



# Town of Fairhaven

## Board of Health

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

April 10, 2024

PRESENT: Justine Frezza, Brian Meneses, Barbara Acksen, David Flaherty

### 1. Call to Order

- a. Vice Chair Frezza called the meeting to order at 5:01pm. 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:** Vice Chair Frezza made the motion to accept the minutes of the meeting March 27, 2024. Member Meneses seconded and motion passed. Member Acksen abstained. The vote passed (2-0-1).

### 5. Discuss and Vote on the Organization of the Board Members – Vice Chair Frezza explained that historically the Board of Health has moved the members up to the next position. Vice Chair Frezza asked if the members agree to continue that same process. Member Meneses and Member Acksen agreed. **Motion:** Vice Chair Frezza made a motion to nominate herself for position of Chair. Member Meneses seconded. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0). **Motion:** Chairperson Frezza made a motion to nominate Member Meneses for position of Vice Chair. Member Acksen seconded. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0). **Motion:** Chairperson Frezza made a motion to nominate Member Acksen to position of member. Vice Chair Meneses seconded. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

### 6. Health Agent Report

- a. Health Agent Flaherty reports COVID numbers are at 12.34%, which is slightly down from 12.76%. This is from positive tests in a clinical setting only. COVID Test Kits are no longer available. Agent Flaherty will try to obtain more test kits.

- b. Blood pressure and wellness clinics offered every Wednesday at the COA from 1-3 pm.
- c. Gastrointestinal illness cases, such as the norovirus, have risen in Fairhaven and the South Coast. Influenza is also on the rise. Please consult your physician regarding vaccination. Be sure to wash hands often, after the restroom, before preparing, serving, and eating meals. Sanitize surfaces frequently as well.
- 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 Southeastern Mass Public Health Collaborative 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. There are some new food establishments that are coming to Fairhaven. The Nasketucket Winery just opened, which has different food trucks attending. The Acai Spot is coming to Sconticut Neck Road. Marisol's has broken ground on Huttleston Avenue. Starbucks is doing a lot of site work on Alden Road. Tropical Smoothie is going in next to the CVS on Sarah's Way.
- i. Agent Flaherty attended a webinar sponsored by DPH Sustainable Materials Recovery Program, which assists municipalities in obtaining grants associated with recycling. There will be more information to follow in the coming months.
- j. The Southeastern MA Public Health Collaborative has provided more medication disposal bags, sharps containers, CPR masks, and pill containers (these are available in English and Spanish). Please visit the Health Department for any of these items. Agent Flaherty attends weekly meetings and there will be a webpage, and Facebook page coming soon.
- k. Agent Flaherty is in the beginning phase of considering dumpster regulations. This includes licensing of dumpsters. The Health Department currently handles many dumpster complaints, even for sites not permitted by the Health Department. This is at a cost to the town for the Health Department to inspect the dumpster and follow up on any corrective orders. If there is a permit associated with dumpsters, then the permit fee would help cover this cost. There will be more information coming in the future.

7. **Discuss and Vote on Title 5 Design Review for 307 New Boston Road** – Agent Flaherty reviewed the plan with the Board. The plan is a standard plan with no variances requested. Agent Flaherty recommends accepting the Title 5 Design Review for 307 New Boston Road. **Motion:** Vice Chair Meneses made a motion to accept the Health Agent’s recommendation for the Title 5 Design for 307 New Boston Road. Member Acksen seconded. The vote is unanimous (3-0-0).
  
8. **Discuss and Vote on Title 5 Inspection Report Review for 9 Wamsutta Street** – Agent Flaherty witnessed the inspection in March. Agent Flaherty provided photos to the Board of the inspection. Agent Flaherty notes the system looked good and reviewed the inspection. Agent Flaherty recommends accepting the Title 5 Inspection Report for 9 Wamsutta Street. **Motion:** Vice Chair Meneses made a motion to accept the Health Agent’s recommendation for the Title 5 Inspection Report for 9 Wamsutta Street. Member Acksen seconded. The vote is unanimous (3-0-0).
  
9. **Public Comment** – No public comment at this time.
  
10. **Invoices, Correspondence and other business**
  - a. Invoices reviewed and approved.
  
11. **Next Meeting Date** – April 24, 2024 at 5:00 pm
  
12. **Meeting Adjourned** – **Motion:** Vice Chair Meneses motioned to adjourn the meeting. Member Acksen seconded. The vote is unanimous (3-0-0).