

# Sudbury Board of Health Virtual Meeting

## March 21, 2025 10:00 AM

**Attendees:** Carol Bradford BoH Chair, Linda Huet-Clayton BoH Member, Susan Sama BoH Member, Vivian Zeng Health Director, Katie Betts Public Health Nurse, Nina Lurie Social Worker

**10:00 AM:** Open Meeting Law – Carol Bradford

**10:02 AM:** Public Comment -None

### **Katie Betts – Public Health Nurse Update:**

**Health Report:** Sudbury saw an increase in Infectious disease, but a low incidence in COVID

**Sudbury Public Health Fair April 8<sup>th</sup>:** Katie has secured a Dermatologist, Vision Van, Dietician, Massage Therapists among several other community members who will participate.

**Blood Pressure Clinics:** Will continue in Katie's absence (during her maternity) leave by Marie Trenouth.

**Flu Vaccine for 2025 Fall Season:** Has been pre-ordered at a discount. FDA and CDC funding cuts have impacted advisory committees who are charged with determining strains of flu (for vaccine manufacturers) for the upcoming flu season in the northern hemisphere. To ensure that the Sudbury Flu Clinics will be stocked with vaccine this coming fall, The Health office contacted the Sequirus vaccine sales rep to ensure that the strains of vaccine to be manufactured were sourced from reliable entities. We have been assured that the vaccines will be effective against the strains of flu coming this fall.

**Camp Trainer:** A Camp Trainer held a meeting to work with the nurses and Private Camp Directors. The training sessions were helpful and made the arduous task of putting together manuals and interpreting the camp regulations less daunting.

### **Nina Lurie – Social Worker Update:**

**May is Mental Health Month:** The Social Worker's Office is gearing up with planning events throughout the month. Wellness From Within – a seminar linking Gut Health to Mental Health, Suicide Prevention Seminar, Pets and People event at the Senior Center.

**Domestic Violence:** Helping individuals with the aftermath – Financial, children and families coping.

**Financial Assistance:** Less people were seeking financial assistance last month.

**Grants:** Kirstin has been seeking out grants for summer programs and camps.

### **Vivian Zeng – Health Director Update:**

**Hazardous Waste Collection Day:** Scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup>. More than 200 residents have pre-registered. The Health Department will be working with Sustainable Sudbury who will be collecting Styrofoam.

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### **Vivian Zeng – Health Director Update Continued:**

**Health Fair April 8<sup>th</sup>:** at the Sudbury Senior Center. Pamphlets and flyers have been circulated throughout the town. Vendors and services have been secured. We are still working on getting more vendors who supply resources to residents.

**Department Staffing:** The position of Health Inspector has not been filled yet. Katie Betts (public Health Nurse) will be going on maternity leave soon. The state has hired 5 nurse trainees that the Sudbury Health Director will be using.

**Grants:** RISE Grants have been defunded. FDA Grants have been frozen (for the time being), but the FDA 2024 reimbursements came in. The Public Health Excellence (PHE) Grant has been audited.

**Atkinson Pool:** The new UV system is working keeping chlorine PH Levels within state mandated standards.

**Food:** Pinsperation and Formosa continue to work with the Health Director toward the goal of opening. Lotus Blossom has been dealing with the aftermath of a recent fire. Insurance complications and supply shortages are slowing the process of re-opening.

**Norovirus:** 2 Sudbury cases were reported last month, but the Health Director suspects that the numbers are much higher because residents are not being tested, therefore the cases are not reported to the town.

**Soil/Perc Testing:** Was paused for January, February and March of this year due to hard frost. Health Inspectors witnessed equipment breaking, making testing ineffective. Moving forward the Health Department will adopt suspending testing in the winter months unless we have mild winters with no permafrost.

**ADU's:** The rise in ADU applications and renovation projects thru the Building Department has created a need to charge a septic assessment fee in order to determine if the capacity of the septic system can handle the proposed upgrades to the dwelling. The Health Department has created an application and procedure for contractors/homeowners to submit for review. We are processing between 5 – 15 applications per month.

**Open.Gov:** Online applications are being created, tested and uploaded to Open.Gov. Currently there are 4 applications up and running.

**Farmer's Market:** The Town was granted funds allowing Sudbury to hold 2 Farmer's Markets this year. The Health Department will need to permit food vendors who will participate at the event. The Health Director proposes a \$75.00 food permit fee for foods that need to be heated or cooled, a \$25.00 fee for foods like baked goods and staples (nuts, candy) and no fee for whole vegetables.

**VOTE:** Susan Sama motioned to set fees for Farmer's Market food vendors. \$75.00 for heated/cooled foods, \$25.00 for stable foods and no fee for whole vegetables. Carol Bradford seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

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**Vivian Zeng – Health Director Update Continued**

**Sudbury Animal Control Officers:** To be nominated and sworn in for the 2025/2026 year.

**VOTE:** Susan Sama motioned to nominate Jen Condon, Donna DeWallace and Jennifer Lord as Sudbury Animal Inspectors for the 2025 – 2026 season. Linda Huet-Clayton seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

**VOTE:** Carol Bradford motioned to approve February 12<sup>th</sup> 2025 BoH Meeting Minutes, as edited. Susan Sama seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:47 AM.