

Sudbury Board of Health Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, February 12th, 2025

Attendees: Carol Bradford – BoH Chair, Linda Huet-Clayton – BoH Member, Susan Sama – BoH Member, Vivian Zeng – Health Director, Katie Betts – Health Nurse, Nina Lurie – Social Worker, Kirstin Wilcox – Social Worker, Beth Porter – Health Coordinator, Lisa West - Resident

10:02 – Open Meeting Law: Read by Carol Bradford

10:03 – Public Comment: None

Public Health Nurses Report – Katie Betts:

Flu: Numbers have risen sharply across the state in January. **Norovirus** symptoms are digestive in nature. “A” Strains Subtypes **H1N1 and H3N2** and “B” viruses **Victoria and Yamagata** are prevalent. Vaccines have proven to decrease the symptoms associated with the strains of flu that have been infecting people.

Bird Flu remains low-risk for humans. Mass Dept. of Public Health asks that residents call if more than 5 dead birds are found in an area of close proximity. Do not handle the birds. Keep pets safe.

Public Health Fair: is scheduled for April 8th. It will be held at the Fairbank Community Center between 10:00 Am – 2:00 PM. Vendors that will attend the event are the Vision Van (insurance will be required), Dermatology exams, Massage therapists (10 mins per massage), Social Workers and other town services.

Availability of Health Resources: To access information that may no longer be on Federal websites, these resources are recommended: Mass.Gov, Mass Dept of Public Health, Journalist.org, American Medical Assn.

CDC Website: Information is being taken down from the website. Many Health agencies depend on the information from the CDC as accurate and dependable. There are many sources on the web that are less reliable with older information and mis information. The state and other agencies are working to save data that is pertinent to our daily needs.

Social Worker Report – Nina Lurie and Kirstin Wilcox:

Sudbury Health Fair: April 8th 10:00AM – 2:00 PM. The Social Workers will be working with several agencies that will be providing resources and information to the public and employees. Nina and Kirstin have contacted collaborating agencies to obtain commitments for being present on April 8th. Those who will be participate are Food and Care Pantries, MetroWest Transportation, Hope Sudbury, Sudbury Foundation, etc.

Social Worker Resources: In anticipation of grants and funds becoming less available, or there being a greater need for residents, the Social Worker office is busy trying to find new or older resources that have not been utilized in the past.

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Health Director's Report – Vivian Zeng -Health Director:

Department Staffing: The Health Inspector has not been filled. Applicants are either not qualified or over qualified. The Regional Staff has been very helpful, in particular, Ann Loree and Shaun Jeffery. The public Health Nurse, Katie Betts, will be going on maternity leave in March or early April. We have employed Marie Trenouth to cover this position part time.

Town Staffing Changes: Deb Galloway and John Whalen have retired. Tim Choate has been appointed the new Fire Chief and they are still interviewing for a new Senior Center Director. The Board of Health staff works closely with both departments. The Fire Department will be an easy transition. Dani Marini-King has left for a new position with the state. It is unclear what will happen with the sustainability position. One of the major projects that Dani was heading up was the Farmer's Market. Many of the components of this project are already in place and is still scheduled to be launched this summer.

Annual Report and Warrants: for town meeting have been submitted.

Atkinson Pools: Are now testing within state mandated range. Both pools have been re-opened. The pool HVAC and Filter are to be replaced in April. The UV lights in the filtration system are being replaced. The stress test for water chlorine levels will be impacted by bather load.

New Pool Procedures: Testing Pool Water 4 times daily. Bathers must pre-rinse,

Food: Asian Market is in the process of applying and gathering documentation for the preopening plan. Pinterest is also in the process of preparing a pre-opening plan. Sobre-Mesa opened under a new name. Zayeth Tapas and Bar is now open.

Grants: FDA SAVA Food Grant: Financials for 2024 have been closed out. Federal Grant funds may be discontinued.

Soil Testing: To be paused until April 1. Permafrost has caused problems with the ability to get accurate perc tests and soil samples. Excavating machinery is breaking and the frozen ground inhibits accurate readings for perc tests.

Health Offices for Social Workers: Construction is not complete. There are issues with wiring and flooring that have created delays. Date(s) of completion have not been announced.

Open.Gov: Creating online permitting for many Health Applications are in the development and testing phase. End of April is a soft target date for partial implementation.

VOTE: Susan Sama motioned to approve December 18th Board of Health Meeting Minutes. Linda Huet-Clayton seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Friday March 21st 10:00 AM is scheduled for next BoH Meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM