

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 – 5:00 pm
Upstairs Meeting Room – Montague Town Hall
Turners Falls, MA

Meeting Minutes

Present: Al Cummings, Melanie Ames Zamojski, Michael Nelson

Staff: Health Director, Daniel Wasiuk & Board of Health Clerk, Anne E. H. Stuart

Guests: Jeff Singleton (Montague Reporter), and Christopher Boutwell (Former BOH member & Current Selectboard member)

Meeting being recorded.

Al Cummings opened the meeting at 5:08 PM.

Minutes: Joint BOH & SB September 13, 20, 27 & October 4, 2021

• After a brief discussion of the minutes from the joint meetings with the Select board, the vote was taken. *Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to accept the joint meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

Minutes: Montague Board of Health September 22, 2021

• After a brief discussion of the minutes from the September 22, 2021, Board of Health meeting and the vote was taken. *Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to accept the September Board of Health minutes as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

Recent Director's Report:

- 3 Green Pond Road – some slow improvement has been happening at this location.
- 19 Sherman Drive – some slow improvement has been happening at this location.
- 20 Millers Falls Road – continued improvement by the owner at this location.
- 121 Turners Falls Road – continued improvement by the owner and a reduction of the extensive mixed debris.
- 96 Third Street – Attention has been given to downtown multi family units. Both the Building Inspector and Health Director have noted many safety concerns that need to be addressed due to the safety and fire codes.
- There have been calls and inspections made to the alley ways behind Second and Fourth Streets due to complaints
- Food Inspections will start in November as the establishments need to be inspected by the Health Director two times a year.
- Melanie Ames Zamojski asked about the frequency of food inspections and the current inspection form and code. Daniel reported that the 2013 food code is what is followed and that all the vendors at the Great Falls Festival were all in compliance and seemed to be doing very well in terms of sales.
- Al Cummings asked about 55 Park Street and what the status is of this property after the house fire. At this point the property is vacant and no decision has been made regarding rebuilding or demolishing the property.
- Melanie Ames Zamojski inquired if the CTC was still being used with Cheryl as she thought the BOH had voted to get away from using the CTC. Cheryl continues to vary her schedule as needs and funding deem necessary.

The Town of Montague is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to accept the recent Director's Report as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes**

Recent Nurse's Report:

- Jeff Singleton asked about the communication process with Greenfield. Daniel responded that he has been in communication with Greenfield to show long term trends. Currently there is a downward trend of the Delta variant.
- Daniel noted that there has been a difference of opinion regarding how to respond the COVID 19 numbers. South Deerfield is doing mask mandates while here in Montague and Greenfield are doing one till further notice.
- Daniel stated that the Board of Health gives the recommendation to the Selectboard who decides based on 1. The disease in the community (Montague), 2. What the overall risk is, 3. How much can individuals do if exposed. These are all the factors to look at along with hospitalization, deaths and vaccination rates to be able to take the appropriate course of action.
- Cheryl currently is doing 10-12 regular nursing hours and has the ability of 5-7 hours depending on funding from the CARES Act for covid work which includes follow up from the state and the intensity of cases and the technical responses that are needed.
- Ongoing website work on the Public Health Nurse page.
- Cheryl continues to be a contracted employee who is neither a part time nor full time employee.
- Mask requirements were discussed and two-week check ins with the Selectboard will continue to be discussed to see if the mandate will be rescinded.

Michael Nelson **Motioned** to accept the recent Nurse's Report as presented. Seconded by Melanie Ames Zamojski. **Motion passes**

Topics Not Anticipated:

- The Board of Health members wanted to recognize and appreciate former Board of Health member Christopher Boutwell for his over 2 decades of service to the Montague Board of Health. All members and staff presented a mantle clock as a symbol of support and appreciation of all the years of service.

Meeting adjourned: 6:02 PM

Michael Nelson **Motioned** to adjourn the monthly Board of Health meeting. Seconded by Melanie Ames Zamojski. **Motion passes**

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

Documents:

Joint Meeting Minutes September & October
BOH September Minutes
Directors Report
Nurse Report