



Town of West Boylston
140 Worcester Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583

The Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Date / Time / Location of Meeting	03-31-2021 / 6:00pm / via remote ZOOM conference
Members Present	Robert Barrell, John Sullivan, Beverly Salate
Members Not Present	Michaun Fowler, Tracy Gagnon
Guests	Karyn Clark (Worcester Public Health); Danielle Edmands and Julie VanArsdalen (CMRPHA); Dan Mercurio and Don Varney (Agricultural Commission); Nancy Lucier (West Boylston Town Administrator)
Welcome – Call to Order	Time: 6:00 pm - The meeting was held “virtually” via Zoom and Mr. Barrell read a statement clarifying the reason and parameters thereof, pursuant to the Governor’s Order 03-12-2020 Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law. <u>NOTE: THIS MEETING WAS HELD REMOTELY (ZOOM), ACCORDING TO GOV. BAKER’S INSTRUCTIONS, DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS AS TOWN HALL REMAINS CLOSED. PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING WAS ALLOWED THROUGH ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN ON THE POSTED MEETING AGENDA.</u>
	Mr. Barrell called the roll.
Approval of Previous Minutes	February 24, 2021 meeting minutes, noted by present members to have been reviewed via email, were approved. They will be signed at the next in-person meeting.
Motion to Approve	Dr. Sullivan
Motion Seconded	Ms. Salate
Result	Approved unanimously

- **Backyard Farm Animal Regulations**

The changes recommended by the Agricultural Commission were reviewed and Board members present agreed these changes were appropriate for the purposes of the regulations. Mr. Barrell noted the update would be reviewed by Town Counsel and then a Public Hearing would be scheduled.

(Mr. Barrell reported he was given a copy of Board of Health regulations from 1950, with regulations for backyard farm animals and Town sewer).

Motion to Approve Dr. Sullivan
Motion Seconded Ms. Salate
Result Approved unanimously

- **COVID-19 /Emergency Dispensing Site**

Dr. Sullivan noted that West Boylston does not have an EDS clinic at this time. He reports approximately 1500 WB residents, about 20%, are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 as of 03-25-2021, and 26% in Worcester County.

Dr. Sullivan reported he reviewed re-opening protocols for the Library, the Senior Center, and the Public Schools and all have a

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good plan. The Elementary School re-opened this week and the Middle/High School re-opens next week.

He noted that more vaccine is becoming available; Johnson & Johnson vaccine will be available next week. Moderna testing of children is in progress. Pfizer has already completed testing for 12- to 16-year-olds with good results. The next group will be 6 months to 12 years of age.

- Inter-municipal Agreement, etc.

Ms. Clark spoke about the changes to the IMA, noting that Worcester is reviewing the costs and has therefore proposed a one-year renewal for contract services to Alliance municipalities that includes the usual two percent increase, plus a fee of \$1.00 per resident to allow Worcester to evaluate the program costs. She also discussed proposed changes from the Commonwealth to Municipal Boards of Health to improve professionalism and response. She referenced the SAPHE 2.0 Act and public funding RFR (Request for Resources), noting that the State is looking for community partnerships with a shared resources model and that health agents and public health nurses be credentialed. The funding to achieve these goals will be a grant to support improving Boards of Health and other related services.

- CMRPHA Regional Report

CMRPHA report update for March was not received.

- CMRPHA Local Report

Ms. Edmands' report covers the period since the last Board Meeting on 02-24-2021; she completed 15 inspections and two re-inspections. She responded to one complaint, around spacing for COVID-19 to prevent transmission; the owner was amenable to making corrections. She reports there were no critical issues. Ms. Edmands and Ms. VanArsdalen met with the owners of Ultimate Obstacles to review their plan for expansion into the former facility of Recess.

Ms. VanArsdalen described proposed changes to NOLA Cajun Kitchen, to allow more food preparation space.

- Bill approval, Financial report

Due to time constraints, this report was not presented, and is expected to be included at next month's meeting.

- Office report

Due to time constraints, this report was not presented, and is expected to be included at next month's meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion Originator	Dr. Sullivan
Motion Seconded	Ms. Salate
Result	Approved unanimously
Time of Adjournment	7:00 pm

Signatures

Robert J. Barrell, MPA, Chairman

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Beverly A. Salate, RN, BSN

Michaun Fowler, BSM

John Sullivan, MD

Tracy Gagnon, MEd

Submitted by: **Margaret Lee**
Date Submitted: **04-21-2021**

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