

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2021

Teleconference: 7:00 PM

Present: Holliston Board of Health (BoH): Laura Nolan (*Chair*)
Josh Mann (*member*)
Thomas Ellis (*Vice-Chair*) arrived 7:23 pm

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

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 Nolan-Present, Josh Mann-Present

Public Comment: None

Comprehensive Long-Range Planning Committee: Mary Greendale presented her citizen's petition for a Comprehensive Long-Range Planning Committee (CLRPC) to the Board. She wants it to be an umbrella view across all Town departments and boards. The CLRPC would be made up of 13 volunteer Town residents who would research what we have in Town and what we want. She believes that the Town Administrator should be responsible for the Plan's implementation since it will be strategic, and not exclusively a land-use plan. The second version of Mary's CLRPC correspondence had omitted public health, but public health needs to be included. The use of consultants and facilitators was discussed. Laura suggested having a moderator might improve the board to board communications. Josh and Laura said the CLRPC sounds like a good idea. The Board thanks Mary for the update.

Thomas Ellis (*Vice-Chair*) arrived 7:23 pm

COVID-19 update:

- Total cumulative COVID-19 cases in Town = 733
- Current active COVID-19 cases = 21
- Only 2 active COVID-19 cases in the Schools
- Holliston continues to be a Yellow (moderate risk) town on the State's COVID-19 risk map.
- Several surrounding towns including Milford and Framingham are Red (high risk).
- Plans for the 8 town collaborative regional COVID-19 clinic targeted for the Westboro Doubletree Hotel is moving along. Scott will have another Zoom meeting tomorrow. They are hoping to have J&J vaccine released to them soon.
- The State COVID-19 restrictions are being softened. The students have returned to School.
- Pooled testing for School sports has not been deemed necessary at this point.
- School prom is being discouraged by DESE and the Schools.
- Chief Cassidy's report indicates that 40% of the Town has been vaccinated.

FY22 Budget Recap: Town Administrator Travis Ahern, has suggested having a person doing administrative support to both the Health and Building Departments. Scott and Laura have spoken to him about this. Scott will stay in touch with Michelle Zeamer, Finance Committee Liaison for the BoH, to follow the progress.

Retail Residential Kitchens: The Board discussed the permitting of retail residential kitchens (RRK). Historically RRK had been prohibited by Zoning By-Laws, but that has changed recently. The State allows RRK performing very limited

Cottage Kitchen Operations, basically potentially non-hazardous foods that are non-time/temperature control for safety: baked goods, jams, jellies...

There are specific criteria regarding inspections, labeling, sanitation, production and safety considerations that are required prior to permitting. But permitting an appropriately run RRK is important as opposed to having them operate unpermitted "under the radar."

Len Izzo, Holliston Food Inspector will be involved with this RRK permitting process. Len is also helping the Health Department with creating a Town Food Code that addresses some of the local problems with the State Food Code. The Board will be kept up to date on the progress.

Tobacco Control: The State has agreed to extend the grant for the MetroWest Tobacco Control Officer until June 2022. Now that Holliston is 100% compliant on tobacco signage, Olivia DuFour, Tobacco Control Officer, will be meeting with Holliston regarding inspections, compliance checks, and education regarding ID checks with customers wearing face masks.

Scott asked if the Board had any concerns regarding tobacco in Town. Josh wanted less stores selling tobacco. Scott explained that effective January 2019 Holliston added a tobacco permit cap to our regulations at the request of a group of Holliston School students led by Gina Stucchi, Holliston Drug and Alcohol Awareness. Currently we can have no more than 10 tobacco retailers permitted. When one of those retailers doesn't renew a permit, the cap will drop to 9 and so forth.

Thomas asked about the vaping problem at the High School. The students group had indicated there was a vaping problem at the Schools. Laura said the litter problem with cigarette butts was disgusting.

Marshall Street Solar Array: The State has completed the administrative review and will complete the technical review by mid-June. After the technical review is completed the BoH will have another comment opportunity. The Planning Board and Conservation Committee are currently doing their review.

BoH Meeting Minutes: Laura made a motion to approve the March 16, 2021 BoH Minutes.
Thomas seconded. Roll call: Laura Aye, Thomas-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

Bills: None

Open BoH position: There are 2 candidates for the BoH position coming open that will be on the May 25th election ballot.

Board Comment: Laura mentioned that the 555 Hopping Brook proposed septic system is discussed in a determination letter from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs dated July 30, 2020. The determination letter noted that a Notice of Project Change would be required to be filed, and that a Groundwater Discharge Permit is required. The determination prohibits the project proponent from applying for a Title V septic system permit from the Holliston Board of Health. Laura noted that the approval of a previously submitted Title V application should be revisited to ensure compliance with the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). She will send the determination letter to Scott for his review.

Next BoH Meetings: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 7:00 PM, via Zoom Teleconference.

Laura made a motion at 8:04 PM to adjourn the BoH meeting. Thomas seconded.
Roll call: Laura Aye, Thomas-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

Respectfully:
Ann Adams, Health Department Clerk

Approval Date: 4-20-21