

# **Sudbury Board of Health**

## **Virtual Meeting May 13, 2026**

**Attendees:** Carol Bradford-Board Chair, Linda Huet-Clayton-Board Member, Susan Sama-Board Member, Vivian Zeng-Health Director, Mike Funaiolo-Health Asst Director, Katie Betts=Public Health Nurse, Kirstin Wilcox-Health Social Worker

**5:00-Open Meeting Law**-Carol Bradford

**5:01-Public Comment** – None

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

**Infections:** suspect enterovirus case in Sudbury. Respiratory related illnesses and influenza are at reported lows.

**Ticks:** Rising tick-borne illnesses, with four suspect Lyme disease cases and one human granulocytic anaplasmosis case reported. It is expected that tick borne illnesses will increase this year. Katie emphasized prevention measures for tick bites, such as using repellents, and pre-treating clothing. Other preventative measures include, avoid wooded areas, keep grass on your lawn low and check yourself, children and pets after coming in from outdoors. If you suspect being infected with a tick, seek medical treatment immediately. Linda Huet-Clayton intimated that possum are good for consuming ticks. Vivian also commented that there is no spray treatment for controlling or mitigating the tick population.

**Hantavirus:** Katie noting there is low risk of human-to-human transmission. The Andes virus can be spread from Human to Human but requires prolonged contact There is no treatment for those diagnosed or exposed. There is only supportive care. Seek guidance on avoiding exposure.

**New Sudbury Medical Director:** In the wake of Dr. Hoenig retiring from the position of Town Doctor, Katie Betts has sought out a new physician to volunteer as Sudbury's Medical Director. The new Medical Director will be Ashley Ferullo. Dr. Ferullo is a pediatrician and owner of the Giving Tree Pediatric practice in Natick. She also has a background in Health Sciences.

**Events:** Katie will be doing an Emergency Preparedness presentation at the Fairbank Senior Center with Sudbury Fire Chief, Tim Choate.

**Camps:** Review of Manuals and completion of applications is ongoing. Inspections will begin. Permitting of camps will be completed once the nurse, Building and Fire Departments sign off on passing inspections.

**Blood Pressure Clinics:** Clinics continue at the Senior Center and the Coolidge.

### **Kirstin Wilcox - Health Social Worker Update:**

**May Mental Health Month:** activities including an interactive calendar, mental health first aid training, Pets and People Event at the Senior Center, and upcoming events like a sound bath and kids yoga session.

**Coming Event:** Locally Grown Farmer's Market.

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### **Kirstin Wilcox - Health Social Worker Update Continued:**

**Uptick in Residents Requesting Assistance:** Kirstin reported increased community engagement with neighbors referring struggling residents to the Health Social Worker Office. Kirstin noted that financial difficulties are becoming more severe with people facing evictions and utility shut-offs.

**Transportation:** Kirstin reported ongoing transportation initiatives with Nina and the Senior Center.

**Intern:** Rachel Markowitz has completed her internship with the Health Department. She was instrumental in launching the May Mental Health Month interactive calendar. Rachel was also involved in producing the Monthly Social Worker Newsletter.

**Local Support:** Nina Lurie offered a Sudbury Day care staff resources after a distressing incident occurred.

### **Vivian Zeng: Health Inspector Update:**

**Pools:** Are being inspected and staff is working with stake holders in getting permitted before Memorial Day/Pool opening dates.

**Septic:** Soil Tests, inspections, re-inspections and training are ongoing.

**Food:** The new Ramen Haven Restaurant had a soft opening on Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>. Shaun Jeffery, Health Inspector, has walked the owners thru each inspection up to the opening of this new establishment. Shaun continues to work with the Fire Department to get food trucks permitted for seasonal and temporary applications. School inspections for the end of the fiscal year are coming to a close.

**Housing Complaints:** Shaun drafted an order to correct for pest issues at Longfellow Glen. He worked with one of the state Inspection Trainers to assist in composing the order.

### **Mike Funaiole-Assistant Health Director Update:**

**Shaw's Plaza:** Update on replacement of septic absorption system (SAS) at Shaw's Plaza. Soil tests have been completed. It was discovered during testing that there is 11 to 13 feet of fill above the ground water. It was difficult to find original soil as a base for testing.

**694 Boston Post Rd:** New septic plan for proposed daycare facility at this location has been updated and approved. There was work being done on the system prior to permitting being pulled. Mike is working with the stakeholders to get things back on track. Permitting will be double charged.

The Board thanked Mike for taking on these complex projects.

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

**Health Fair:** Was held on May 9<sup>th</sup> and was a success. It was well attended. Vendors enjoyed participating and commented on how they enjoyed interacting with their peers and Sudbury residents.

**Sudbury 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration:** The Sudbury Health Department will have a table at the event. Several Food Trucks have been inspected and permitted to participate at the event.

**Department Staffing:** New Assistant Health Director Mike Funaiole has been productive right out of the gate. PHE Coordinator/Epidemiologist position was filled by Kayleigh Watson. PHE Regional Nurse position has been posted.

**PHE Grant Update:** Kayleigh Watson has met with all of the regional health directors, has obtained a logon to MAVEN and has begun working with Erin Olson (PHE Communications staffer).

**Food:** Sudbury Farms will be completing the renovation of the Sudbury store in June. Roche Brothers will be presenting at the June 10<sup>th</sup> Board of Health Meeting. Shaun Jeffery has been inspecting the renovations as they are being installed.

**Sudbury Pines:** Will be replacing their current failed septic with a new Waste Water Treatment Plant. The state will oversee the plan review, installation and permitting of this project.

**Other:** Pools are being inspected and re-inspected for seasonal openings. Emergency Preparedness Presentation will bring awareness to MRC and CERT Programs and hopefully encourage residents with medical and non-medical backgrounds to volunteer. A survey will assist in building the number of volunteers. Vivian Zeng has been invited to be Keynote speaker at a National Environmental Health Conference in Columbus Ohio.

**VOTE:** Susan Sama motioned to formally retain Carol Bradford as Sudbury Board of Health Chair. Linda Huet-Clayton seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

**VOTE:** Susan Sama motioned to nominate Ashley Ferullo MD. as Sudbury Medical Director. Carol Bradford seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Meeting minutes for April 8<sup>th</sup> along with minutes from May 13<sup>th</sup> will be approved at next Board of Health Meeting on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:06 PM.**