



Town of Fairhaven

Board of Health

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2021 SEP 30 P 3:02

FAIRHAVEN,
MASS.

September 1, 2021

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

1. Call to Order

- a. Chairman Michael Ristuccia called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Roll call attendance of the meeting members were taken, Mr. Kevin Gallagher was present, Mr. Peter DeTerra was absent.

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. Open Session August 4, 2021
Mr. Gallagher made the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on August 4, 2021. Mr. Ristuccia seconded the motion, vote passed.

4. Health Agent Report/ COVID-19 Update

- a. Mr. Flaherty gave his Health Agent Report: As of August 27, 2021: Total Case Count: 2,171. Total Tests in the last 2 weeks 1,588. Total cases in the last two weeks: 60. Positivity Rate of 5.41%. Total vaccinated persons in Fairhaven 9,354. Vaccinated Females is 5,195, 63% Per Capita and 55% Proportion. Fully Vaccinated Males is 4,159, 54.5% Per Capita and 44% Proportion.
- b. COVID Testing will be until further notice and subject to change at the Emergency Management Building at 150 Sconticut Neck Rd from 10am- 12pm on Saturdays. Acushnet will also be doing COVID testing on Saturdays from 9am-12pm at the Acushnet Council on Aging.
- c. August 14, 2021 Fairhaven had a shred day at Hastings Middle School that was from 9am-12pm. The Health Office would like to thank New Bedford Credit Union for sponsoring the event, as well as assistance from the Public Works Department and the Fairhaven Police Department.
- d. Mr. Flaherty witnessed no perc tests, no system installations, no title 5 inspections, and followed up on 11 Chapter 2 housing complaints. Beach season is ending and there has been no recent failures.
- e. Mosquito and Tick season is in full swing, please see the Board of Health Webpage for information on how to prevent bites and how to protect yourself.
- f. Upcoming blood pressure clinics will be September 8th & 29th. October 13th & 27th, 2021 from 1-2pm at the Town Hall in the Banquet room.
- g. Mr. Gallagher wanted to let everyone know that the State will be back at the Acushnet Council on Aging on September 11, 2021 for the second dose of Pfizer. They will also do the first dose of Pfizer for anyone who would like it. Mr. Gallagher also asked if we knew

the status of vaccinated staff in nursing homes as a deadline is approaching. Mr. Flaherty said that it would fall under the State, but will follow up with the nursing homes in town. Mr. Gallagher also questioned masking in certain facilities such as a Chiropractors and Physical Therapy after receiving an email from a concerned resident. Mr. Flaherty said this is also an issue he will look into and address to smaller practices, if they do indeed fall under the mask mandate by the State. A further discussion ensued about the mandatory maskings in Fairhaven Municipal Buildings as well as the quarantine guidelines, and contact tracing. Mr. Gallagher also mentioned that a post card with COVID information as well as where to get a vaccine and helpful website links to be sent out to all residents. Mr. Ristuccia agrees that this would be great idea. A postcard will be designed and an estimate on cost would be at the next meeting.

5. 300 Mill Rd- Inspection Review

- a. Mr. Gallagher made the motion to accept the inspection of 300 Mill Rd, Mr. Ristuccia seconded the motion, vote passed.

6. Public Comment

- a. Ms. Ann Richard thanked David and Staff for the recent COVID update videos, but it highly concerned that the Board should still be holding meetings regularly scheduled. Ms. Richard stated she had emailed staff as well as Board Members about the cancelled meetings and did not receive a response. Ms. Richard also asked if there was any information on the booster shots. Mr. Flaherty responded stating the general consensus is to get as many people vaccinated at the moment, but we should be hearing more towards the end of the month about the boosters. Mr. Ristuccia also addressed Ms. Richard concerning her emails.

7. Invoices, Correspondence and Other Business

- a. Mr. Gallagher spoke of masking is mandatory in schools as of right now until the vaccinations reach 80%. He asked how it was being monitored. Mr. Flaherty said the school would be tracking the information but he would look into how they are monitoring it.

8. Next Meeting Date: September 15, 2021 at 5:00pm.

- a. Mr. Gallagher made the motion to adjourn at 5:30, Mr. Ristuccia seconded, vote passed.