

Sudbury Board of Health Virtual Meeting

September 11, 2024 3:30 PM

Attendees: Carol Bradford-BoH Chair, Linda Huet-Clayton-BoH Member, Susan Sama-BoH Member, Vivian Zeng-Health Director, Katie Betts-Health Nurse, Rob Lazo-Health Inspector, Nina Lurie-Social Worker, Kirstin Wilcox-Social Worker, Brian Farless-East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project, Dylan Erikson-Weston & Sampson Eng.

3:31 Open Meeting Law

3:31 Public Comment: None

Variance to Install a Septic Tight Tank at 100 East St.

Dylan Erikson (from Weston & Sampson Engineering) presented an overview of installation of a Septic Tight Tank for the Sudbury Water District Treatment Facility located at 100 East St. In order to stay compliant with state code a restroom is being installed at the site. The best option for retrofitting the septic for this location (over town well) is to use a tight tank. Dylan detailed the benefits of a tight tank over the installation of a septic system. Cost effective, less chance of effluent leaking into town water supply, tank has internal alarm system in the event of malfunction, tank will be monitored frequently and less maintenance.

VOTE: Susan Sama motioned to approve the variance of installing a tight tank over the installation of a conventional septic system at the 100 East St. Sudbury Water District Water Treatment Plant. It is stipulated that there be an O&M (operations and maintenance) contract, that the contractor is dispatched for pumping at 60% of tank capacity and/or tank is pumped annually. Linda Huet-Clayton seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Public Health Nurse Update: Katie Betts

Food Borne Illnesses: 32 cases of confirmed COVID 19, 1 measles scare-not a confirmed case.

Camps: Follow up for a child that contracted a bacterial infection at Camp Sewataro. These bacteria can be found in ponds and soil. The camp in conjunction with the Health Department will be monitoring this for Summer Camp 2025.

BP Clinics: are held Thursdays at the Senior Center. Sudbury Housing has asked that Clinics be held on-demand, at some of the housing developments in Sudbury. Katie and the Social Workers are working together to bring about awareness of Health services in the community.

Flu Clinics: The entire order of Flu vaccine arrived in early September. Clinics have been set up and will be advertised. The first Flu Clinic will be held on September 25th at the Fairbank Community Center for Seniors and Fairbank town staff.

Health Social Workers Update: Nina Lurie and Kirstin Wilcox

Opioid Awareness Event: The event was held on September 5th at the Sudbury Grange. Organized by the Sudbury Social Work Department. Guest speakers included, Rep-Carmine Gentile, Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan, Learn to Cope, Mass Organization for Addiction Recovery and Advocates. The

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Health Social Workers Update: Nina Lurie and Kirstin Wilcox Continued

purpose of the event to is raise awareness of all those who are affected by overdose and to de-stigmatize public perceptions of this disease.

Uptick in Residents Seeking Resources: Housing, gas, after school programs and food are most commonly requested.

Teen Relaxation Workshop: Kirstin Wilcox is meeting with teenagers monthly at the Goodnow Library. Kirstin is working with Laurie Ainsley. The workshop provides teens with body-based skills to promote stress reduction, decompressing and relaxation. Attendance is increasing monthly.

Other Resources that the Sudbury Social Worker's are reaching out to are, Open Table in Maynard and Sudbury Schools.

Mass Health Certification: Nina Lurie has begun training to become certified to help residents apply for Mass Health Care. Once Certified, Nina will have direct access to the state system. Very few Boards of Health have this level of access. Certification should help to expedite applications.

Health Director Update: Vivian Zeng

Overdose Awareness Event: The Director thanked the team, specifically the Social Workers for putting together this event noting that the speakers and resource tables were key to the event's success.

Pooling of Opioid Funds: 6 communities that are participating in the pooling of funds have not forwarded the money. It's difficult to gage the final tally for this account. Each community receives a different amount based on population.

Emergency Preparedness: Focus on Climate Resiliency Plan. Dani Marini-King (Sudbury Sustainability) will set up a display at the Flu Clinics and will interact with residents to identify areas of need/concern. Feedback will help in the process of creating and prioritizing projects.

PHE Staffing: Staffing for the openings in the Shared Services Grant has proved to be a challenge. Because interviewing, vetting and onboarding applicants is such a lengthy process, many viable candidates move on to other opportunities.

Food Truck Applications: The Health Department is now working with the Fire Department in permitting food trucks. It has proven to be challenging in getting the trucks to commit to inspections on specific days and times. We are working with Fire and other communities to get some input as to how to best facilitate inspections. We are requiring that all applications, payment and required documents be submitted 3 weeks prior to all events.

Sudbury Farms: Health Department is working closely with businesses afflicted by pests to rectify the situation(s). Many factors that contribute to pests are age of buildings, activity near businesses (is there building going on nearby?), drought conditions, weather and lack of diligence in keeping pest populations down. Mitigation for businesses affected: Closing of Food Prep and open case areas,

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Health Director Update: Vivian Zeng Continued

cleaning of areas under all displays, pest control, perishable foods are put in airtight containers nightly. Inspections are frequent and ongoing as is daily contact with management.

Atkinson Dive Well: Is now OPEN. Skimmers may need to be replaced.

Algae Blooms: Found in Hagar Pond and has leached from Hagar to Hop Brook. There were strands of blooms visible. Signage warning the public to avoid the water and keep pets away from the water has been posted on the trails.

DPW Office Renovation: To commence the end of September. The duration of the project is estimated to be 90 days.

East Middlesex Mosquito Control Update: Brian Farless

Testing and Treatment: At the height of mosquito season, Sudbury had 8 of 20 mosquito positives in 4 pools and 9 of 40 mosquito positives in 3 pools. Specimen tested positive for both West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). Last week showed one positive WNV specimen. Numbers have decreased due to Backpack spraying, Truck mounted spraying, drought and cooler nights. Residents should continue to remain vigilant in taking precautions from exposure.

VOTE: Susan Sama motioned to approve Board of Health meeting minutes, as edited, from August 13th, 2024. Linda Huet-Clayton Seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

VOTE: Susan Sama motioned to approve Board of Health meeting minutes, as edited, from August 24th, 2024. Linda Huet-Clayton seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:25 PM