

Sudbury Board of Health Virtual Meeting

January 10, 2023

Attendees: Carol Bradford-Board Chair, Linda Huet-Clayton-Board Member, Susan Sama-Board Member, Bill Murphy-Health Director, Patty Moran-Public Health Nurse, Rob Lazo-Health Inspector, Beth Porter-Health Admin., Lynn Puorro-Sudbury TV, Kay Bell-COD Liaison, Richard Miller-Sudbury Resident

4:00 PM – Carol Bradford motions to open meeting

Public Comment: None

Patty Moran: Public Health Nurse Update:

COVID: December saw numbers climb- 61 Confirmed cases and 15 Probable Cases. It remains difficult to determine accurate numbers because of self-testing and many residents are not reporting positives. For numbers that are reported, positives and probables are spread evenly amongst all age groups. 9 Counties in Middlesex have reported BB1.5 variant, which is highly transmittable. It is unknown if the Bi-valiant booster is effective with this new strain. People who are sick are encouraged to stay home, wear masks and test.

Carol Bradford Noted that the Sudbury Public Schools are seeing a drop in RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) and a sharp increase in Flu, Strep and Gastrointestinal illness(es). Concerns that some of these illnesses can turn into pneumonia.

COVID Test Kits: 4,950 COVID IHealth test kits were delivered to the Health Office on 1/13/2023. Residents can pick up kits at the Health Office at 275 Old Lancaster Rd and the Goodnow Library, located at 21 Concord Rd.

COVID Mobile Vaccination Clinics: Patty Moran scheduled COVID Vaccination clinics, thru the state mobile vaccination service, for multiple agencies. Clinics were held at the Goodnow Library, Cavicchio's Green House, Orchard Hill Long Term Care, Coolidge Housing, and Sudbury Daycares and Preschools. A clinic is scheduled for January 19th at the Sudbury Senior Center.

Flu: Highest number of cases reported since the start of COVID. 29 cases were reported in December. It is suspected that there were much higher numbers than were reported. The Health Nurses Office still has Flu Vaccine for those who would like to be vaccinated.

Bethany Hadvab: Social Worker Update:

Gift Cards: Gift Cards that have been purchased with ARPA funds are getting very low. Many residents are in need of food, gas, everyday goods etc...

Hope Sudbury: Has been replenished with ARPA funds in order to keep servicing Sudbury Residents in need.

Sudbury Care Pantry: is also running out of goods and items that are in high demand.

Sudbury Ride: Is also having difficulty funding the program.

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Bethany Hadvab: Social Worker Update Continued

Social Worker Grant Hire: Bethany will re-post the position on other media sites in order to attract more applicants. Susan Sama asked if there have been any candidates of interest. Bethany has not received many responses that would fit the qualifications.

Bill Murphy: Sudbury Health Direct Update:

Wrapping up: Bill's Last day as Sudbury Health Director is January 12, 2023. He is currently cleaning up his computer and drives and filing shared information in Health Department Health Drive. He has turned in his phone and laptop to the town.

Public Health Excellence Grant: Director's Meeting. Each Community has different priorities and needs. The grant shareholders will continue to work on combined efforts to satisfy the needs of each community with clinics and epidemiology. Efforts to hire a PHE Communications Specialist is ongoing.

Rob Lazo: Sudbury Health Inspector Update:

Septic and Food Inspections are ongoing - 139 Septic permits were been issued in 2022.

Atkinson Pool: There was an inspection conducted at the Atkinson Pool where several issues were found and are being addressed.

Sudbury Crossing Septic Project: Waiting Final Inspection. Starting to wrap up the project.

Transition Plan for Health Department:

Patty Moran: Has been deputized as Interim Health Director. Ann Loree (Public Health Grant Inspector) has been given 5 extra hours per week to support Health Department needs as they arise.

Resumes for Health Director: Six resumes have been submitted to the Town. Postings will end next week. Carol Bradford would like to share resumes and the interviewing process with board members and would like some direction on the process. Carol will reach out to Human Resources for more information. In the mean time she has asked that a master list of questions and requirements be created to get a precise idea of what qualifications the candidates must possess in order to move on in the interviewing process.

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To Do List:

Annual Report: Must be completed by the end of the Month.

VOTE: Susan Sama motioned to approve November 15th and December 13th BoH Meeting Minutes. Motion seconded by Carol Bradford. Motion Passed 3-0-0.

Warrant to spend \$30,000 out of the Revolving Vaccine account on 2024 vaccine inventory and tobacco stings and education.

VOTE: Susan Sama Motioned to budget spending limit to \$30,000.00 out of the 2024 Fiscal Year Revolving Vaccine Account for Flu Vaccine Tobacco Expenditures. Linda Huet-Clayton seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

VOTE: Susan Sama Motioned to have Acting Interim Health Director sign 2024 Revolving Vaccine Account Warrant on behalf of the Board of Health Members. Linda Huet-Clayton seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:01 PM.