



Town of Fairhaven

Board of Health

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May 8, 2024

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

1. Call to Order

- a. Chair Frezza called the meeting to order at 5:01pm. Chair Frezza welcomed everyone.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Welcome and Media Notification

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

4. Minutes of the Meeting

- a. **Motion:** Vice Chair Meneses made the motion to accept the minutes of the meeting April 24, 2024. Member Acksen seconded. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

5. Health Agent Report

- a. Health Agent Flaherty reports COVID numbers are at 11.61%, which is slightly down from 11.92%. This is from positive tests in a clinical setting only. COVID Test Kits are no longer available at the Health Department.
- 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. Agent Flaherty inspected Tropical Smoothie today and will be opening tomorrow.

- f. The Health Inspector is up to date with his first round of inspections for the year.
- g. Rodent complaints have picked-up. 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. 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.
- i. 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. There was also a Pre-Diabetes screening, CPR and Narcan trainings and Wellness Walks being offered. Please check the Health Department website for postings.
- j. Agent Flaherty noted 6 Evergreen Street was given a notification for the Public Hearing and the Constable should be delivering it. This will begin on May 22, 2024.
- k. Chair Frezza asked if any information or complaints have been coming through regarding ticks. Agent Flaherty notes that there will be more to come in conjunction with the Southeastern MA Public Health Collaborative. There is also the Bristol County Mosquito Control that will begin spraying for mosquitoes in the next month. Member Acksen asked if the Health Agent would consider a PSA regarding mosquitos and ticks. Agent Flaherty agreed to look into doing this.

6. Vote to Release All Previous Executive Session meeting Minutes Regarding 6 Evergreen Street – Chair Frezza notes the minutes were already approved for the Executive Sessions and this is just to approve the release of the minutes. Agent Flaherty affirmed that once the court activity is completed, then the minutes should be released for the public. Chair Frezza asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the minutes. Having no question or comments, **Motion:** Vice Chair Meneses made a motion to release all Executive Session Minutes regarding 6 Evergreen Street to the public. Member Acksen seconded. A roll call vote was taken, Vice Chair Brian Meneses in favor; Chair Justine Frezza in favor; Member Barbara Acksen in favor. The vote is unanimous (3-0-0).

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

8. Invoices, Correspondence and other business

- a. Invoices reviewed and approved.

9. Next Meeting Date – May 22, 2024 at 5:00 pm

10. Meeting Adjourned – Motion: Vice Chair Meneses motioned to adjourn the meeting. Member Ackson seconded. The vote is unanimous (3-0-0).