



Town of Boylston Board of Health boh@boylston-ma.gov
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MEETING MINUTES

March 28, 2022

Members Present: Robert Thibeault, Sarah Scheinfein, John Wentzell

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Dennis Costello, See Attached Sign-In Sheet

Recorder: Melanie Rich

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Rob Thibeault made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes dated February 28, 2022; John Wentzell seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved.

April 26, 2022 was confirmed as the next meeting date.

Compass Pointe Update – Dennis will contact the FAST system people. Mark Anttila spoke with Dennis this afternoon and said he called one of the companies who said something about them reducing the air flow. The board sent a letter to the HOA President inviting them to attend a meeting to familiarize themselves with their roles.

AGENT'S REPORT

COVID-19 Virus Update – Numbers continue to decline.

Town Nurse – Discussed with GBPH.

Greater Boroughs Partner for Health Update (Kristin Black/Chief Flanagan) – Kristin Black attended to give the board information on the Boroughs' nurses and asked the board if they can help her fill in time for her nurses that is required under the grant. It appears since Southborough has a full-time nurse, more tasks are needed. Joe Flanagan provided a recent summary of what the nurses are doing; the board agreed it was great. Dennis explained that because he works in another town and can't be available for Boylston on Wednesdays and Sarah has had some health issues, Joe Flanagan was chosen to be the representative, but the board hadn't received any reports prior to this report.

The board wants a part-time nurse dedicated to Boylston; not in the capacity of the Boroughs' nurses. Sarah said some of what would be provided by a town nurse would be, for example, to make any new COVID-19 calls, work with at-risk residents, and do a senior check-in should the grant end. The board realizes that GBPH is providing nursing services for the next 2.5 years, but the intent of the board is to have a dedicated nurse for the near and far future should the grant no longer be there. Kristin said the GBPH covers the shared Health Inspector; free software; and nursing. The Public Health Excellence Grant is \$300K/year for three years for 4 towns; \$131K of that is for the nursing contract; each town will have approximately 15 hours of nursing; each town is using it differently. The nurses are employees of Salmon VNA. The town's primary contact is currently working with Joe Flannagan and the COA.

Kristin said when the board voted Joe Flannagan as primary voting member, all the GBPH nurses were doing was COVID-19 and contact tracing; they hope to do more public health nursing. The Boroughs' meetings are once/quarter. Rob said the board will reclaim its footprint; he will make himself available to attend the meetings. Cheryl Rawinski is not doing contact tracing but is doing communicable diseases. Dennis said prior to COVID the town had been looking for a nurse; the board wants a local nurse in town. Sarah is worried that the shared nurses won't accommodate what we need or want with the seniors or people with disabilities in town. Kristin said the PHE grant is \$300K for 3 years; there is another grant for contact tracing for 2 years; they are not fulfilling the grants; she has 2.5 nurses she needs to keep busy. Sarah said we are looking to the future; will we have the Boroughs' nurses in 2.5 years? It is unknown. The board would have a nurse dedicated for the town through the town. It has been a struggle for the board to get a part-time nurse. Last year the board was promised \$16K and received only \$10K.

Regarding flu clinics, Sarah commented that Salmon VNA did our clinics last year and were great; the board wants them to do them again this year.

Rob commented that the Town Administrator mentioned to Kristin that the Board of Health included a line item of \$16K for nursing services. Sarah asked why the Town Administrator was discussing the BOH budget with Northborough. Kristin said they were at a meeting on the visiting nursing. April does not attend the Boroughs meetings. Kristin said the meeting was specific to the brainstorming on the home visits and included Chief Flannagan, April, Ann Lebonte, Salmon VNA, Kathy Lohnes (COA) and Kristin; that's where it came up.

The 4th booster may be approved; Kristin will work with Chief Flannagan.

Rob Thibeault made a motion to designate Sarah Scheinfein as the representative and primary voting member for the Greater Boroughs Partner for Health; Jack Wentzell seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved. Sarah Scheinfein made a motion to designate Rob Thibeault as the alternate non-voting member; Jack Wentzell seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved.

Discussion on Cemetery Regulation – A revised plan was received from the Jordana Schreiber (Day Pitney) today in regard to the board's comments on the previous plan. The board will be in

contact with the attorney to see what the next step is in drafting a regulation and/or zoning bylaw.

PLAN REVIEW

469 Main Street (Wentzell) – Approved.

Jack Wentzell made a motion to adjourn; Rob Thibeault seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.