

Buckland, MA Board of Health Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2023

Via Zoom

Agenda

1. Open the meeting.
2. Review/approve minutes for May meeting
3. Health Agent Report:
4. Review/process mail – someone will collect from Town Hall.
5. Appointment - the Cooperative Public Health Service as Agent to the Board of Health
6. Opioid settlement funds
7. Any other items not reasonably anticipated by Chairman 48 hours prior to meeting
8. Public Comment.
9. Adjourn the meeting.

Attendees

Peggy Hart, chair

Julie Godfrey, member

Phoebe Walker, Director of Community Services, CPHS/FRCOG

Kurt Schellenberg, Health Agent, CPHS/FRCOG

1. Open the meeting

Chair Peggy Hart opened the meeting at 7:00 pm

2. Review/approve minutes for May meeting

Chair Hart corrected item 9. COVID-19: Cases, updates, regs/guidance

As written: The BOH members decided to keep this item on future agendas with the pandemic declaration having ended.

As amended: The BOH members decided not to keep this item on future agendas with the pandemic declaration having ended.

With correction, member Julie Godfrey moved to approve the minutes; chair Hart seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

3. Health Agent Report

Health Agent Kurt Schellenberg reported:

- Lots of Title V work
- 105 State St./trailer - the temporary occupancy permit has expired, and the health agents have written to the owner about the current status. Chair Hart noted the BOH received a report of the smell of sewage; agent Schellenberg replied the trailer should have a self-contained unit.
- A successful Council on Aging event took place on June 14th, with app. 45 people in attendance, and an opportunity for the public to offer

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feedback

- Approximately 12 people attended the recent NARCAN training event
- Nursing hours at the Senior Center are continuing; appointments are necessary for vaccinations
- The health agents have received inquiries from area towns for guidance on marijuana and body art; FRCOG is working on some model ordinances
- Maureen O'Reilly is working on tick prevention events, and is seeking feedback on likely locations and timing when members of the public can access health info and have their clothing sprayed with a tick preventative. Suggestion of using the parking lot between Shelburne Farm and Garden and Aubuchon Hardware in Shelburne. Member Godfrey to investigate possible host locations; BOH member(s) to attend event.
- Two events next week: MAPHCO meeting (Carmela Lanza-Weil to attend, possibly Marty as backup) and monthly oversight meeting.
- Chair Hart requested an update on Red Gate Farm. Agent Schellenberg said agent Randy Crochier is the liaison, and will follow up for the BOH.
- Agent Schellenberg reported that in the future, the Art Garden will be registered as a camp, but for now, will receive a pass for their 2023 summer programs for children.
- 89 State St. has been sold; Sears St. house has not, though a "manager" has been in touch with health agents to secure the building in a code-compliant manner. The Attorney General's program representative has shown interest in the property.

4. Appointment - the Cooperative Public Health Service as Agent to the Board of Health

Chair Hart made a motion that the CPHS staff be appointed as an agent to the Buckland Board of Health; member Godfrey seconded the motion; both members voted in favor of the motion.

5. Opioid settlement funds

- Chair Hart attended the Shelburne BOH meeting to share a hope the two towns might cooperate on future opioid settlement-related programs, and reported Shelburne's BOH is "happy to collaborate"
- Phoebe Walker showed excerpts from a PPT presentation to the Local Public Health Roundtable "Opioid Settlement Funding in Franklin County"
- Ms. Walker reviewed the most effective possible regional projects
 - Support people in recovery - especially stigma prevention
 - Curriculum for prevention, including training new staff to respond to requests by schools
 - Connections to care
 - Harm reduction
 - Support for criminal justice-involved people
- Questions from the BOH
 - How would we support school counselors with money? PW: provide mental health service that aren't available elsewhere

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- These are all interesting, but there's more detail needed for all the options. PW: we can delve into each one in more depth.
 - How do we make the money available go the farthest; what's most effective? PW: Recommendations would be to focus on NARCAN training, stigma prevention and recovery coaches
 - Would the next oversight meeting offer more clarity about collaboration across towns? PW: Really seeking BOH guidance to take recommendations to the collaborative
 - BOH made these recommendations
 - Recovery coaches
 - Trainings in stigma prevention and restorative practices
 - Ms. Walker reviewed prevention activities taking place in local schools (Shelburne-Buckland Elementary and Mohawk Regional)
6. Review/process mail
Nothing to report in addition to correspondence noted earlier
Chair Hart emphasized that all members will check the BOH email, and responses will be a shared responsibility.
7. Other Items
Chair Hart will ask Phoebe Walker for recommendations and implications for Buckland in regard to the Age-Friendly Communities report for the July BOH meeting
8. Member Godfrey made a motion to adjourn the meeting; chair Hart seconded the motion; all voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Next meeting planned for July 20, 2023, 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted, Alison Cornish, Boards Clerk

Documents Referenced

"Opioid Settlement Funding in Franklin County," PPT presentation 6/26/23, Local Public Health Roundtable