

Town of Shelburne

Board of Health

Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. on Monday October 4, 2020 by member Ron Kelter. The meeting was held via Zoom due to the Coronavirus- COVID-19 Pandemic.

Board of Health Members Present: Ron Kelter, - Chair, Jody Stetson, Fred Vohr

Others Present: Jennifer Morse (Clerk), Randy Crochier (CPHS Health Agent), Jackie Walsh, Leiha Maldonado

Minutes –

The minutes of August 31, 2020 and September 21, 2020 were approved as amended. Members verified that the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m. on August 31, 2020 and that there was no vote taken on September 21, 2020 regarding LUA authority to approve.

COVID-19

Jody reported that there have been no new cases and that we are now in Phase 3, Step 2 of the re-opening. Randy shared the gathering orders for personal and public property, noting that gathering of more than 50 people on private property had to notify the local board of health.

Randy is a member of the Mohawk Trail School District reopening task force. The superintendent recently sent her response to DESE regarding remote learning. It was shared that there is concern regarding transportation and testing. Testing is far away and not easily assessable currently with the closest locations being Greenfield/Orange. Schools are currently open to small groups of children who need access to WIFI.

Leiha Maldonado – School Committee Member spoke about her concerns with the ventilation system at BSE which has zero air exchange in the old section of the building. Students are no longer allowed inside the building due to the ventilation and are being schooled in tents. There is concern about the temperatures especially in the mornings. Leiha asked that the Board of Health do a site inspection? Stating that she has had minimal response from the Superintendent and School Committee chairperson. Randy to reach out to the Superintendent and Facilities Director to set up an inspection and Randy will update the board on the progress. There was further discussion on the school committee handling of the assessments.

Halloween- Discussion on a black board connect call reminding residents to practice social distancing, wear a face covering, avoid busy street, pass out wrapped candy, don't allow children to place their hands in a bowl, do not pass out candy if you are compromised, etc. Jenn will work on wording for the call and will plan with Town Clerk, Joe Judd to have it broadcast by Fritz. Jenn will also follow up with the organizers of the Rag Shag Parade and Shelburne Center Grange Party to see if they have cancelled their events to date.

Health Agent Updates

Randy shared that there has been no recent COVID complaints.

Health agents continue to work on percolation tests, title v inspections, food inspections. Recently they have been working with the Shelburne Falls Bowling Alley to have a food permit. Randy reviewed the process for new food establishments to become permitted and when they are inspected.

Other Business

None

Next Meeting: October 19, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

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Public Comment

Jackie Walsh asked that there be information on the website about filing a COVID complaint as well as sharing the date of the last covid related death and new case. She spoke about other communities that are a mask required zone and that signs are being stolen from the village. Jackie mentioned that some of the minutes are not loading on the website and Jenn will investigate the error message. Jackie shared that she had recently read an article about super spreaders and wanted to know what the health agents do regarding super spreaders. Randy was going to speak to Lisa White since she oversees contract tracing. Jackie also brought up that Mechanic Street is very busy at Halloween.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:39 a.m. Vote: 3-0

Submitted:

Jennifer Morse
Board of Health Clerk
October 15, 2020