

# Board of Health Meeting Minutes

## December 21, 2021

**Present:** Holliston Board of Health (BoH): Josh Mann (*Vice Chair*)  
Jay Leary (*member*)

Scott Moles, *Health Director and Agent*  
Stacey Raffi, *Holliston School Committee Representative*

Jay Leary, opened the meeting at 7:05 PM.

Scott read the Remote Participation Statement.

Board of Health Roll Call: Josh Mann – present, Jay Leary-present

**Public Comment:** None

**49 Central Street- Housing:** Scott met with Brian Winner, Assistant to Town Counsel, to review the filing for failure to act on the Board of Health Enforcement orders, and the next steps. Application will be made for Housing Court with the owner first as any Hearing may be done remotely and the Criminal Court would have delays etc. A court date on the Enforcement Order in Housing Court can be obtained in about 2-3 weeks.

### **COVID-19 update:**

- Total cumulative COVID-19 cases in Town=1135, Chief Mike Cassidy had 84 active and Scott had 47 active plus the eight new cases for 55.
- Scott will confirm with Mike and the MAVEN COVID-19 case numbers and get them to the Board.
- Holliston remains at yellow risk level by the State's COVID-19 designation.
- The positivity rate has gone up in Holliston from 4.14% to 4.8%, but is still below the State level.
- The State DPH, on December 20, 2021 issued a press release regarding breakthrough cases where they found nearly 97% of all breakthrough cases have not resulted in hospitalization or death. An update on Vaccine Formulation/Presentation Guide was provided for children 5 through 11. Recommendations on everyone getting Boosters when available.
- The State updated a WINTER ADVISORY REGARDING FACE COVERINGS, updated December 21, 2021. In response to the Omicron variant, the DPH advises that all residents, regardless of vaccination status, wear a mask or face coverings indoors. The DPH did not set a mandate. The Board previously had mask coverings on the agenda for January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022. After further discussion the Board requested that a meeting be posted sooner to discuss Covid-19 and mask mandates on December 28, 2021.
- Scott gave an update that Holliston will receive another \$11,955.00 from DPH through MHOA sometime in mid-January to be used on COVID-19 activities by June 30, 2022.
- The Health Department was informed today, that the MetroWest Heath Foundation has a Municipal Public Health COVID-19 Response Grant, due January 14<sup>th</sup>, where the Health Department would like to purchase Binax or other type home testing kits. The Health Department will coordinate with Chief Cassidy, Emergency Management Director.

**Holliston Public Schools COVID-19:** Stacey Raffi, Holliston School Committee Representative gave an update on the School COVID-19 status.

**Town Clinics:**

- Senior Center is partnered with MetroWest Pharmacy and had a COVID-19 booster clinic December 8<sup>th</sup> where 102 residents were given their booster shots.
- Scott worked with Fallon to schedule COVID-19 shots for 5 to 11 year olds, where a Holliston Clinic has not been scheduled because of second dates over the holiday.
- The Board requested that COVID-19 clinics for 5 to 11 year olds be high priority and be placed on the next meeting agenda.
- During discussion, Scott informed the Board of the increased availability at pharmacies and the following clinics recently available to Holliston:
  - Northborough: 12/16 for Pfizer, 30 booster appointments, 12/17 for Moderna Boosters, and 12/17 for Pfizer shots.
  - Ashland: 50 booster doses were available for Wednesday, 12/22 where a notice has been sent out thru the Holliston schools.
- Board expressed a strong desire for a Holliston COVID-19 clinic.

**Town Hall upgrades:** Town Hall Septic system upgrade is ongoing with the septic tanks scheduled to be installed Tuesday-Thursday. Thursday the Town Hall will be going remote. The Health Director will be in as inspections will be conducted during the day.

**Covanta:** Update was given to the Board. Resident Andy Bell's concern with Covanta trash was given in writing to the Health Department. Brian Moran, Covanta Compliance Officer for Holliston should respond back to Andy in writing.

**Other:** Bertrucci's had a Fire Alarm call with keg pump. The Health Department followed up with Bertrucci's where the keg pump overheated in the basement and the dust smoke set off alarm in basement. No food was affected. The pump is scheduled to be replaced and thus no keg beer could be served. Len Izzo, Holliston Food Inspector was informed.

**Bills:** The following bills were discussed:

<b>Stantec</b> – Covanta Compliance Officer	<b>\$386.00</b>
<b>Post Offer Physical Exam</b>	<b>\$135.00</b>
<b>Ad-Print-</b> Notice of Violation booklet	<b>\$30.00</b>

**Josh made a motion to pay the 3 bills as listed above. Jay seconded.**

**Roll Call: Josh Mann- Aye, Jay Leary-Aye. Passed.**

**Minutes: Josh made a motion to approve the minutes from December 7, 2021. Jay seconded.**

**Roll Call: Josh Mann- Aye, Jay Leary-Aye. Passed.**

**Next BoH Meeting** is December 28, 2021.

**Board Comment:** None

**Josh made a motion at 7:45 PM to adjourn the BoH meeting. Jay seconded.**

**Roll Call: Josh Mann- Aye, Jay Leary-Aye. Passed.**

Respectfully:

Scott Moles, Health Director

Approval Date: 1-28-21