



# Town of Fairhaven

## Board of Health

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FAIRHAVEN,  
MASS.

December 29, 2021

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

### Call to Order

- a. Chairman, Michael Ristuccia called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Roll call attendance of the meeting members were taken, all members were present.
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. Mr. DeTerra made the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on December 15, 2021. Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion, vote passed.
4. **Health Agent Report/ COVID-19 Update**
  - a. Mr. Flaherty read his report: As of December 23, 2021: Total Case Count: 3,056. Total Tests in the last 2 weeks 2,098 Total cases in the last two weeks: 223. Positivity Rate of 11.53%. Total vaccinated persons in Fairhaven 10,626. Vaccinated Females is 5,804, 70% Per Capita and 55% Proportion. Fully Vaccinated Males is 4,822, 62% Per Capita and 45% Proportion.
  - b. If anyone is in need of a home bound vaccine the Community Nurse can assist. The number for the Home Bound Vaccination line is 1-833-983-0485.
  - c. Next Blood Pressure Clinic at Town Hall is January 12, 2022 from 1-2PM.
  - d. Mr. Flaherty has been following up on Chapter 2 complaints with the Building Commissioner and Elder Services.
  - e. There have been no title 5 inspections or installations.
  - f. There is no current update on 8 Charity Stevens failed system.
  - g. The State has offered at home test kits to municipalities. Mr. Flaherty said he is going to keep applying for the kits until he is no longer allowed to apply.
  - h. Mr. Gallagher gave an overview of the percentage of hospitalizations. The numbers are drastically high and the hospitals are overwhelmed already. Vaccine is key in this situation to keep people out of the ICU Beds and out of the Hospitals. Mr. Gallagher also mentioned that he had spoken with town public nurse and she stated that Omicron has not yet been detected in Fairhaven or Acushnet. Mr. Gallagher also mentioned that there will be test kits going home to teachers before school begins from break, and to have Mr. Flaherty follow up on the kits going to the schools.
  - i. Mr. Flaherty let everyone know that the State has added some more vaccine sites. The closest to us is in Taunton on January 6, 2022 at 2005 Bay Street, Taunton MA. You can find a vaccine at [vaxfinder.mass.gov](http://vaxfinder.mass.gov).
5. **Title 5 Inspection- 310 New Boston Road- Review**
  - a. Mr. Flaherty witnessed the inspection with Mr. Bob Buker, it was a very thorough inspection that included photographs.  
Mr. DeTerra made the motion to accept the inspection report for 310 New Boston Rd,  
Mr. Gallagher Seconded. Vote Passed

**6. Public Comment**

- a. Diane Hahn was present. She was there to comment on the allowance of 2 minutes. Ms. Hahn stated she felt that the Chairman was disrespectful at the last meeting and he is not fully aware of what the length of two minutes is. She spoke about COVID and the impact from it in people's lives. Ms.Hahn emphasized that personal situations are being delayed due to COVID. Legislators and policy makers need to hear these stories to understand the impact.
- b. Sheila Dolan was via zoom by telephone. She wanted to ask what the Board thought about natural immunity. She had positive antibodies a year ago and still has natural immunity a year later. She was wondering if they would look into natural immunity. Mr.Ristuccia stated people who test positive for COVID eventually will have natural immunity and no two people are the same and some people may be immune compromised and they need the vaccination. Ms.Dolan also brought up that some places are leaning towards vaccinate passports and was wondering if natural immunity would be enough proof instead of a vaccine card. Mr.Ristuccia reiterated that those with natural immunity are fortunate, but yet he is not a physician and no two people are the same.

**7. Invoices, Correspondence and Other Business**

- a. Bill's and permits are to be signed at the end of the meeting.

**8. Next Meeting Date: January 5, 2022 at 5:00pm**

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