Board of Health Meeting Minutes October 17, 2022 9:30 am Via Zoom

Call to Order: Chair, Ron Kelter opened the meeting at 9:30 am. Members present: Fred Vohr. Others in attendance included: Terry Narkewicz, Town Administrator and FRCOG Representatives: Kurt Schellenberg.

Acceptance of Minutes: Ron made a motion to accept the minutes of June 6, 2022 as presented. Fred seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Appointments: None

Kurt Schellenberg RE: FRCOG Health Agent Update: Kurt reported that the Cooperative Public Health Services (CPHS) Annual meeting was a great success and thanked both Ron and Fred for attending.

Kurt referenced the CPHS Weekly Health Letter produced by Meg Ryan and Maureen O’Reily noting that risk levels for our area remain low for West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis. The CPHS has not had a single documented case of Monkeypox despite 423 reported cases in Massachusetts. Kurt also reported that September rains have improved the State’s drought status. Franklin County is now at level 1 Mild Drought.

Randy Crochier, Lisa White and Kurt attended a conference that covered a variety of health-related topics (food safety, cannabis, tattoo parlors, drinking water, etc.). Kurt attended a Lead Certification course. He explained that he still needs to pass the “field training” component which can only take place when the Boston Office has availability to send an instructor to our area. Once certified, Kurt will be able to perform lead testing in homes and/or apartments that are pre-1978 and have a child under the age of 6 years old residing there. Testing does require parental consent.

Other Business:

Revised Cease & Desist Order for Tobacco Control – In June, 2020 a new state tobacco law, “An Act to Modernize Tobacco Control” and state regulations (105 CMR 665.000) took effect. Along with higher state fines, which are payable to the municipality, the regulations state that if the first violation is a sale to a person under the age of 21, the tobacco sales permit shall be suspended. Local Boards of Health’s have the discretion to decide how many days the permit suspension will be. Before taking any action, Kurt agreed to provide members of the Board with some statistical data from other communities our size. In the meantime, Terry will provide Board members with a copy of Shelburne’s Tobacco Regulations for their review.

Re-Organization of the Board – Ron Kelter presented a motion to nominate Fred Vohr as Chair of the Board of Health. Fred seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Ron will remain as a member of the Board.

Board of Health Vacancy – Board members are actively searching for a third member. The vacancy was noted in the town’s E-newsletter and the Town Administrator sent several letters to residents who have a background in public health. To date, no one has expressed interest in serving.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

Next Meeting: November 14, 2022 at 9:30 am

Adjournment: Ron presented a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 am. Fred seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Narkewicz

Town Administrator