BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

TOWN BUILDING

Dec 12, 2022

Minutes taken in December 2022 by Academic Public Health Corps member Cora Cunningham.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Present via Zoom were Dr. John Schuler (JS), Dr. Robert DeFrancesco (RD), Julia Junghanns (JJ), Robert Eyre (RE), Genevieve Anand (GA), and Dr. Arnold Soslow (AS).

RD: Roll Call: JS - Yes, AS - Yes, GA- Yes, RE - Yes, and RD - Yes

**6:34 p.m. Public Comments**

No Public Comment

**6:35 p.m. Public Health Terms and Next Town Election**

JJ:AS’s term is up this spring. Do we need to find someone else? What is happening? AS: I thought I had another year. RE: I think that’s right because I have to run again for a full term. JS: When is mine up? RE: One more year. AS: I’m happy at this point in time to continue and run again but there are other people running too which will have to be decided. I don’t think I’m ready to say I’m not interested. RD: When do we have to start getting signatures? JJ: I have a vacation at the end of January so I didn’t want it to be off our radar. If AS is coming back, then just keep an eye on the calendar. If someone else is interested, then they have the right to pull papers as well. RD: Also keep us posted so we can support you.

**6:38 p.m. Director’s Report**

JJ: We’ve had some department heads meetings to discuss a number of projects coming before the town in near future. Most plans haven’t been submitted yet. Mill Creek is the project at the old Whole Foods plaza at the vacant parking lot. Mahoney’s, the Cascade Project is looking at 60 units by a wastewater treatment facility. JS: Rentals or condos? JJ: Not sure yet. I think things are still being figured out for both projects. JS: What are they asking for? JJ: 172 units, but we haven’t received plans. RE: Another 60 in the Mahoney’s. JS: The supermarket will be interesting because that’s a wetland. JJ: I don’t know what’s going to end up over there, they are still trying to figure it out. We still have 24 School St., St. Anne’s Church is looking to build 64-45 units, Council on Aging project is submitting plans soon. In Launcher Way in Northern Wayland we have a contractor looking to renovate homes. JS: Has that closed yet? JJ: I think so. RE: Is the St. Anne’s the church the one that is closed on Route 27? JJ: No it’s not closed. JS: It’s across from the golf course. RE: Isn’t that now Good Shepherd Hospice? JJ: No. GA: Good Shepherd is the name for both the parishes together. St. Anne’s is right across from Green Way. JJ: We did receive plans for Menler’s Woods on Shaw Dr. I haven’t looked at it yet and we will discuss it formally at a board meeting. JS: I thought they already sold one of the properties. JJ: There are a couple of projects on Shaw Dr. One of them is 57. They are planning to develop at least 3 projects. I haven’t looked at the plans yet. There’s a lot of things going on so it will be a busy time for the health and building departments. AS: The properties on Shaw are upscale properties? JJ: They’re family households. Using CMG Environmental, the town is looking for a potential grass athletic field. They are doing some testing over there. We will see more on this as things develop. Our senior clerk, Zach Jonas, is resigning due to pursuit of master’s degree. We are sad to see him go. We’ve posted the position and hopefully we’ll find someone. In the meantime, we have a seasonal staff person helping us with the transition. We’re continuing to work through a number of housing situations and complaints. Department heads are meeting and reviewing vacant homes to figure out future consultations with town council. JS: These are all vacant now? JJ: Yes. Also the Academic Public Health Corps Member, Cora, is helping us take minutes. There is also a full day training for mental health occuring. They are looking at taking fear and hesitation out of mental health conversations to help people identify mental illness or a substance abuse disorder. In starting a dialogue, more people can get the help they need. That training is on Wednesday this week. We also have an update from Michele. Wastewater data indicates a rise in regional COVID-19 cases. We are offering additional seasonal flu and COVID-19 clinics on Dec. 15. Our message continues to be prevention and preparedness. We are supporting a newly diagnosed individual with TB and establishing protocols for direct observational therapy. We’ve continued to distribute COVID-19 test kits. After Thanksgiving break, 12 cases were reported in relation to this program. After winter break, this program will be repeated. Two of our regional staff are also completing the certified trainer course, which Michele is also certified in. This doesn’t include everything we’re working on, such as septic review, etc. JS: All quiet at assisted livings? JJ: I think Michele has been in touch with them but I can get in contact with her. JS: That might be canary in the coal mine. RE: The 12 cases were in school aged children? JJ: Yes. RE: How is the signups for the clinic going? JJ: We have 85 people signed up. RD: Julia have you heard anything about that project about the daycare? JJ: I haven’t heard anything recently. JS: It could be a traffic problem if they have a driveway on Plain Road. RD: Any other questions? JJ: We have a new town manager. Last week I spent an entire day with other department heads interviewing the three applicants. We were very thankful to be part of that process. We met with each applicant and put some questions together in advance and the person who was hosting the meeting, Mike Gillette, facilitated the meeting and then we asked our questions. We enjoyed being part of that and the board made a decision on Saturday and is hiring Mike McCall from Southbridge. We were very happy about Mike and his background so I think he will be a good complement to the town. AS: GA and I were at the reception with the three applicants. RD: We have a correspondence wage study under the Director’s Report. JJ: I didn’t plan on going through it but I provided it to Dr. Soslow.

**7:00 p.m. General Business**

**RE: Motion to approve the 3 sets of minutes. AS: Second. RD: JS - Yes, AS - Yes, GA - Yes, RD - Yes. Minutes approved motion passes 5-0.**

**7:01 p.m. Motion to Adjourn**

**AS: Motion to adjourn this meeting. RE - Second. RD: JS - Yes, AS - Yes ,GA- Yes, RD - Yes. Motion passes 5-0 meeting adjourned.**

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