

Buckland Board of Health
 Meeting Minutes
 May 5, 2020 6:30 p.m.
 Remote Video Conferencing Meeting Via Zoom

AGENDA

1. Open the meeting.
2. Health Agent report - Randy or Lisa Danek-Burke.
3. COVID-19/BOH Response: Information and update
 1. Face covering order.
 2. Bridge of Flowers.
 3. Town rest room facilities.
 4. Planning for re-opening.
 5. Other as needed.
4. Review/process mail - Marti or Terry will collect from Town Hall.
5. Any other items not reasonably anticipated by Chairman 48 hours prior to meeting.
6. Public comment.
7. Adjourn the meeting.

ATTENDEES

Richard Warner - BOH Chairman
 Terry Estes - BOH Member
 Marti Taft-Ferguson - BOH Member
 Randy Crochier - Regional Health Agent
 Madeline Liebling - Resident
 Janet Sinclair - Resident
 Mary Bolduc - Boards' Clerk

MEETING

1. Open the meeting - Meeting opened at 6:33 p.m.
2. Health Agent report -
 1. Title 5 inspections are ongoing with Lisa taking lead.
 2. Lisa and Rich conducted visits/drive-bys to view vacant properties.
 3. Town port-a-potties are in place. Hand washing stations were to be delivered today (May 5). Toilet paper has been stolen. Board discussion on ways to safeguard toilet paper against theft.
3. COVID-19 Response
 1. Face coverings -

1. In spite of considerable public comment and concern regarding compliance with regulations, it was recognized that 100% compliance will not be achieved. Randy suggested swearing in police chief and all sworn officers as temporary health agents to help enforce COVID regulations throughout the duration of the virus.
2. It was suggested that police could hand out masks to which Randy disagreed, reasoning that what you pay for you regard more highly. He does not recommend handing out/providing masks stating that it is incumbent upon people to be responsible for themselves.
3. Marti distributed flyers regarding face masks, and commented that there should be masks available to people given current sources. All businesses downtown have and will display mask posters stipulating that anyone entering is required to wear a face covering.
4. Board discussion (including input from residents in attendance) regarding signage downtown as reminder of social distancing. Marti added that the Task Force has talked about signage on state highways, suggesting that perhaps a sign that the Bridge of Flowers is closed might deter some tourists.
5. Randy requested that the Board vote to approve him contacting police chief for acting health agents. Terry moved that the Board approve Randy to send a letter to the Buckland Police Chief and sworn officers to act as BOH agents. Marti seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, Marti, Rich, and Terry all voted in favor of the motion. Randy stated that it is not a BOH member function or responsibility to confront non-compliers.
2. Bridge of Flowers -
 1. The Bridge of Flowers committee has been receiving complaints that it is closed when members of the committee have been seen on the Bridge. Committee members are responsible for its upkeep and practice all social distancing and health rules. They reached out to the Buckland and Shelburne BOHs to issue a statement regarding the Bridge's closing. Marti suggested that the Board support the BOF (Bridge of Flowers) committee, but not speak for them. She believes the BOF committee has done a good job of publicizing the Bridge's closing during the COVID pandemic and offered to compose a statement for them which will specify that the BOF has closed with the support of the Buckland BOH. Rich and Terry agreed.
 2. Rich asked if questions regarding the BOF should be forwarded to the Board of Health. Randy asked where BOH questions go if sent to email, and offered that he would willingly field inquiries. He also suggested the addition of an auto-reply on BOH email including a statement that one's email has been received and a response will be forthcoming.
3. Town restroom facilities -
 1. Provided by, and will be maintained by, Bosley. Will be cleaned weekly and toilet paper supplied.
 2. Since warm weather is approaching, suggestion made that doors be propped open when not in use to reduce odor.

3. Potties have hand sanitizer dispensers, and hand washing stations are also to be positioned downtown.
4. Task Force is pursuing a sharps container being installed in Buckland. Short Board discussion on container.
4. Planning for re-opening -
 1. Task Force has begun planning, including provisions for annual town meeting and town election. There will perhaps be a Task Force subcommittee specific to re-opening.
 2. What metrics will be used? What must numbers be? Randy offered one guideline as 2 weeks of reduced numbers. Rich warned that Massachusetts is in the top 3 in the country for COVID deaths and hopes that people are not in a hurry to rush re-opening.
 3. Per DPH, some non-essential businesses can start to take orders with contactless delivery.
 4. Board discussion on COVID impact on some businesses and who/what can be expected to open in the foreseeable future. Randy can envision outdoor dining happening, but no indoor dining any time soon.
5. Other as needed -
 1. Marti asked Randy if there is any news/direction on summer camps. Mohawk academic camps have been postponed. Buckland Rec Center camp is "on hold".
 2. Possibility of free COVID testing in Orange with no doctor referral necessary. Community Health Center? Satellite of Heywood hospital? No specifics available.
 3. Does Ben Hay have guidance for staff of agricultural workers? Short discussion.
 4. Maria cannot have independent stand at Sue Atherton's farm. Randy stated farmers' market regulation, "No self serve". Randy also asked that while riding around towns, please let him know who is open and where. If growing and selling on own property, no permit is needed.
 5. Regarding Memorial Day observances and parades, Randy advises against it. He recommended to his home town to have a small service to place flags, with the plan to celebrate later on Veteran's Day. Rich will advise same to organizers of Upper Street parade/celebration.
4. Review and process mail - N/A
5. Any other items not reasonably anticipated by Chair 48 hours prior to meeting -
 1. Terry inquired about rabies case. A dog on Buckland/Ashfield line is quarantined and will be released at end of quarantine period if still alive.
 2. John Gould has reported his cats (confined to his property by electronic fence) have been attacked by feral cat from vacant house on State Street. If John reaches out, animal officer can trap feral cat.
6. Public comment -
 1. Janet Sinclair and Madeline Liebling approached the board asking for a temporary ban on outdoor burning at least for the duration of COVID contending those most vulnerable to virus are also at risk for air pollution. Marti advised them that the Board

could listen but could not discuss. Their request to be put on agenda arrived after agenda had already been submitted for posting. Meeting must be posted 48 hour in advance. They want specifically to address outdoor fires and will request to be put on agenda for next meeting. Janet and Madeline also participated in discussions regarding COVID.

7. Adjourn the meeting - Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Bolduc, Boards' Clerk, May 19, 2020

Approved by:

Julia E. [Signature] 7/15/2020

[Signature] 07-15-20

[Signature] 7/15/20