



Laura Vlasuk
Director of Public Health

CITY OF NEWBURYPORT

BOARD OF HEALTH

60 Pleasant Street
Newburyport, MA 01950

PHONE: 978-465-4410

WEBSITE: www.cityofnewburyport.com



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

***Remote* Board of Health Meeting** **July 21, 2022 7:00pm**

Meeting Attendees:

Dr. Robin Blair (Chair)
Dr. Rob Slocum

Laura Vlasuk, Director of Public Health
Michael Lawler, Office Manager

Meeting Minutes:

I. 7:00pm – Call to Order

Dr. Blair called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from the June 23rd meeting made by Dr. Slocum.

Seconded by Dr. Blair. Motion passes 2-0.

III. Presentation of Proclamation for Anna Jaques Hospital

Board members will come down and sign the proclamation so that it can be presented to the hospital.

IV. Update on 8 Colby Farm Lane, Unit G

This was placed on the agenda in case we needed to discuss an issue with a deep hole test. Before this meeting the issue was resolved by a professional engineer. The certificate of occupancy was issued today (7/21/22).

Councilor Lane joined late and asked the Board to go over this again. Laura went over the deep hole results and process for gaining certificates of occupancy in phase 2 of the project.

V. Director's Report

COVID-19

July 2nd was Parks Fest. Event was very well attended and there were no issues.

July 4th and 5th there was a celebration on the waterfront. This too was a big success and no issues.

July 14th the Health Department held a COVID-19 vaccination clinic at no cost to the City and over 20 vaccines were administered. This was for ages 3 and up. Some of these vaccinations were first time vaccinations so we have booked a follow-up clinic on August 11th. People can obtain second dose and boosters at this clinic. Link to the event will be posted on social media and on the city page.

This weekend the City will be hosting Riverfest. 92.5 the River has been very easy to work with and the Health Department is looking forward to the event.

Coming up we will be hosting Yankee Homecoming. We are still receiving applications and there have been some issues due to employee shortages. Currently we have over 12 vendors, but the office is still receiving applications.

The City recently had to issue a public health warning due to multiple CSOs that occurred early Tuesday, July 19th in Haverhill, Lawrence, and Lowell. Residents and visitors were notified through temporary signs at public access points to the water, social media, and the City webpage. All questions were directed to the Health Department and we have been fielding those calls all week.

At the last meeting, there was a question around water safety and what is the Harbormaster Dept doing and where could the Health Dept/BOH be of help. We talked with Harbormaster Paul Hogg and he informed us of the following safety measures his department has undertaken due to the uptick in incidents:

- Increased patrols of known problem areas, including the area around Deer Island and Plum Island Sandbar.
- Installation of life rings for public access in the following locations:
 - Plum Island
 - Central Waterfront Docks and Commercial/Patrol Docks
 - Cashman Park
 - Other locations not installed by Harbormaster
 - Deer Island (unknown installer) and 73rd St @ Reservation Terr (resident installed)

Harbormaster Hogg said that he is open to additional ideas that people may have in helping to educate the public and he is happy to partner with the Health Dept/BOH on

an educational campaign. He also said he is available to answer any questions the Board may have.

Dr. Slocum asked if we could have the Harbormaster come to the next meeting. We will invite him to the next meeting.

VI. Set date for next Meeting

August 18, 2022

VII. Session for topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting

VIII. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 7:24 pm made by Dr. Blair. Seconded by Dr. Slocum. Motion passes 2-0.