

Sudbury Board of Health

Virtual Meeting November 15, 2022

Attendees: Carol Bradford – BoH Chair, Linda Huet-Clayton – BoH Member, Susan Sama – BoH Member, Bill Murphy – Health Director, Patty Moran – Public Health Nurse, Beth Porter – Health Admin, Jen Roberts – Select Board, Kay Bell – Comm on Disability, Sue Rushfirth – Sudbury Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee, Lynn Puorro – Sudbury TV

Meeting Commenced at 4:00 PM

Open Comment:

Sue Rushfirth from the DEI subcommittee experienced technical problems and was unable to present the DEI mission statement to the Board of Health.

Kay Bell: 348 Old Lancaster Rd – Thanked the Board of Health for supplying Kay Bell’s Chorus Group with COVID test kits. Bill Murphy would like to remind residents that there are test kits available for distribution.

Patty Moran – Public Health Nurse Update:

COVID: 54 Cases of COVID reported in Sudbury 41 confirmed and 13 probables. The most effected age group is 60 – 80 years of age. There has been a rise in Long Term Care Facilities for residents and staff. 2 Hospitalizations. The CDC has not announced any new variants of concern. No changes in guidance for isolation or quarantine. The Library will hold a COVID Vaccination Clinic sponsored by the state Mobile Vaccination Unit.

CDC warns of Triple Threat: COVID, RSV and Flu.

FLU: 3 cases in November, 36 cases YTD. Town wide Flu clinics are completed. The Health office will have office hours to administer vaccine to residents. The Health Nurse will hold a clinic at Cavicchio’s Greenhouses Employee Health Fair in December.

CDC publishes new tool for ventilation, showing how to improve air quality.

Public Health Excellence Shared Services Grant Update:

Public Health Grant in Wayland will be ending in December.

Epidemiologist has begun working on projects that provide important information to the municipalities.

Nurses have engaged the state Mobile Vaccination Unit for clinics within the grant communities.

Bethany Hadvab – Social Worker Update Not available.

Bill Murphy – Health Director Update

Performance Assessment – issued thru the state to assess all Boards of Health to collect data on how each community differs based on need, staffing and composition. The State requested random records from the Sudbury Health office. The state would like to standardize processing and reporting for all Boards of Health. Susan Sama felt that there would need to be an exorbitant amount of resources dedicated to each community across the state due hugely to the inequities of the towns and their needs.

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Performance Assessment Continued: Once assessments are completed, towns that are short staffed will be instructed to hire Health Inspectors. The state would like to standardize inspections for food, pools, homes, etc. Health Field retirees will be tapped to come back to the work place as advisors. They would work as Subject Matter Experts. Rob Lazo (Sudbury Health Inspector) has been recognized as an asset in inspecting food establishments, pools and camps. Rob and the Nurses have filled a huge gap in the workload of the Health office.

Flu Clinics: Patty and Beth organized multiple Flu Clinics in October and November. There were internet connectivity issues with the COLOR software platform. Also, the COLOR Platform does not decrement vaccine inventory, there for because High Dose (senior) vaccine was in high demand we exhausted the inventory mid clinic leaving some seniors without the option of getting High Dose. This issue is being addressed with the COLOR consultants.

Fire at Cavicchio's Greenhouses: located at 110 Codjer Lane. Ammonium Nitrate (fertilizer) had ignited. Some of the substance ran into the Sudbury River and will dissipate into the environment with time. DEP was contacted. Reports found here: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal#!/wastesite/3-0037794>

Septic Systems installations and repairs: we hit the 2021 total number of installations and repairs (which was a record year) in September of 2022. There are no signs of slowing.

Retaining Wall Variance: a request has been made for new construction located at Massasoit Rd. for a retaining wall near the property line. There is opposition to the size of the dwelling. Also, there are site limitations.

Massachusetts Housing Code: has been revised – Mold is problematic. There are no regulatory standards governing Mold in residential housing. Chronic dampness is regulated and has been changed to excessive moisture. Occupants are now given access to circuit panels. Heating months time line will be shortened from September - June to September - May. The changes in regulations could increase the number complaints received by the Health Department.

VOTE: Linda Huet-Clayton motioned to approve Board of Health October 19th meeting minutes, as edited. Susan Sama seconded the motion. Motion Passed 3-0-0.

Olivia Dufour has tendered her resignation as Metro West Tobacco Coordinator.

Next Board of Health Meeting to be scheduled for Dec 6th. Linda Huet-Clayton will confirm date for attendance.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:47 pm