

Buckland Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2020 6:30 p.m.
Buckland Town Hall

AGENDA

1. Open the meeting.
2. Review February minutes and approve.
3. Health agent report, Randy or Lisa.
4. COVID-19 information and update.
5. Vacant and abandoned housing update.
6. LUA, 26 Avery Road.
7. CPHS meeting 2/27/20 - report and discuss ST Rental options pertaining to permitting and inspections.
8. Mosquito Control District presentation to Heath SB 2/25/20 - report.
9. All Chairs meeting 2/27/20 - report.
10. Positive rabies case in Buckland.
11. Open and process mail.
12. Any other items not reasonably anticipated by Chairman 48 hours prior to meeting.
13. Public comment.
14. Adjourn the meeting.

ATTENDEES (PARTICIPANTS)

Terry Estes - BOH Member
Marti Taft-Ferguson - BOH Member
Randy Crochier - Health Agent
Lisa Danek Burke - Health Agent
John Gould - Planning Board Co-chair
Mary Bolduc - Boards' Clerk
Richard Warner - BOH Chairman, Not Present

MEETING

1. Open the meeting - This meeting was held via teleconference call in accordance with the Governor's order amending Open Meeting Law. Meeting opened at 6:30 p.m., hosted by Marti Taft-Ferguson.
2. Review February minutes and approve - Terry moved to accept with one spelling correction. Marti seconded. Vote to approve with correction unanimous.
3. Health agent report, Randy or Lisa -
 1. Randy reported that there was only one licensing left for Buckland.

2. Lisa reported there was nothing new scheduled for Title 5 inspections. There had been one earlier in March at the Willis Farm on barn side of road. A new milking process is being implemented and plans provided for a bathroom to be included. Design by Sean Kimberly.
3. Randy notified all food service operations as reminder of Governor Baker's restrictions. Wants businesses to respond and list take out foods. Any not currently offering take out services but want to, are to check with FRCOG for guidance.
4. Marti raised question of protocols in event restaurant food had been prepared by person exposed to COVID-19. Randy responded that he had sent information addressing that issue prior to crisis.
5. Lisa added that DPH conference call had addressed some stores opening early for seniors. DPH call also advocated 10 person crowd recommendation. Private clubs and bars also closed.
6. Board discussion on BOH role regarding enforcement of 10 person rule for gatherings. Board's focus is to educate and promote compliance, not enforce.
4. COVID-19 information and update -
 1. Buckland is in State of Emergency per 3/17/20 select board meeting.
 1. All town buildings are closed to public.
 2. Buckland Board of Health granted more authority.
 3. Annual town meeting postponed to June 10, 2020.
 2. Ashfield, Buckland, Colrain and Shelburne libraries and Senior Center formed a collective group for outreach to region as opposed to a single town.
 3. To date, Baystate Franklin has 5 suspected cases.
 4. Marti attended a MAPHCO meeting focusing on COVID-19. Quarantine and isolation practices/protocols were covered.
 1. Lisa expanded on isolation and quarantine specifics. Standards for release from isolation have been changed from the previous requirement of two negative tests 24 hours apart. Now release will be based on time since onset (7 days), at least 72 hours since last temperature without fever reducing medication, improved respiratory function, and must also be no longer symptomatic.
 2. MA 211 line offers referrals.
 5. FRCOG staff working from home, with offices lightly staffed and doors locked.
 6. Marti wants guidance on neighborhood support teams and has approached Lisa White to discuss at next regional meeting. Randy received an email from Dr. Potee detailing Northfield's system of neighborhood support. Cathy Buntin (Senior Center) will also be involved in local effort.
 7. Concern has been expressed that Meals on Wheels has not been adhering to social distancing practices. Board discussion regarding educating public on how to help neighbors safely.
5. Vacant and abandoned housing update -
 1. Lisa Danek Burke and Marti Ferguson met on March 10th to update Lisa on work Marti and Terry Estes have been doing regarding vacant and abandoned housing, including information provided by Pam Guyette of the assessors' office.

1. Lisa looked at 277 Ashfield Road while doing a Title 5 inspection there.
2. It was determined that 8 Pomeroy Terrace is NOT vacant.
3. Other properties discussed were 8 E. Buckland Road, 47 Purinton Road, 2 Creamery Avenue, and 89 State Street. Information on properties was entered into data base. Lisa is hopeful to arrange a meeting of town departments to “pow wow” a unified approach to these properties.
4. 5 Wellington Street is sold and closed earlier this month. Board discussion on Enforcement Order issued on 5 Wellington Street and buyer’s knowledge (or lack of) of said order. Randy received phone call from buyer. Lisa to follow up to ensure that order is complied with.
5. John Gould, co-chair of Buckland Planning Board, asked if there are any issues the BOH wants to bring to attention of Planning Board. He also questioned the purpose of categorizing properties as “vacant” or “abandoned”. Terry responded that the Attorney General’s office can then be involved which was the purpose of compiling the list.
 1. Discussion followed on Attorney General’s initiative regarding vacant and abandoned housing and the process of receivership. Also, if courts are involved, it is a very long and arduous process requiring attorneys. The AG’s office assumes those expenses. Marti added that Heather Butler has had experience working with receivers.
 2. John asked if the AG’s office has a good track record to which Randy replied that they did, “short but good”.
 3. Also posed was question of how Buckland Planning Board could become involved. Randy responded that PB could educate receivers on view for the town.
 4. Subject of stray and abandoned animals was raised. Marti stated that local animal control officer is “on it”. Randy clarified that BOH is not involved with pets, only “animal access and harborage thereof”.
6. LUA, 26 Avery Road - Table until next meeting. One member of board absent and Marti must recuse herself leaving no quorum.
7. CPHS meeting 2/27/20; report and discuss ST Rental options pertaining to permitting and inspections -
 1. Terry reported. Currently up to each board, but CPHS would like Boards of Health to vote and agree on one policy for district.
 2. Board of Health will have to inspect if there is a complaint.
 3. Marti asked what Buckland wants to do. Something? Nothing? (At this point in meeting, several participants were dropped from conference call and had to log back in. Also, connection was poor for some with parts of discussion not audible.)
 4. Marti posed question to Terry if Buckland wants policy on short term rentals. Terry’s response was that Buckland had formerly decided to wait. Continuation of discussion tabled until another meeting.
8. Mosquito Control District presentation to Heath Select Board 2/25/20; report - One case of EEE reported for last summer. \$5,000 to join District with what Marti thinks is a

yearly membership thereafter. Membership comes with benefits, pooling expenses. Randy suggested a warrant article for annual town meeting and has wording to offer for drafting article.

9. All Chairs meeting 2/27/20 report -
 1. John Gould reported on Planning Board's ongoing housing discussions.
 2. Recreation Center's next move is septic system.
 3. Nothing critical brought forth.
10. Positive rabies case in Buckland - Raccoon positive for rabies reported. No humans or other animals were impacted and no quarantine resulted.
11. Open and process mail - N/A due to teleconference mode of meeting.
12. Any other items not reasonably anticipated by Chairman 48 hours prior to meeting - N/A
13. Public comment - Noted in Agenda Item #6; John Gould's participation regarding vacant and abandoned housing discussion.
14. Adjourn the meeting - Marti moved to adjourn seconded by Terry. Vote in favor of motion was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary L. Bolduc, Boards' Clerk, April 21, 2020

Approved by:

Tracy Ellis 7/15/20

Michael R 07-15-20

M. Van 7/15/20