

# MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, February 19, 2020 – 5:30 pm  
Downstairs Meeting Room – Montague Town Hall  
Turners Falls, MA

## Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Al Cummings, Christopher Boutwell and Michael Nelson  
**Staff:** Health Director, Daniel Wasiuk and Health Clerk, Anne Stuart & Town Nurse, Cheryl Volpe (left meeting at 6:21 PM)  
**Guest:** Greg Lewis, Emergency Preparedness Planner, FRCOG

### **Meeting being recorded.**

Al Cummings opened the meeting at 5:30 PM.

**Minutes:** December 18, 2019.

Michael Nelson **Motioned** to accept the December 18, 2019 Minutes. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

### **January & February 2020 Director's Report:**

- Daniel brought up that he had visited the Parent & Child Development Center on G Street for their food inspection and while there they were inquiring the outcome regarding the non-profit status for brick and mortar food service organizations. Daniel asked the board for clarification regarding this topic. Chris also brought up that he thought we were doing it next year (2021). Anne clarified that it was voted on that if an organization could verify their non-profit status by providing the ST-2 state tax exemption form then we would be implementing this in 2020 with Temporary Food Booths and then on the brick and mortar food establishments during renewals for 2021.
- 12 Federal Street: The update here is that the neighbors have not been into the BOH or called to complain recently. Chris Rice, Building Inspector has some open issues that he is following up on regarding the property. Daniel has been out on several occasions and most recently the area/yard is much cleaner with a few cars left that are his personal vehicles. He did not witness any oils or other substances leaking or leaching on the property. Currently there is a court order that there is to be no business to be conducted at this location along with a camper that can not be a residence.
- 9-11 West Main Street: Daniel observed that there were 2 unregistered vehicles, 2 trailers (both having wood beams and other construction materials stored in them) in the yard. All entry ways to the dwelling were secured and the interior contents had been removed. The residence has been winterized by the bank and has been facilitating the cleanup which has been improving.
- 6 Wrightson Avenue: A complaint was received from the Montague Police Department involving a hoarding situation. Investigation is on-going but what is known is that there are two elderly folks living there with as many as 5 vehicles in and around the property.
- Michael Nelson asked that Daniel look into a property on J Street. Anne confirmed that it is 78-84 J Street which is owned by Lin De Xiong as of January 1, 2020. It has been slowly worked on over the years and there has not been any major progress recently. Daniel will check in with Chris Rice to see what the status of the property is at this point.

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- On going food inspections including the Whistle Stop Café in Millers Falls which remains a one man operation and is doing better.
- Five Eyed Fox requested and was granted a pre-opening inspection at the 87 Third Street location. There have been many equipment updates and great changes made to this establishment. They are approved to open for business.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to accept the recent Director's report. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell **Motion passes.***

### **January & February 2020 Nurse's Report:**

- Cheryl Volpe gave an update on MAVEN which is the state database for infectious disease reporting which she continues to monitor and do follow up on cases when needed.
- We are in the time frame for the 2<sup>nd</sup> peak for flu out break with A & B strains being prominent at this point. There have been 32 flu cases confirmed thus far.
- With the state immunization program each Town has to have a Medical Director in place and Patricia Iverson had agreed to be ours with the ability to sign standing orders when needed for nurse to administer injections.
- New contract to be signed with Commonwealth Medicine (for vaccine insurance reimbursement) contract secures 10% fee for Commonwealth Medicine.
- Cheryl Volpe noted that the order and signature for vaccine doses has to be received by March 31, 2020. As part of the MAPHCO grant Montague will be awarded a fridge which meets the new state requirements for the holding and immunization of vaccines.
- Cheryl Volpe along with Anne Stuart has begun doing community outreach and education surrounding cannabis education and being a safe consumer and knowing how to read labels. There will be a survey done to see what the community wants and needs in this area in hopes of doing a community forum in the fall.
- As we progress with the Nurse position we are in the process of Public Health

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to accept the Nurse's report. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell **Motion passes.***

### **Greg Lewis, FRCOG:**

- Greg Lewis came to give us our Emergency Dispensing Site Action Plan which he passed out to all of us.
- The FRCOG did a survey of Board of Health and Emergency Preparedness over our 26 communities only 2 of which have Health Departments. This is key for the capacity to which a community can respond to an actual emergency.
- Greg gave us an overview of emergency support functions and used the corona-virus (COVID-19) as an example. He suggested that:
  - Familiarize yourself with the virus through the CDC
  - Look at the FRCOG staff page and see what roles individuals play within the emergency preparedness field
  - Isolation orders
  - Self quarantines
  - Federal mandates

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- Public messaging
- He suggested an all town emergency committee be set up consisting of Fire Department, DPW, Town Administrator, Police to meet and be the point of contact for an emergency.
- He reminded us that there is an EDS table top exercise on March 2, 2020 from 5:00-8:00 PM – Michael, Daniel, Anne, Al and Cheryl will be attending

*Christopher Boutwell **Motioned** to adjourn the Montague Board of Health meeting. Seconded by Al Cummings. **Motion passes.***

Meeting adjourned: 6:58 PM

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Documents:**

December Minutes

Director's Report

Nurse Report