

Westhampton Board of Health Minutes January 15, 2022

Attending: (Board) Robby Armenti (RA), Katch Bacheller (KB), Tom Martin, Chair (TM)

Mark Bushee, FHD Health Director (MB), Doug Finn, Westhampton Town Administrator(DF)

Call to Order: 9:02 AM

1. Discussion of Hybrid Technology
2. Last three meeting Minutes to be approved next meeting.
3. HRHS Update
 - a. Review of Protocols
 - b. Examination of write up of protocols for Westhampton Elementary School
 - Masking
 1. School decided it did not need Board's recommendations
 2. No outdoor masks
 3. Indoor masks required
 - Students and staff require a test to return on the sixth day
4. Budget
 - a. With screen share, TM showed the FHD approved budget
 - b. Showed Westhampton Board of Health budget
 - c. Westhampton's share is down, because the population went down.
 - d. RA moves to approve budget. KB seconds
 - e. Discussion
 - f. Budget approved unanimously.
5. FHD Report
 - a. MB reports that three or four houses are going in on Blueberry Hill Rd.
 - b. Perc tests are being redone.
 - Home owner wants them in different places
 - Better drainage from where they were before.
 - c. Staffing
 - Need for a new Health Inspector
 - MB has been advertising in many publications and word of mouth
 - We have one interested applicant
 - TM asks if we can put this on the town's website
 - TM asks MB how our PHN is doing
 1. Very busy!

2. He has a good relationship with Stephanie Faas (head of Hampshire Reg. school nurses.)
- d. MB has launched Online Permitting
 - He has scheduled time to help people go through learning
 - Forward feedback to MB and Janet Scully
 - Discussion about importance of keeping hard copies until we have digitizing capability – entire Board agrees.
 - TM concerned about long wait times.
 - MB will print out and send stamped copy to clients
 - TM listed specifically what he wants copies of and will provide this at some point.
6. Board Succession and Long Term Strategic Planning
 - a. TM will not be signing up to serve again when his term ends in June.
 - b. TM has served on the Board virtually for 25 years.
 - c. TM will provide a list of considerations for the Board and Selectboard going forward.
 - d. Discussion
7. Our Role as Westhampton Board of Health
 - a. Discussion of state and local roles of Boards of Health
 - b. TM discusses use of Board of Health website
 - c. RA can gather links and send to DF
 - d. DF can post links under headings to website
8. Masks and Tests
 - a. Discussion of who in town is in most need
 - b. TM has spoken with Dave Antosz – expressed not a lot of need at this point
 - c. RA spoke with Amy Landau at COA – would like to stay informed
 - d. RA spoke with Meaghan Schwelm at Library – would also like to stay informed
 - e. TM will speak more with Todd Alexander
 - f. KB interests in emergency planning discussed
 - RA will speak with her about HPHPC involvement
 - Possible connection with Todd Alexander
 - More work with MVP
 - g. RA – meeting with HPHPC
 - Ask for more masks
 - MB spoke to Merridith O’Leary and is waiting to hear about possible source
 - h. RA – FHD is looking to procure 9,000 test kits

- i. RA – ARPA money from each town can be used to purchase these and masks, if a source can be found.
- j. If this can happen, the Boards of Health in each town can distribute test kits and masks at the transfer stations, libraries, town halls, and/or clinics if desired.
- k. TM – clarified MB's title for the record. He is the FHD's Health Director.
 - The Health Agent does perc tests, Title V's, etc.
 - It is important to call the Office for this help.
 - It is listed on our website.
 - The hours should be listed, as well. They are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 am – 3 pm.

Next Meeting is February 5, 2022

Adjourned 10:35 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Robby Armenti, Clerk

Westhampton Board of Health