

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2021

Teleconference: 7:00 PM

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

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

Michelle Zeamer, *Finance Committee Liaison to the Board of Health*

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, Thomas Ellis-Present, Josh Mann-Present

Public Comment: None

FY'22 Budget Preparation: Michelle Zeamer, Finance Committee Liaison to the BoH, discussed the proposed FY22 budget with the Board.

The FY'22 budget includes additional clerical hours, to make both Health Department clerk positions 30 hours/week (benefited). Laura wrote a letter to the Finance Committee (FinCom) supporting the additional clerk hours, and Michelle commented on what the FinCom will be looking for. Changes to the letter were discussed. The Board agreed to sign the letter and send it to Michelle. Tina Hein, Select Board Liaison to the BoH will also be copied on this letter.

The Board discussed the FY22 proposed budget and decided to send it to the FinCom.

Laura made a motion to approve the BoH FY22 Budget totaling \$181,911. Thomas seconded. Roll call: Laura Aye, Thomas-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

The BoH will meet with the Finance Committee March 16, 2021 at 8:05 pm, the same night as our BoH meeting. The BoH meeting start time has been moved earlier to 6:30 PM to facilitate transitioning to the Finance Committee meeting.

Michelle shared the Governance Committee's Draft By-Law Article Recommendations. She explained some of the changes. The FinCom will be discussing it at their 2-23-21 meeting. Scott, Laura and Josh may be attending. The Health Department will post the BoH meeting with the FinCom on 2-23-21.

COVID-19 update:

- Total cumulative COVID-19 cases in Town = 618
- Current active COVID-19 cases = 23
- The Schools have 4 active cases, 113 cumulative cases

- The State is following the surge in the variant COVID cases, especially in the Worcester area. Scott relayed information from the DPH. The best defense against these variants is to prevent the spread of COVID.
- The winter storm has effected the shipment of vaccine, causing some clinics to reschedule.
- Gillette clinic has vaccinated 68,000 residents
- Josh asked how the vaccine is shipped. Scott explained that the Federal government has the MA vaccine allotment shipped from the vaccine manufacturers to McKesson. Then McKesson ships the vaccine to the clinic locations dictated by the State.
- Thomas asked for the number of State and Holliston residents who have been vaccinated. MA is in the middle of the pack of states on vaccination, according to the NY Times article
- MA DPH reports vaccine doses given: 950,000 cumulative, 230,000 in the past 7 days
- These doses have gone to residents over 75 years of age, first responders and healthcare workers. Teachers and daycare workers are in the next phase of prioritization. Children under 16 still have not been cleared for vaccination.
- There are some local clinics opening including Milford Regional Hospital.
- Scott said that the prison lost 100 vaccine doses because they were left out of the refrigerator
- Josh asked if the US will be discussing implementing “Vaccine Status” system for access to public areas like in Israel. Laura said it was too soon to tell.
- Holliston is a Yellow (moderate) town on the State’s COVID-19 risk map.

Bills: None

BoH Meeting Minutes: Laura made a motion to approve the February 9, 2021 BoH Minutes.

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

Board Comment: None

Next BoH Meetings: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 7:00 PM, via Zoom Teleconference.

Laura motioned to close the meeting at 7:34 PM. Thomas seconded.

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

Respectfully:

Ann Adams, Health Department Clerk

Approval Date: 3-2-21