



BOARD OF HEALTH

7 MAIN STREET, Unit #2
HUBBARDSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01452
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September 26, 2023 Minutes for Hubbardston Board of Health

Meeting time: 700 pm

Meeting location: Slade Building, 7 Main St., Hubbardston, MA

- 1) Call to order at 7:04 pm. This meeting is being recorded
 - a. Attendees:
 - i. Cathy Hansgate, Chair
 - ii. Judie O'Donnell
 - iii. Liz Putelis
 - iv. Nancy Perron (for minutes)
 - v. Laurie DeMalia, absent
- 2) Review and approval of 9/12/2023 meeting minutes – approved with no corrections
 - a. Judie motioned to approve the minutes as written
 - b. Cathy seconded
 - c. All in favor
- 3) Covid 19/Flu/Maven update
 - a. Email message from Laurie pertaining to the Hubbardston flu clinic stating there will be both flu and Covid vaccines available for ages 5+ with high dose flu available for 65+. The clinic will be held on Thursday, November 2nd from 5:00 to 7:30 pm.
 - b. Judie states Maven is seeing Pertussis cases rise, especially in Western Massachusetts. Maven cautions that if cases come in to let Maven know. Parapertussis is showing up as well. Most cases are kids not vaccinated. There are a number of complaints regarding pharmacies charging for Covid vaccines. Some pharmacies are stating they are not taking the individual's insurance. Suggestion is made to have people go back to their insurance company for reimbursement, if charged. Covid is a free vaccine by law. RSV, they are hoping to bring that back into the picture according to Judie, but details are not sorted out yet. Flu vaccines are supposed to be free. Pharmacies can take insurance cards; but not charge. They are not to charge children. Those who are underserved and do not have insurance, get the flu vaccine for free through the Bridge program. Pharmacies and doctors should know that children should be getting the vaccination through the children's program and should be totally free. Pharmacies should not be asking for insurance. BOH should be aware that this is going on and bring back to DPH if they hear about it. Judie is still having issues with signing in.
 - c. There is a BOH Zoom meeting update on the second Tuesday of the month at 3:00 pm. They go over the same information as Maven. Judie will send link when she gets it. They were having a meeting every other Tuesday but cutting back to 2nd Tuesday once a month.

d. Judie explained about the Maven on-line help. She said to google it and there are all kinds of forms, manuals, disease descriptions, etc. A free service to BOH members. (Cathy suggests moving section 8 to this point to allow the visitor to review his septic plans without having to stay for the entire meeting).

4) Title V Reports/Perc Tests

- a. 130 New Westminster Road – repair, then passes
- b. 36 Kruse Road - passes
- c. 52 Barre Road -fails
- d. 1 Grove Street - passes
- e. 116 New Westminster Road - passes
- f. 5 Underwood Road – passes
 - i. Cathy motioned to approve all Title V's that were reviewed
 - ii. Liz seconded
 - iii. All in favor

5) Water Tests/Well completion forms

- a. 40 Healdville – Well completion report and second water test – signed off
- b. Request by Cathy to have Nancy send a reminder email to both campgrounds for water tests and pool water tests – done on 10/3/23

6) Waste Water Tests - none

7) Permits to be voted on/signed - none

8) Open septic plans/Engineering plans review

- a. 1 Main Street – owner brought info and data on previous design. Perc was done in 2011. Perc still needs to be done. Well permit needs to be submitted for review. Will need variance because less than 100 feet. Phil will need to review modified plans. Judie mentioned concern about septic piping for the school. Property owner stated the septic will go where the old building was.

9) Old Business:

- a. Nursing position – Cathy has a simple job description on her computer. Judie suggested Stoneham job description is “too much”. Judie reached out to Peggy in Rutland. Peggy is now the Rutland town nurse, on a very limited basis. She runs Maven, sits in on BOH meetings, etc., which is what Hubbardston BOH is looking for. Judie received the template that Rutland/Gardner uses, which is one page. The Stoneham job description has lots of redundancy. Hubbardston Board of Health is looking for a nurse to “work with us and for us”. We need to make the contract user friendly. Would like to consolidate to 1 ½ pages. Judie will send the information from Peggy to Nancy who will pass it on to the board members. As the members work on the job description, they will pass new information to Nancy who will again send to all members for review. The nurse will go through ethics training. Getting this job description done will be our fall priority. This needs to be completed by the board of health and approved by the Selectboard before hiring.

10) New Business

- a. Unexpected subjects - none

11) Complaints

- a. Cannabis – Judie filled out the odor form on the computer and sent in. Nancy did not receive it. Nancy will check with Candace regarding the form.

12) Turnovers/Warrants for approval/Financial Reports

- a. Warrant 7 – MPHN and Phil Leger invoice – warrant signed

13) Next meeting date (Tuesday, October 10 at 7:00 pm meeting in Slade Building)

14) Adjournment at 8:17 pm – All in favor