# Buckland Board of Health Meeting Minutes March 16, 2021 6:30 p.m. Meeting Via Zoom

## Agenda

- 1. Open the meeting.
- 2. Review/approve minutes of February 16, 2021.
- 3. Membership changes thank you, Terry, welcome Peggy.
- 4. Health Agent Report: Randy C or Lisa DB
- 5. COVID-19:
  - 1. Cases, updates.
  - 2. Vaccination:
    - 1. Clinics.
    - 2. Messaging & information.
    - 3. Groups facing access issues.
- 6. Red Gate Farm future program expansion discussion.
- 7. Review/process mail Marti will collect from Town Hall.
- 8. Any other items not reasonably anticipated by Chairman 48 hours prior to meeting.
- 9. Public comment.
- 10. Adjourn the meeting.

### **Attendees**

Richard Warner - Board of Health Chair
Marti Taft-Ferguson - Board of Health Member
Peggy Hart - Board of Health Member
Randy Crochier - Health Agent
Dean Singer - Buckland Resident, Candidate for BOH in May Election
Ben Murray - Buckland Resident, Farm Director of Red Gate Farm
Mary Bolduc - Boards' Clerk

## Meeting

- 1. Open the meeting Richard Warner opened the meeting at 6:37 p.m.
- 2. Review/approve minutes of February 16, 2021 Members reviewed minutes. Marti moved to approve, seconded by Rich. Vote: Marti, yes; Rich, yes. (Peggy Hart did not vote because she was not a member at the time of the February 16th meeting.)
- 3. Membership changes; thank you, Terry, welcome, Peggy Terry Estes was thanked for his years of service, and Peggy Hart was welcomed to the board. She was appointed by the Select Board to serve the balance of Terry's term.
- 4. Health Agent Report -
  - 1. Randy Crochier reported that things have been slower; he has not had to help with contact tracing for three weeks.
  - 2. Work on 89 State Street is supposedly done and property is ready for inspection.
  - 3. Neighbors have expressed concern about 27 Sears Street.

- **4.** Rich Warner asked if Lisa Danek Burke had any other inspections scheduled; he would like to know before his term expires.
- 5. 277 Ashfield Road is a concern. Randy will visit on March 17 while he is in the area (at Mohawk). Work is definitely being done on the property but it is not clear if anyone is living there.

#### 5. COVID-19 -

Cases, updates - Brief Board discussion on recent/current Buckland cases. One
case involved a Buckland resident that was in rehab at Charlene Manor. Randy
reported that were instances of single households accounting for multiple cases
because COVID infected all members of household.

#### 2. Vaccination:

- 1. Clinics Board discussion included availability of doses for Buckland Clinic held at Mohawk. There is a possibility of vaccine not being available for week 4 (second dose of Moderna), but will be available by week 5 or 6. Depending upon dose availability, State will guarantee by week 6. Because FRCOG has contact information for those scheduled for second dose at Mohawk, vaccine recipients can be contacted regarding any possible date changes. Informational postcards have been mailed to Buckland residents. Though some information became outdated by the time they were mailed, the site to which the postcard refers is still helpful for "one stop vaccine shopping". Board discussion also covered the logistics and expense of transporting vaccines including cold chain custody for Moderna and Pfizer vs Johnson & Johnson which is less difficult due to the temperature at which it can be stored.
- 2. Messaging & information -
  - 1. A program is being developed to identify the homebound population and ensure they receive the vaccine.
- 3. Groups facing access issues -
  - 1. Those with no internet service comprise a large portion of this group, and when Phase 3 opens, there will be many more in this category.
  - 2. Buckland Library is feeling pressure to open, but librarians as a profession are not currently a vaccine eligible group. Board discussion followed, including size of library relative to the number of people it can safely accommodate vs actual numbers; vaccination status of local librarians; and whether disinfecting computers is the responsibility of the librarian or patron. Randy offered for Jane Buchanan, librarian, to reach out to him for help and guidance to open.
  - 3. Dena Willmore, Select Board Chair, had announced that money is available through MMA for COVID related expenses which can be spent though FY24. She needs a shopping list.
- 6. Red Gate Farm -future program expansion discussion -
  - Ben Murray addressed the Board of Health regarding the future expansion of programs. Discussion with the Board included the definition and guidelines for summer camp; necessary inspections and permitting for model Mr. Murray proposes; and other program models to which Red Gate Farm might compare itself (Nature's Classroom, Farm School, etc.).

- Questions were raised regarding Red Gate ceasing to be a summer camp and more of an educational program. Would DESE be involved? What would relationship with BOH become? Ben proposed an MOU with the BOH, an agreement vs formal licensure.
- 3. Ben explained the capital campaign underway to fund expansion, buildings being demolished and replaced as part of project, and programs he plans to introduce such as sugaring and lambing.
- 4. Mr. Murray was encouraged to keep polling other programs to see what they are doing as there is no model for his proposal. It must be demonstrated that Red Gate's program is safe and and all areas needing oversight are covered.
- 7. Review/process mail; Marti will collect from Town Hall -
  - 1. Mail collected from Town Hall consisted of an item for Lisa White of FRCOG.
  - 2. Peggy inquired about an email regarding disaster simulation and asked if one or all Board members could/should participate. Response was that there is no obligation to attend, but would be helpful if someone did.
  - 3. Participation in ICS (Instant Command System) was also discussed, noting that all BOH members should take ICS courses to have some emergency management training. Peggy asked if anyone in Town Hall is involved; currently Herb Guyette, Fire Chief, is the only member.
  - 4. Due to her schedule, Marti will not be able to manage the Board of Health email and voicemail and would like for another member to take over for the next few weeks. Rich asked Peggy if she would be willing to assume those responsibilities. Peggy agreed.
- 8. Any other items not reasonably anticipated by Chairman 48 hours in advance of meeting -
  - 1. Rich Warner referred to a handbook for BOH members and suggested that Peggy Hart and Dean Singer each be given a copy. Randy announced that a new copy just became available.
  - 2. Dean was asked by Rich if he had any questions for the Board. He did not, but stated he is happy to contribute.
- 9. Public Comment There was no public comment.

Modern 11 to Caller

**10.** Adjourn the meeting - Peggy moved to adjourn, seconded by Marti. Vote to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Bolduc, Boards' Clerk, April 20, 2021