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BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, December 15, 2021

TOWN CLERK RECEIVED/POSTED

ATTENDEES: Deborah Kadar-Hull, RN, Chairperson

James Stepanian, Member

Rosemary Decie, RS, Health Agent Anita Wright, RN, Public Health Nurse Lori Bentsen, Administrative Asst.

This Board of Health meeting was held in the main meeting room at town hall.

Meeting Open: 4:05 PM

AGENDA:

The first agenda item is public health nurse update. Kadar-Hull stated that at the special town meeting held on December 6th, the town approved 12 hours per week for the public health nurse. Anita told the Board that yesterday she finally received the MAVEN training packet and she started the training today. Anita said the state is drastically cutting back on contact tracing, therefore, the Fire Chief and Police Chief will no longer receive weekly updates. Anita said that she has offered to meet with Chief Valentine and Chief Gillen to discuss Covid protocols. Anita informed the Board that she received a phone call from the soccer and basketball coach at Bagnall School that she had a Covid positive student who plays soccer. Anita said the coach called her for guidance on Covid protocols as it relates to sports activities. Anita said she contacted Amanda Durand, RN, Bagnall School and we researched the current Covid guidance from DESE and MIAA and we informed the coaches of the Covid protocols they have to follow for sports activities. Anita told the Board as of today, we have 48 confirmed positive Covid cases and 4 probable. Anita said as of today, there are 800,000 deaths. Anita said there are over 11,000 positive cases in MA from this past weekend. Anita said the most important things that all of us can do is get vaccinated, wear masks and avoid crowded places. Anita said she contacted several pharmacies and there will be no flu vaccination clinics because the pharmacies were told by their corporate offices in October that they could not do community outreach because they are overwhelmed with administering immunizations within the stores. Anita stated that she learned today that the Merrimack Valley Regional Collaborative will be holding clinics again and will be doing flu, Covid and booster vaccinations. Anita told the Board that she would like to hold a blood pressure clinic in town hall in January but she believes that will depend on Covid rates. Anita informed the Board that Bernie Clifford and Kathy Valerio from Sacred Heart Church, Bradford, MA stopped in the office last

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week. Bernie and Kathy wanted us to know if any of our residents need help getting food because they are quarantined with Covid, they do home deliveries. The Sacred Heart Church food pantry is in back of the church on Carlton Ave. and a drive-thru to pick up food is also available; Monday, Wednesday and Friday 7:30 – 11:00 AM.

Next agenda item is health agent update. Rosemary told the Board she has been extremely busy inspecting new septic system installations at 929 Salem St., 358 Center St., 6 Merritt Ave., 10 Byfield Rd., 15 Sylvan St., 4 Dartmouth Rd. Rosemary said that she just completed soil testing at 13 Yale St. Kadar-Hull asked Rosemary to give an update on 4 Yemma Rd. Rosemary said that we received the revised plans that she requested from the designer late last Thursday evening from Mr. Yemma. Rosemary said that she has been contact with the designer via emails discussing items that still need to be addressed on the revised plans, in particular, cover on D-box, garbage grinder, impervious barrier. Stepanian said the designer has to correct these issues per the health agent's recommendations before the Board will approve the plan.

Third agenda item is administrative assistant additional work hours. Lori said that she worked over her scheduled 27 hours last week because she worked last Friday to finish minutes from last month's board meeting. Lori said in addition to her regular work, she now has Covid issues that she handles and trash complaints have increased. Kadar-Hull said money for additional work hours for Lori was placed on a warrant along with money for additional hours for the public health nurse for approval at special town meeting on December 6. Kadar-Hull said for reasons unknown to her, Lori's money was removed from the warrant. Lori said she had a conversation earlier this week with Rebecca Oldham who told her there is no money to pay her for the additional hours that she has been working and if Lori continues to work over her scheduled 27 hours, she will be required to take a furlough at the end of the fiscal year. Rebecca said that Lori would be allowed to take comp time for hours worked over her scheduled 27 hours. Kadar-Hull and Stepanian asked Lori to calculate the deficit in her salary line item and let them know. Kadar-Hull and Stepanian said they will be requesting more hours for Lori when they meet with the Finance Board.

Last on the agenda is review minutes for approval. Kadar-Hull made a motion to approve meeting minutes of November 18, 2021, Stepanian seconded and it was a unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned: 6:25 PM

Next Board of Health Meeting will be scheduled as needed.

Meeting minutes transcribed by Lori Bentsen, Administrative Asst.

APPROVED

1/21/22

TOWN OF GROVELAND
BOARD OF HEALTH