

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

September 29, 2020

Teleconference: 7:00 PM

Present: Holliston Board of Health: Laura Nolan (*Chair*)
Tom Ellis (*Vice-Chair*)
Josh Mann (*member*)

Scott Moles, *Health Director and Agent*
Ann Adams, *Health Department Clerk*
Lisa Deering, *Health Department Clerk*

Dr. Susan Kustka, *Interim Superintendent Holliston Public Schools*
Lynne Bowler, *Head Nurse Holliston Public Schools*

Laura Nolan, BoH Chair opened the meeting at 7:00 PM

Scott Moles, Health Director, read the Remote Participation Statement.

Board of Health Roll call: Laura – Present, Tom-Present, Josh-Present

Public Comment: None.

Holliston Public School Opening

Dr. Susan Kustka, Superintendent Holliston Public Schools (HPS), updated the Board on the opening of the schools. There was a staggered start of the grades and currently all grades are having in-person classes. The School Department discussed the recent up-tick in COVID-19 cases in Town and the impact that has on re-opening the Schools. Scott Moles, Health Director and Mike Cassidy, Town COVID-19 Incident Commander, met with the School Department, and explained that most of the additional cases are in a congregant care facility, and not in the general public. The decision was made to continue the re-opening, with diligence.

Lynne Bowler, Head Nurse HPS, requested an extension of the MA State travel testing requirements to include all school children in the HPS. Currently the State requirement is for 10 year olds and up, leaving the 3 year olds (preschool) to 9 year olds untested, and possible vectors. There was a situation recently where a family returned from a restricted state and the child wouldn't need to be tested by the State's requirement. The Schools would like that age gap in the travel testing rules closed for safety sake, as it is known that young children can indeed be carriers of COVID-19.

The group discussed the logistics of the regulation and what surrounding towns are doing. This extended age testing regulation would be apply to the HPS exclusively, but the Board believed there should be a recommendation for the same testing of any young resident attending a private school environment.

Laura made a motion to require in addition to the Massachusetts State's Travel Order, any Holliston Public School student, from preschool to 12th grade, after traveling to a restricted state, must produce, upon request, proof of a negative PCR test result for COVID-19 from a test administered on a sample taken no longer than 72 hours before returning to school. Alternatively the student can quarantine for 14 days using the on-line class option.

Josh seconded. Roll call: Laura - Aye, Tom-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

Laura made a motion to recommend in addition to the Massachusetts State's Travel Order, any private school student, from preschool to 12th grade, after traveling to a restricted state, should produce, upon request, proof of a negative PCR test result for COVID-19 from a test administered on a sample taken no longer than 72 hours before returning to school. Alternatively the student could quarantine for 14 days using an on-line class option.

Josh seconded. Roll call: Laura - Aye, Tom-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

There was some discussion of how to handle Halloween, and other COVID-19 related topics. There will be more discussion regarding this later in the meeting as there is a public hearing to attend to first.

34 Railroad Street – LUA – Civilized Solutions, Eric Dickinson

Eric Dickinson, Civilized Solutions, presented the septic upgrade plan for 34 Railroad Street. This septic system is on a very small lot, but it can fit a septic upgrade using an Eljen system and the Local Upgrade Approval variances outlined in the September 18, 2020 letter to the abutters. The variances requested are reductions to the property lines. An impervious barrier and effluent filter will be installed. There were no abutter's comments. The ground water is at 78." There are no other locational options for this tight lot.

Laura made a motion to accept the variances requested for 34 Railroad Street as listed per the 9-18-20 letter. Tom seconded. Roll call: Laura - Aye, Tom-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

Laura requested that future LUA have the proposed septic plans emailed to the Board prior to the meetings for their review. Scott agreed to do that.

Covanta Truck Traffic

- Brian Moran, Covanta Compliance Officer for the Town, described the problems with truck traffic in town and specifically with Covanta trucks.
- Laura read the truck traffic questions from Tina Hein, Select Board liaison to the BoH.
- Scott agreed to contact Covanta with Brian's input regarding these trucking concerns.
- Brian wants the petition from residents that Tina Hein has.
- Covanta has truck weights that would be helpful in this discussion.
- Truck traffic is an issue in Town on a larger scale, and is being studied by several committees.
- Scott will connect with Tina Hein, Brian Moran and Tom Stanwood (Covanta) and get that information to the Board.

Director's Report

COVID-19 update:

- COVID-19 cases: Total = 94, Active = 15.
- Holliston is listed as a Red (high risk) town on the State map because of the new cases.
- Most of the additional cases are at a congregant care facility, not in the general public. Contract tracing has indicated that it has not spread to the general population.
- Halloween guidance from the CDC will be out next week.
- The Board felt it would be more effective to communicate the safe options for Halloween than trying to "cancel" Halloween, possibly causing families to gather for parties instead.
- The Board appreciated the use of extra signage and suggested some new messages regarding wearing masks and Halloween.
- Given the current trend Holliston may still be a Red town for Halloween. CDC would advise Red towns shouldn't have Halloween.
- Considering that most of the recent additional cases are from a congregant care facility, there may be some consideration of safe Halloween practices.

Marshall Street Landfill Solar Panels: The Town is still waiting for TRC to submit their design plan, so the BoH can review it.

Mosquitos: There is a 40 year old Middlesex resident with WNV, so the abutting towns of Cambridge Somerville, Watertown and Newton have an increased risk, but otherwise the dry season is keeping the EEE & WNV risks down.

Mask wearing: Scott visited the Outpost based on a complaint of mask non-compliance, but found they were in full compliance.

Fafard is trying to complete Old Cart Path, but is not using suitable fill in the road, so Scott is holding back approval for 2 of their septic plans.

Private well testing indicated trichloroethylene contamination in a private well on Whitney Street at the Sherborn line. That residence will install a filter, but the question remains where the trichloroethylene came from. Another residence with a private well in the area will be contacted and instructed to test their water. This issue will be researched and reported back to the Board.

Tobacco Regulation enforcement manager was newly hired by the MetroWest Regional Control District, Olivia DuFour. She is planning to provide training and test compliance in the next 6 months.

BoH Meeting Minutes: Laura made a motion to approve the September 15, 2020 BoH Minutes. Josh seconded. Roll call: Laura-Aye, Tom-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

Bills: The following bills were presented and discussed:

Amazon – 3 A-frame signs, paid by: COVID 4ab and CARES Act	\$95.22 \$213.75
Amazon: Sign corrugated boards paid by COVID 4ab	\$111.38
Amazon: Sign clear sheets paid by COVID 4ab	\$179.96
Salmon VNA: COVID related	\$1,105.50
General MAVEN	\$536.00

Laura motioned to accept and approve the bills as listed above. Tom seconded.
Roll call: Laura-Aye, Tom-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

The additional signage the Board requested has been received (and in use), but there is no word from the Select Board on the requested additional clerical hours.

Board Comment: None

Next BoH Meetings: Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 7:00 PM, via Zoom Teleconference.

Tom motioned to close the meeting at 8:50 PM. Josh seconded.
Roll call: Laura-Aye, Tom-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

Respectfully submitted:
Ann Adams

Approval Date: 10-6-20