



Town of Fairhaven

Board of Health

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FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2023 AUG 31 AM 10:29

August 16, 2023

PRESENT: Kevin Gallagher, Justine Frezza, David Flaherty

1. Call to Order

- a. Chairman Gallagher called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Chairman Gallagher welcomed everyone.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Welcome and Media Notification

- a. Chairman Gallagher read the media and recording notifications.

4. Minutes of the Meeting

- a. **Motion:** Member Frezza made the motion to accept the minutes of the meeting August 2, 2023. Chairman Gallagher in agreement and motion accepted. The vote is unanimous.

5. Health Agent Report

- a. Health Agent Flaherty reports COVID numbers on the state dashboard for Fairhaven are at zero for the last two weeks. COVID Test Kits are no longer available. Please visit the local pharmacies for test kits.
- b. Medication disposal bags are available in the Health Office at the Town Hall, Library, COA, Rec Center, Fire Department and Police Department.
- c. Blood pressure and wellness clinics offered every Wednesday at the COA from 1-3 pm.
- d. Two Perc tests were witnessed and one Title 5 was witnessed. As well as various Chapter II housing inspections.
- e. Beach water testing continues. We had no closures last week. This testing is done weekly to check for suitability for swimming.

- f. Arbovirus update: Bristol County Mosquito Control continues to receive requests for yard treatment. No humans have tested positive for West Nile or EEE in the state. West Nile has been found in mosquito pools in Raynham and Eastham and just recently in Plymouth County, but so far not in southern Bristol County. Ticks are out in force. Deet should be used and another treatment with permethrin should be used on shoes and pant legs when out in meadows and woods. Use of treatment on skin with anti-tick chemicals should be at the advice of the pharmacist. Please check the Fairhaven Health Department website for an updated PSA.
- g. Rodent complaints have gone down. Please be vigilant with trash and birdseed on your property. Consult a licensed exterminator for property treatment in conjunction with neighbors if it seems overwhelming.
- h. There will be a monthly "Donuts with Dave" at the Council on Aging. Monday August 14th was the first meeting. Agent Flaherty will review any health related topics or give updates that are relevant to them or their families.
- i. Agent Flaherty submitted a fee schedule survey and a proposed fee schedule change. Agent Flaherty would like the Board of Health members input. There will be a public hearing to formalize these changes in the coming weeks.
- j. Member Frezza asked how the "Donuts with Dave" went and Agent Flaherty said it went well. Agent Flaherty is hopeful there will be more interest now that the first meeting has occurred. There was a lot of interest in what the Health Department does and how we interact with the community. There is a posting on Facebook as well.
- k. Chairman Gallagher asked how the beach water testing has been with all of the rain we have received. Agent Flaherty is hopeful that all testing will pass this week since it passed last week after the storms we had.

6. Discuss weekly Board of Health related topics – Chairman Gallagher and Member Frezza asked how the website is going with being updated. This is still being worked on. Right now the administrative assistant is going through the Health Department page and trying to see what information is there and needs to be updated or condensed.

- 7. Discuss Chapter II hearing 236 Adams Street** – Agent Flaherty has been in contact with Mr. Clunie and the contractor, Mr. Baker, and because of the weather there has been some delay in starting the work. Agent Flaherty is hoping to hear from Mr. Baker soon as to when the work will begin. Agent Flaherty has also heard from Mr. Medeiros, who has been helping Mr. Clunie, that the landscape contractor to clean up the shrubs and hedges will be slightly delayed due to the weather. Agent Flaherty really would like to see Mr. Clunie moving forward on fixing the building and getting it weather tight. Chairman Gallagher asked if Agent Flaherty is comfortable with the progress to date. Agent Flaherty affirms he is glad there has been some progress and is now just waiting for the contractor.
- 8. Discuss Chapter II hearing 6 Evergreen Street** – Chairman Gallagher noted this is currently to be reviewed in Executive Session with the Select Board.
- 9. Discuss and Vote on letter to Selectman re: Board of Health Vacancy** - Chairman Gallagher reviewed the current vacancy on the Board of Health, since Heidi Hacking has regrettably had to resign to focus on health issues. Chairman Gallagher noted that legally the Board of Health must write a letter to the Board of Selectman informing them of the vacancy. There has been some interest already in the vacancy and there are a couple letters of interest sent to the Town Administrator. Anyone else interested should submit a letter of interest as quickly as possible. Chairman Gallagher read the letter prepared to the Selectman dated August 16, 2023. The letter reads as follows: “In compliance with MGL Chapter 41, Section 11, we are writing to inform you of the resignation of Board of Health member Heidi Hacking. We request the scheduling of a joint meeting between our Boards to formally fill this vacancy. Further, we request ample time between the receipt of this notification and our joint meeting so that residents have ample time to learn of the vacancy and the process used to fill it.”
Motion: Member Frezza made a motion to accept this letter and Chairman Gallagher seconded. The vote is unanimous.
- 10. Public Comment** – No public comment at this time.
- 11. Invoices, Correspondence and other business**

 - a. Invoices reviewed and approved.
- 12. Next Meeting Date** – August 30, 2023 at 5pm.
- 13. Future Agenda Items**
- 14. Adjourn – Motion:** Member Frezza made a motion to adjourn and Chairman Gallagher seconded. The vote is unanimous.