

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2022

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

Scott Moles, *Health Director and Agent*
Kristin Abraham, *Health Department Clerk*
Ann Adams, *Health Department Clerk*
Cynthia Listewnik, *Holliston School Committee Chair*

Thomas Ellis, BoH Chair, opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Scott read the Remote Participation Statement.

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

Public Comment: None

31 Union Street – Change of use: Scott outlined the request by Ben DeFusco, owner of 35 Union and prospective buyer of 31 Union Street, to convert 31 Union Street from commercial to residential use. The Board must vote for a change of use if this is to happen.

Scott explained that the current tight tank is sized for a 3 bedroom house, and because of the creek behind 31 Union Street, the tight tank is the only septic system option. The owner is also required to have a licensed septic hauler on contract with this tight tank.

Ben said 31 Union Street had been parceled off 35 Union Street and made a commercial shop originally in the 40's. It was made to look like the surrounding homes. Now the he wants to convert it to residential use for his folks. Ben has spoken to Harry Kampersal, Holliston Sewer Service, who currently holds the contract for 31 Union Street pumping, and is happy with this arrangement.

Jay made a motion to allow 31 Union Street to change from commercial use to residential use with the current tight tank and the requirement that the owner maintains a contract with a licensed septic hauler. Thomas seconded.

Roll Call: Thomas Ellis – Aye, Josh Mann- Aye, Jay Leary-Aye. Passed.

COVID-19 update:

- There are 36 active cases of COVID-19 in Town bringing the cumulative total to 2384.
- Holliston is still yellow (medium) risk level by the State's COVID-19 designation.
- Scott said there has been a slight uptick in number of cases in Town and across the State, but not concerning. He said the surrounding towns are similar in the number of cases to Holliston.

Holliston Public Schools COVID-19 update:

- Cynthia Listewnik, Holliston School Committee Chair updated the Board on COVID-19 at the Holliston Public Schools.
- There have been 40 COVID-19 cases this week at the Schools, evenly spread across the grades. This is not unexpected as they just came off April vacation with everyone traveling.

- Thomas asked if the Schools had any super spreader events. Cynthia said no; some surrounding school districts had school theatre events as super spreaders, but Holliston's Middle School musical was not a spreader event.
- The School is still doing pooled testing and weekly testing, sending home test kits.
- The MAVEN COVID-19 Town case numbers differ from the School numbers because the Schools do pooled testing. Also not all Holliston School students are Holliston residents due to School Choice.
- Jay asked about School vaccination rates. Cynthia said that parents are waiting to see if COVID-19 vaccines get approved for children 5 years old and under.

Massachusetts Health Officers Association (MHOA) Grant: Scott said that Holliston received \$11,195 as a MHOA grant for COVID-19 expenses to be spent by June 30th. He and Chief Michael Cassidy are discussing what spending would be most useful, considering that they can back-fund American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant expenditures, since the grants' criteria differ.

Mosquitos: Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project (CMMCP) has no mosquitoes with Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in their traps yet. The Health Department will keep the public apprised of CMMCP activity.

Summer Camps are in the planning stages, submitting their applications.

Barn Book- The Town domestic animal census is being done by the Health Department Staff for the 2021 Barn Book, which is due to the State by May 31. Recently added, the third Holliston Animal Inspector, Justine Grassey will be doing the 2022 Barn Book.

Town Meeting is May 9th, Town Election is May 24th.

Bills: None

Minutes: Thomas made a motion to approve the BoH meeting minutes from April 19, 2022.
Josh seconded. Roll Call: Thomas Ellis – Aye, Josh Mann- Aye, Jay Leary-Aye. **Passed.**

Board Comment: None

Next BoH Meeting is May 17, 2022

Thomas made a motion to adjourn the BoH meeting at 7:30 PM. Jay seconded.
Roll Call: Thomas Ellis – Aye, Josh Mann- Aye, Jay Leary-Aye. **Passed.**

Respectfully:
 Ann Adams, Health Department Clerk

Approval Date: 5-17-22