

Westhampton Board of Health Minutes Nov. 19, 2020

Attending: Board - Robby Armenti (RA), David Blakesley (DB), Tom Martin (TM). Mark Bushee (MB) - Health Agent. Guests: Todd Alexander (TA), William Broaddus (WB), Molly Butler (MO), Lauren Hotz (LH), Dale Kasal (DK), Margaret Larsen (ML), Shirl Morgan (SM), Amy Scully (AS), Kristen Smidy (KS)

Meeting called to order: Nov. 19, 2020 1:05 PM

1. Approval of Minutes - DB motions to approve Minutes of the 12th and the Emergency Meeting of the 16th. TM seconds. Passes unanimously.

2. Recommendations to Schools Qtr. 2

- TM to go over recommendations and shared on screen.
- SM asked the number of cases in town. TM noted that there are, at this point, 5 cases in 3 households and 9 - 11 contacts, but that it is a fluid situation.
- TM notes change in #3 in Recommendations regarding transportation.
- Changes in #5 discussed by RA, DB, and MB and agreed upon by Board that teachers and staff having their own space may remove their masks while alone.
- Recommendation #6 also reconfigured to include staff who need to share offices and students who may need to eat indoors in inclement weather.
- Recommendation #8 - RA comments that CARES money could possibly cover hiring monitors.
- Recommendation #18 - LH notes that a series of COVID protocol lessons are starting at the school. TM asks if carpooling can be a part of the lessons.
- Recommendation #20 - RA notes we are waiting for DPH guidance for indoor sports. DB feels we should give guidance and not "approval." TM changes wording to support this.
- Recommendation #21 - Discussion of HVAC in the building. A fresh air purge is stressed in recommendation.
- Recommendation #22 - Board stresses that HVAC is not a substitute for protocols in place: fresh air, cleaning protocols, distancing, masks, washing hands.
- MO discusses seating assignments on buses.
- RA moves to accept School Recommendations for Qtr.2, seconded by TM, passes unanimously.
- KS discussion of lessons of COVID Protocols in the school. There will be three lessons with a review at the end. TM asks if there will be anything said to community about the holiday. KS notes that Stephanie Faas will be sending something home with the students.

2. Health Agent Report

- MB states that all is quiet except for new cases.

- Septic systems will be coming up; one might need a letter for Pine Island Lake for approval. Will speak with Mark at next meeting.
- Connie sent revised quarantined guidelines to all; will forward to those who haven't received them.
- Sent a letter of thanks to KOA.
- DB discussion of septic system on Northwest Road
- DB spoke with positive case about when he could be released from quarantine. Gave him MB's phone number. Will ask MB to speak with this person.

3. Recommendations to the Westhampton Public Library - winter months

- RA discussion about how to have emergency closure if necessary. Board discusses with TM reassuring that Meaghan is very cautious about need to close if necessary.
- RA moves to accept Recommendations, DB seconds. Passed unanimously.

4. Recommendations to the Selectboard on HVAC Systems

- Discussion of HVAC in Town buildings.
- DB notes that recommendations #1 - #3 can be understood as possibilities in some buildings.
- DB notes that recommendations #4 - #6 can be seen as "understandings," but not recommendations.
- The wording of these have been updated to reflect these changes.
- DB notes that recommendation #7 should be highly stressed. Board and MB agrees.
- Motion made by DB to accept revised recommendations, second by RA, passes unanimously.

5. Recommendations on Scout Meetings

- TM notes that because of town crises, was not able to finish writing up recommendations.
- However, he was able to measure space in Town Hall. He found it was 30' x 55' making it 1650 square feet and a capacity for 10 people.

6. New Business

- DK discussion of pickleball. Would like to know how to have it be brought up again at a Selectboard meeting without it being dropped.
- MO volunteered to be a contact tracer or help in that manner. She also offered to help with meeting tech support. TM says that the Foothills will be taking that up during their next meeting and thanked her.

Meeting adjourned at 3:07 PM