regarding what the Board of Health may do.

HEALTH AGENT UPDATE

- Mr. Ball noted Phase II, Step 1 and 2 openings are in action for the state due to COVID-19.
- Septic inspections/perc tests and Title 5 inspection requests are up.
- Restaurant inspections are on-going due to second step of Phase II.
- Review COVID related inspection services between Health Agent and chair during agent's office hours.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE UPDATE

- Include report in minutes


NEW BUSINESS

- As of today, indoor dining is allowed with limited capacity per the Governor. Not all local businesses are offering indoor dining at this time. Protocols were presented to businesses.
- • Housing, Health and Public Health employment agreements were discussed and accepted as presented with no language changes from previous year. The Health Agent and Housing Health Agent are both employees of the town. The Public Health Nurse is on a contract with the Board of Health. Town employees were approved a 2% COLA which will be compensated (retroactively to July 1, 2020) upon receipt of state funds due to the COVID crisis and state of the budget. Contracts or Agreements that are funded from the Board of Health Revolving Account may be compensation effective July 1, 2020.
- Smoking on Restaurant Patios. Board of Health Regulations are inclusive of the topic and therefore does not need further action.
- Revolving Fund Update-approved KP Law costs for housing matters in May incurrent for \$1,197.

NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING - 7/20/2020. Members expressed continuation of remote meetings at this time.

Mr. Kushi motion to adjourn meeting at, Mr. Bennett second at 7:29PM Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Cindy Bennett
Board of Health Secretary