

Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
June 22, 2022, 3:30 pm
59 Main Street, Hatfield, MA

Approved September 29, 2022

Present: Bob Osley, Chair, Member Liz Kugler; Vice Chair Jeffrey Zgrodnik; Charlie Kaniecki, Health Agent

CALL TO ORDER Chair Osley called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

PUBLIC FORUM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Member Kugler made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 11, 2022, Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik seconded, all in favor - aye, so moved.

POSTED BUSINESS

TOPIC 1 Reorganization of Board of Health: Member Kugler moved to elect Robert Osley as Chair, Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik seconded, no discussion, all in favor – aye, so moved. Chair Osley moved to retain Member Kugler as school liaison and infection disease contact for the Board, Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik seconded, no discussion, all in favor – aye, so moved. Member Kugler moved that Jeff Zgrodnik be Vice Chairperson, Chair Osley seconded, no discussion, all in favor – aye, so moved.

TOPIC 2 North Street Update: Member Kugler stated at this time the Board of Health has done all it can and the Board cannot control the state's timing because the matter is with the DEP now. Health Agent Kaniecki stated that I don't see anything that we could have done a different way. The Board spoke with people, the Board got in touch with the State DEP and the farmer. The attorney hired by a North Street resident questioned why the Board of Health didn't go to the farm to have them clean it but Health Agent Kaniecki told her that the Board of Health cannot order the farmer to clean up someone else's property. Member Kugler asked if there is still a smell? Health Agent Kaniecki stated the original Order was sent to the State DEP and then it was brought up about the solanine gas. Health Agent Kaniecki went on - officially we didn't get anything back but unofficially there was no real danger. The gas will stay in the ground but mostly in the swamp. There is no calculation of the gas as to when it could become toxic. Chair Osley stated the gas was not a nuisance. Member Kugler asked how this started but Chair Osley said this was not a problem in years past. Health Agent Kaniecki stated it depends upon the environment. There is not just one reason for this to happen.

TOPIC 3 Update on Shared Services Agreement: Member Kugler informed the Board we had three clinics at elementary school so far and one at Council on Aging and 46 boosters were administered. The nurses did 26 blood pressures at the blood pressure clinic recently. Member Kugler would like to have Narcan boxes in Town. Narcan boxes are free from Northampton

Public Health. Member Kugler brought down 2 boxes. The boxes need to be checked every day. Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik asked if Hatfield has a large overdose amount. The answer was no but Member Kugler advised the Board that there are times when a senior takes too much medication or not the right medication and then you may need Narcan.

TOPIC 4 North Street Concerns: See Topic 2 above.

TOPIC 5 COVID Update: There were seven cases this week. The numbers fluctuate week to week. Agent Kaniecki stated that there will probably be another larger outbreak in the fall time/early winter.

Chair Osley informed the Board that there was a records request for 95 North Hatfield Road. Agent Kaniecki informed the Board this is normal when property is being transferred.

TOPIC 6 Mosquito spraying opt-out: Chair Osley informed the Board of a correspondence from the State about those towns who opted out that our plan was accepted. Member Zgrodnik asked if we don't opt out, the state comes in? Agent Kaniecki informed the Board only if there is an emergency outbreak. Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik asked suppose we don't opt out? Health Agent Kaniecki informed the Board if we don't do anything, the state comes when there is an emergency and sprays. Chair Osley and Member Kugler stated they received many emails from residents questioning the chemicals used in the mosquito spray.

UNANTICIPATED NEW BUSINESS: Member Kugler asked if anyone called the woman selling cookies on the internet.

Vice Chairperson asked the Board if anyone has been by George's lately. The members said yes. Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik mentioned it's coming back full circle. Agent Kaniecki suggested waiting until fall so that the Board could have a clear view of the premises.

CONTINUED OLD BUSINESS:

ADJOURN

Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik made a motion to adjourn at 4:14 p.m.; Member Kugler seconded, no discussion, all in favor, aye, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully,

Karen Brodeur
Executive Assistant