

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

October 6, 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*

Tina Hein, *Select Board Member*
Mike Cassidy, *Fire Chief and Emergency Management Director*

Laura Nolan, BoH Chair opened the meeting at 7:03 PM

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

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

Public Comment: Suzanne Adelman, 46 South Street resident, wanted to discuss the truck traffic on South Street. Laura said we could move directly on to that agenda discussion item.

Truck Traffic in Town

Suzanne Adelman asked the Board to have the Covanta bound trucks not take South Street because it is a narrow street not intended for large tractor-trailers. Suzanne shared data that she and her neighbors have been collecting about the traffic, and has started 2 Facebook groups to help voice the neighbors' concerns. South Street is being used as a cut-through between Routes 16 and 109. The oversized trucks are speeding causing a dangerous situation on a road that has already had several fatalities. Suzanne has written letters to several of the trucking companies who used South Street with some success, as they have redirected their trucks. She is asking that Covanta have all of their truck traffic not use South Street.

Scott Moles said the Covanta Site Assignment is up for renewal and this is a good time to discuss this truck traffic issue with Tom Stanwood of Covanta. Tom has been a good neighbor partner in past issues. Scott and Brian Moran, Covanta Compliance Officer for the Town, will gather the truck traffic data and meet with Tom. The Covanta truck traffic are the only trucks that the BoH has jurisdiction over. There is a greater truck traffic issue across the whole Town which is being addressed by others including the Select Board.

Tina Hein, BoH liaison from the Select Board, outlined the efforts of the Select Board regarding the Town's truck traffic problem and the many departments that are working on fixing it. There are initiatives being pursued by the Select Board, Planning and Zoning Boards and the Traffic Advisory Committee. The Select Board is also working with the Department of Transportation. They are investigating using technology to help capture traffic data. Tina asked Scott to speak with Police Chief Matt Stone about having the police collect truck traffic data to remove that burden from residents.

Laura Nolan asked Scott about the Covanta Site Assignment requirements regarding truck traffic. Scott outlined the Site Assignment requirements, and said this would be a good time to discuss truck traffic issues with Covanta. The Board agreed that Scott will invite Covanta collaboratively into this problem

solving as we don't know for sure that all the trucks observed on South Street are solely headed to Covanta.

Director's Report

COVID-19 update:

- COVID-19 cases: Total = 95, Active = 16, Recovered=77.
- Holliston is still a Red (high risk) community on the State map, and will remain Red for another week.
- The Governor relaxed the restaurant restrictions, but this will not apply to Holliston as long as we are a Red town.
- In an abundance of caution, a group housing facility offered free testing to all of the residents after there was a positive individual. No other positives have been reported there yet.
- Middle School staff member tested positive for COVID-19.
 - Middle School closed Monday & Tuesday for deep cleaning. Students went to remote learning.
 - Wednesday the 50 student cohort that included the positive staff member will remain remote learning for this week for staffing reasons. Individual cohorts have different students on different days for social distancing reasons and can't just shift to another teacher.
 - So far, there have been no additional positive testing individual.
- Josh voiced concern when he received a letter from the Schools regarding this remote learning pivot that said the BoH had spoken to the School Superintendent, when it should have said the Health Director. Scott said he would be extra clear on communicating his title as Health Director, and keeping the Board updated on his COVID-19 actions.
- Josh asked what will happen when the next school individual tests positive. Mike Cassidy said the Holliston Public School's reopening plan is clear and detailed, complete with decision trees, regarding suspected or confirmed cases. If there are multiple cases, they can talk to the State Epidemiologist about testing a group, grade or school. The permission slips and plans are ready.
- Scott and Mike assured the Board that Holliston is not the only town where schools are experiencing COVID-19 cases that require remote learning pivots.
- Department of Public Health will put out State-wide school status on Thursday, similar to the town data that they post on Wednesday.
- Halloween:
 - CDC guidelines outline low, moderate and high-risk Halloween activities, encouraging minimizing risks for a safe Halloween. These will be posted on our Town website.
 - Parks and Recreation Department is offering a socially distanced pumpkin carving event.
 - Lions Club is offering a Lion (person in costume) delivering candy to any child. Contact the Lions Club for details.
 - Framingham has "cancelled" Halloween door-to-door trick-or-treating.
 - The Board preferred to post the CDC guidelines and let parents decide the safest choices for their family.

Mosquitos: This is the last week of testing for EEE. The dry weather has kept risk low.

Sharps Disposal Program: E.L. Harvey, the waste removal contractor for Holliston, has sent us a donation of \$250 for our Sharps Disposal Program. The Board would like to send a letter to them thanking them for their generosity.

**BoH Meeting Minutes: Laura made a motion to approve the September 29, 2020 BoH Minutes.
Tom seconded. Roll call: Laura-Aye, Tom-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed**

Bills: The following bills were presented and discussed:

G&L Labs, beach testing 9-8-20 \$70.00

Laura motioned to accept and approve the bill as listed above. Tom seconded.

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

BoH Meeting on November 3 will need to be changed since it is Election Day. The Board decided that Wednesday, November 4th at 7:00 PM would be best.

Next BoH Meetings: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 7:00 PM, via Zoom Teleconference.

Board Comment: None

Laura motioned to close the meeting at 8:35 PM. Tom seconded.

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

Respectfully submitted:
Ann Adams

Approval Date: 10-20-20