



Town of Fairhaven Board of Health

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2022 MAY 26 A 11: 36

FAIRHAVEN,
MASS.

March 30, 2022

PRESENT: Michael Ristuccia, Peter DeTerra, Kevin Gallagher, David Flaherty

Call to Order

- a. Chairman Michael Ristuccia, called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Roll call attendance of the meeting members were taken, all members were present.
2. **Welcome and Media Notification**
 - a. Mr. Ristuccia welcomed everyone and read the media and recording notifications and welcomed the public to speak on items.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting:**
 - a. Mr. DeTerra made the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on March 16, 2022. Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion, vote passed.
4. **Health Agent Report/ COVID-19 Update**
 - a. Mr. Flaherty read his report: As of March 25, 2022: Total Case Count: 4,375. Total Tests in the last 2 weeks 775. Total cases in the last two weeks: 21. Positivity Rate of 2.84%. Total vaccinated persons in Fairhaven 11,140. Vaccinated Females is 6,008. Fully Vaccinated Males is 5,132. Hospitalizations for COVID for Massachusetts is 215. ICU Admittances is 22 with 9 intubated.
 - b. Homebound vaccination intake line is 1-833-983-0485.
 - c. "At home" test kits are now available online at Covidtest.gov
The Health Department will have the at home test kits that were received to be distributed at the polling stations on Monday April 4, 2022. Many thanks to Tom Hemingway and Jocelyn Bowers for making this happen.
COVID testing is no longer being conducted by the Fairhaven Fire Department.
 - d. For COVID Vaccine scheduling, please visit Southcoast.org/covid-19-vaccination.
 - e. Town of Fairhaven will not be hosting a Booster Clinic in April on the 13th at the Council on Aging from 2-6pm due to lack of staffing from Southcoast.
 - f. A second booster has been approved and is recommended. See Mass.gov to see if you qualify for a second booster.
 - g. The Wellness Clinic will be conducting blood pressure screens along with addressing any health and wellness concerns from 1-3PM at the Council on Aging on April 13, 2022.

- h. Sunscreen inserts have been created for the dispensers, the Health Office is currently awaiting for the funding from Southcoast Health and paperwork should be finalized shortly.
- i. There will be a Rabies Clinic April 3rd and 10th. April 3rd will be from 8am -10am at Capeway Veterinary. April 10th will be from 10am to noon at New England Animal Hospital.
- j. There have been no title 5 inspections
- k. Mr. Flaherty attended a CPR course in Town Hall with other Fairhaven employees. He will also be attending a recertification course for Servsafe on May 4th and a Certified Pool Operators course on April 5th and 6th.
- l. As a reminder for residents, there will be water main flushing tonight, March 30th beginning at 9pm. In the area of New Boston Road from the Acushnet line to Route 6, Howard farms, as well as parts of Bridge Street. The water may become discolored in your area but should not last more than a day once the flushing is complete in the area. In the event that rust or sediment is present, wait approximately 2 hours for any disturbance that was caused by the flushing to settle and run the cold water faucet nearest the water meter until clear. DO NOT USE THE HOT WATER UNTIL THE COLD WATER IS CLEAR.

5. 427 Sconticut Neck Rd- Title 5 Inspection Report Review

- a. Mr.Flaherty stated the system is failure due to back up into the distribution box as well as the tank. Mr.DeTerra said sewer is available, but with the house being over 700ft away from the street, a tie-in might be difficult. Mr.Flaherty recommended the owner to get the attention of an engineer to get a cost benefit analysis.

6. 7 Lincoln Drive- Title 5 Inspection Report Review

- a. Mr. Flaherty said this is also a failed system and believes sewer might be available. Mr.DeTerra agreed that there may be sewer available but they might be able to do another system due to the distance away from the sewer.

7. Performance Evaluation of Health Agent- Open Session

- a. Mr.Gallagher said he has benefited from Mr.Flaherty's knowledge and he is a gentleman. He has never heard a negative word about Mr.Flaherty or a complaint. His leadership during the pandemic was wonderful. Mr.Ristuccia agrees with Mr.Gallaghers thoughts. He stated to come from where we were two years ago to today, it seems as if the department is on cruise control. Mr.DeTerra said he has shadowed Mr.Flaherty on inspections, food code etc and he is just great with the public. Mr.Ristuccia stated that David does not have a contract and knows there are other superintendents in Town who have a contract and believes Mr.Flaherty should have one too. Mr.DeTerra said Health Agents typically do not have contracts and that very few in town have a contract. Mr.Gallagher said in municipal government, when you have someone who has to enforce code and work with the public, they should have a contract to protect themselves. The Board and David will look into whether or not he can have a contract.

8. Public Comment

- a. None

9. Invoices, Correspondence and Other Business

- a. Bill's and permits are to be signed at the end of the meeting.

10. Next Meeting Date: April 13, 2022 at 5:00pm

- a. Mr. DeTerra made the motion to adjourn at 5:20 pm, Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion, vote passed.