

Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2021, 3:30 pm
59 Main Street, Hatfield, MA

Present: Bob Osley, Chair, Member Liz Kugler; Vice Chairperson Jeff Zgrodnik of the Board of Health; Charlie Kaniecki; Claudia Sarti, Michael Wood, interim Superintendent, Jean Hobbie, Nurse; Kerry Flaherty, Vice President of the Firefighters Association

CALL TO ORDER Chair Osley called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

PUBLIC FORUM Sharon Strzegowski, Treasurer, presented before the Board to inform them that she has heard there is black mold on the back stage and that she did not feel safe working in a building where there is black mold.

ANNOUNCEMENTS None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Member Liz Kugler moved to accept the Minutes of August 12, 2021, Vice Chairperson Jeff Zgrodnik seconded, all in favor, aye, Minutes approved.

POSTED BUSINESS

TOPIC 1 Chair Osley informed the Board that when the inspection was done in the kitchen of the Hatfield Elementary School, it was pointed out there was staining on the ceiling of the cafeteria which raises concern about mold exposure. It was brought to the Board's attention that the Custodial Department at the Elementary School said this has been an ongoing issue since the building was new. Mr. Zgrodnik informed the Board that Phil Genovese, DPW Director is the person who takes care of buildings and that the school should contact Mr. Genovese. Michael Wood, interim Superintended presented before the Board and informed the Board that an inspector from the insurance company would be coming Friday to inspect the roof. Mr. Wood informed the Board that he was unclear of the timeline for the report from the insurance company and that the School Committee for FY23 will be look into capital planning. There was discussion about the year the school was built, the manufacturer of the roofing material and that there may be a 30-year roof warranty. Mr. Wood said if there is warranty, work that can be done, will be done. Chair Osley requested Mr. Wood keep the Board up to date on the progress of the work. Member Kugler made a motion to have the prepared letter sent to the proper school authorities as well as draft of the handout, Vice Chairperson Jeff Zgrodnik seconded, all in favor, aye, motion approved.

TOPIC 2 Chair Osley asked Claudia Sarti for an update of cases in Town noting that the code red letter is going out each week. Ms. Sarti informed the Board that so far this week there is only one case but that two contacts came in and those individuals are scheduled to get tested. There is not much to report this week so far. Chair Osley noted that the cases seem to be going down and that was good news. Chair Osley wants to be sure that the Board is consistent on

reporting. Chair Osley stated that there is a mask mandate for the schools thus far. Chair Osley mentioned that there are mask mandates in surrounding towns. As of now, we have not had an actual mandate outside of school other than the recommendation of wearing masks when indoors and when you can't follow safe distancing. It's encouraging to see the rate of new cases being low. Chair Osley felt comfortable for not putting in further mask mandates within the Town of Hatfield. Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik is not in favor of micro managing a smaller community and that he doesn't see any point, it's not regulated by the state or federal governments. There are a lot of businesses that took it upon themselves to put in a mask mandate and they are suffering for it. If you want to wear a mask, wear one. Member Kugler informed the Board that it's a hard thing, we want kids to mask up and it's difficult to only put the mandate on them. Member Kugler went on to say that she leans towards masks for everyone. I don't think it's a sacrifice for people to wear a mask. Chair Osley asked Ms. Sarti if she has seen clusters of families going to restaurants and two unrelated groups coming down with COVID-19. Ms. Sarti replied that all cases are random as there is no common denominator. Charlie Kaniecki said that he agreed with Mr. Zgrodnik. Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik further went on to say that if the Board of Health put in a mask mandate, where is the staff to monitor this? How are you going to make sure people adhere and then how to enforce it? If it's a state or federal mandate, that would require the local police to assist. Mr. Kaniecki informed the Board that Massachusetts has a high vaccination rate. It's not the appropriate time right now. Chair Osley said that the Board of Health will take a look at this as time goes on.

TOPIC 3 Ms. Sarti informed the Board that there has not been any tick activity in the last month.

TOPIC 4 Mr. Kaniecki informed the Board that there has not been a EEE case in Hatfield and only four West Nile virus cases, which is a low number. Mr. Kaniecki informed the Board that people should be aware of the amount of mosquitos out lately and to be taking precautions.

TOPIC 6 Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik asked to move around the topics. He informed the Board that before the bon fire takes place we will have to assess what's going on. Mr. Kaniecki mentioned that the Big E opens a week from Friday and people will be coming from everywhere. Discussion ensued about who has applied for food permits. Ms. Flaherty presented before the Board and wants to be sure vendors apply ahead of time. Discussion ensued about the permit fees for the food trucks. Discussion also occurred about how to charge certain food trucks for a one-day event permit. Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik made motion to add on the fee schedule a charge for a one-day prepackaged food vendor of \$25.00; Member Kugler seconded, all in favor, aye, motion approved. Ms. Flaherty reported that the port-a-potties are all set, hand sanitizer will be inside the cans, and that we are in compliance with the state regulations. The purchase of tickets is electronic this year so that there is less hands on, less bottle necking at check in and things should move smoothly. Tickets are \$25.00 and there is no rain date. If for some reason the bon-fire has to be cancelled, cancellation will be by 7:00 a.m. on the day of the event and tickets will be refunded. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Chair Osley asked about alcohol permits and Ms. Flaherty said there will be a bartender and she will be getting the application for the liquor license. Ms. Flaherty informed the Board that she will keep in touch with the Board regarding COVID cases. Ms. Flaherty said that there will be trash bins in place, along with a

dump truck to take away the trash, the field will be cleaned up as well as neighbor's front lawns. If a problem arises, please let Ms. Flaherty know immediately.

TOPIC 5 Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik seems to recall that the Board had voted on this a few years back. Mr. Kaniecki mentioned that he checked back in his notes and did not find anything and mentioned that he did not find regulations in the books. Vice Chairperson made a motion to keep Body Art regulation on the Agenda for the next meeting; Member Kugler seconded, all in favor, aye, motion approved.

TOPIC 7 Mr. Kaniecki updated the Board regarding the Title V updated and said the system now seems to be working nicely.

TOPIC 8 Member Liz Kugler informed the Board that she spoke with the Council on Aging Director and on October 27, 2021 Walgreens will be conducting a flu clinic at the Council on Aging. Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik asked if there was a way to get the information about the upcoming flu clinic in the code red call and suggested getting the word out as much as possible. Member Kugler will reach out to the Council on Aging Director about the wordage to use in the call. The Board of Health will get out flyers as well.

UNANTICIPATED: Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik asked Chair Osley if one day next week they could meet and get Sharps packaged up and sent out.

Member Kugler moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:42 p.m.; Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik seconded, all in favor, aye, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully,

Karen Brodeur
Executive Assistant