



Town of Fairhaven

Board of Health

FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2024 MAR 8 PM2:54

Town Hall · 40 Center Street · Fairhaven, MA 02719
Telephone: (508) 979-4023 ext. 125 · Fax: (508) 979-4079

February 14, 2024

PRESENT: Justine Frezza, Brian Meneses, David Flaherty

ABSENT: Kevin Gallagher

1. Call to Order

- a. Vice Chair Frezza called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Vice Chair Frezza welcomed everyone.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Welcome and Media Notification

- a. Vice Chair Frezza read the media and recording notifications.

4. Minutes of the Meeting

- a. **Motion:** Member Meneses made the motion to accept the minutes of the meeting January 31, 2024. Vice Chair Frezza seconded and motion passed. The vote is unanimous (2-0-0).

5. Health Agent Report

- a. Health Agent Flaherty reports COVID numbers are at 13.98%, which is slightly down from 14.38%. This is from positive tests in a clinical setting only. COVID Test Kits are now available at the Health Department and the COA.
- 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. No Perc tests were witnessed and no Title 5 were witnessed.
- e. There were multiple Chapter II housing issues followed up on.

- f. 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.
 - g. Fairhaven home-bound residents qualify for a free home-bound flu vaccine offered by the Greater New Bedford Health Alliance to provide an in-home vaccine. Please call the Health Department for more information. The COVID vaccine is not yet available for home-bound residents.
 - h. Health Department website now has information for sheltering assistance, food pantries, and hoarding remediation.
 - i. Agent Flaherty noted the new Fee Schedule brought in about 73% more revenue this year than at the same time last year.
 - j. Agent Flaherty is on the Bristol County Emergency Preparedness Executive Board, which should help pay his town cell phone bill. This should help with the budget.
- 6. Discuss weekly Board of Health related topics** – Vice Chair Frezza asked if the Health Department receives the number of flu cases as well as COVID. Agent Flaherty notes only the COVID numbers are provided, but that the flu cases may be able to be obtained. Agent Flaherty will look into providing this information at the next meeting.
- 7. Discuss Single-Use Plastic Reduction Bylaw** - Vice Chair Frezza notes this bylaw is being reviewed because the Board as well as the Health Department have received some concerns from residents. Agent Flaherty discussed that all businesses have been notified via email or in person. The businesses will need some time to use the stock up as well as train all employees on this bylaw. Agent Flaherty notes that straws and utensils can be left on counters for patrons to take when needed. This is the same as upon request. Agent Flaherty proposes giving businesses until March 1st to comply. If after that time, there are any businesses still using any plastics not allowed according to the bylaw, the Health Department can go to individual businesses to review. Vice Chair Frezza also notes it may take some time for all employees to be trained on the bylaw, but if any person is noting repeat non-compliance to call the Health Department.
- 8. Septic System Design Plan Review of 831 Scoticut Neck Road** – Agent Flaherty reviewed that all questions from the engineer have now been answered. Agent Flaherty notes the design plan proposed is according to Title 5 and should be accepted. **Motion:** Member Meneses made a motion to accept the Health Agents recommendation to accept the septic design plan for 831 Scoticut Neck Road. Vice Chair Frezza seconded. The vote is unanimous (2-0-0).

9. Septic System Design Plan Review of 833 Sconticut Neck Road – Agent Flaherty reviewed that all questions from the engineer have now been answered. Agent Flaherty notes the design plan proposed is according to Title 5 and should be accepted. **Motion:** Member Meneses made a motion to accept the Health Agents recommendation to accept the septic design plan for 833 Sconticut Neck Road. Vice Chair Frezza seconded. The vote is unanimous (2-0-0).

10. Public Comment – No public comment at this time.

11. Invoices, Correspondence and other business

a. Invoices reviewed and approved.

12. Next Meeting Date – February 28, 2024

13. Meeting Adjourned – Motion: Member Meneses motioned to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Frezza seconded. The motion passed unanimously (2-0-0).