

BOH MEETING MINUTES

4-8-20

Attending

Bridget Sweet, Chair

Timothy Cochrane, Vice Chair

Jeff Harris, Member

Also, in attendance: Cathleen Liberty, Director of Public Health, Ginny McNeil, Stephen Sherlock and Tom Mercier and Jamie Hellen

Meeting called to order 5:04 pm

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES

Review of February 2020 meeting minutes, motion made to accept minutes, Chair Sweet, Second by Member Harris, Motion to accept by Vice Chair Cochrane, it was voted unanimously to accept the minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion on COVID-19

Director Liberty updated the board on what she has been experiencing during this pandemic in guiding business, answering the public's questions and working with establishments on different case scenarios involving COVID-19 exposures and guiding essential and non-essential businesses. Director Liberty also noted that the VNA public health nurse was also taking cases that she couldn't answer. The VNA nurse and her nurses have been doing all the contact tracing. Director Liberty explained to the board what contact tracing meant and how it was conducted.

Director Liberty also noted that the Harvard School of Public Health coordinated a new program called MA-COVID Academic Public Health Volunteer Corps and those who requested interns we assigned them for different projects or to help the public health nurse with contact tracing. Our interns are working on an emergency dispensing site drive through and partnering with the local hotels to utilize when first responders or health care workers must go into isolation or quarantine.

Chair Sweet added that there have been some inquiries as to why the health department is not releasing the number of positive cases in Franklin to the public. Chair Sweet noted that the board should follow the guidelines that DPH crafted and fall under the County numbers.

B. Title V Procedures

Director Liberty stated that Ginny McNeil and the Title V contractor were communicating via email and utilizing a box left at the fire department entryway to drop off and pick up plans for Title V so that inspections can still be conducted. Director Liberty also noted that Ginny is handling all Title 5 applications and calls,

C. Regional Collaboration and Community Planning Fund

Director Liberty updated the board on joining the Regional Collaboration with eight other surrounding towns for additional staff to help the VNA nurse with administrator support, risk communication and contact tracing.

HEALTH DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director Liberty requested submitting a report when she resumes her regular scheduled work when they are working from the office again.

OTHER BUSINESS UNKNOWN AT TIME OF POSTING

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:34 PM – Motion made by Vice Chair Cochrane
Second – Member, Harris

Next Board of Health meeting will be on May 4, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated

Cc: Board of Health Members
Town Clerk