

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, February 17, 2021 – 5:00 pm
Downstairs Meeting Room – Montague Town Hall
Turners Falls, MA

Meeting Minutes

Present: Al Cummings, Christopher Boutwell, Michael Nelson

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

Guests: Chief Christopher Williams, Montague Police Department, Debra McLaughlin
Coordinator of Opioid Task Force, Taylor McAndrew,
Liz Whynott, Illaria Dana & Rachel Stroler – Opioid Task Force Staff

Meeting being recorded.

Meeting offered through Zoom.

Al Cummings opened the meeting at 5:35 PM.

Minutes: Board of Health Meeting January 20, 2021

- Board of Health members discussed and no changes or additions were noted.

*Christopher Boutwell **Motioned** to accept the January 20, 2021 Board of Health Minutes as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

Roll Call Vote: Michael Nelson – aye, Christopher Boutwell – aye, Al Cummings – aye

Director's Report February 2021

- Board of Health members discussed and no changes or additions were noted.

*Christopher Boutwell **Motioned** to accept the Directors Report as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

Roll Call Vote: Christopher Boutwell – aye, Michael Nelson – aye, Al Cummings – aye

Nurse's Report January 2021 & February 2021

- Board of Health members discussed and no changes or additions were noted.

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

Roll Call Vote: Michael Nelson – aye, Christopher Boutwell – aye, Al Cummings – aye

Presentation: Tapestry and the Opioid Task Force presentation regarding Harm Reduction Strategies in Montague, MA

Guests: Various Tapestry Health Staff Spoke and showed a PowerPoint presentation for review by Montague Board of Health members.

- Various staff from Tapestry joined us for a PowerPoint presentation and discussion focusing on having a partnership with the Town of Montague for a safe and effective syringe access program. Due to the requirements from the Department of Public Health, which funds Tapestry's Syringe Access Program, municipal approval is required for

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syringe access to take place within a given town. Tapestry's goals are to meet people where they are at both physically and within the addiction. Syringe access programs provide an essential link to health services for uninsured and marginal populations that do not have access to traditional health care. Both Michael Nelson and Chief Williams think this is a great opportunity to partner with Tapestry to outreach to people using drugs in Montague to offer these life-saving harm reduction services. With the approval, a letter must be sent from the Montague Board of Health to Kevin Cranston, MDiv at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to approve the Town of Montague partnering with Tapestry's Syringe Access Program along with submitting of a letter to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.***

Roll Call Vote: *Michael Nelson – aye, Christopher Boutwell – aye, Al Cummings – aye*

Discussion: Nurse Contract

- Daniel Wasiuk, Health Director presented the Nurse contract for 2021 and pointed out that the only change to the sub-contractor agreement was an increase in the fee structure from \$45.00/hr. to \$55.00/hr. It was also pointed out that the hours increased from 10 to 20 hours per week. All members were in agreement for the fee and work hour increases and are thankful to have Cheryl Volpe, RN on board to help us in the Town of Montague.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to approve the Nurse contract for the Town of Montague with the increase to \$55.00 per hour and from 10 hours to 20 hours a week. Seconded by Albert Cummings. **Motion passes.***

Roll Call Vote: *Michael Nelson – aye, Christopher Boutwell – aye, Al Cummings – aye*

Discussion of Vaccine Protocols

- Discussion regarding the possibility of doing a vaccine clinic for the Montague Housing Authority. If the opportunity presents itself Cheryl Volpe, RN is willing to help with a clinic on site at Sunrise Terrace.

Discussion of Montague Board of Health Coverage During Non-Working Hours

- Daniel Wasiuk, Health Director presented the emergency response plan for coverage. He enlisted feedback from John Zellmann, Turners Falls Fire Chief and Christopher Williams, Montague Police Chief who were fine with the coverage plan as presented. Michael Nelson brought up that we should do an order of calls in case of emergency. The call order to be listed as calling 1. Health Director – Daniel Wasiuk, 2. Health Clerk – Anne Stuart and then 3. Board of Health Chair – Albert Cummings.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to approve the Emergency Response Plan for the Board of Health with the addition of the call list and order. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.***

Roll Call Vote: *Michael Nelson – aye, Christopher Boutwell – aye, Al Cummings – aye*

Meeting adjourned: 5:57 PM

Michael Nelson **Motioned** to adjourn the monthly Board of Health meeting at 5:57 PM. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

Roll Call Vote: Christopher Boutwell – aye, Michael Nelson – aye, Al Cummings – aye

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

Documents:

January 20, 2021 Minutes

Director's Report

Nurse's Report

Power Point Presentation - Tapestry

Draft of Emergency 24/7 Protocols for the Board of Health