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JANSHIELD TOWN CLERK
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Board of Health Meeting

Board Members in Office

October 04, 2021

Present in Office: Mark MacDonald, Chairman; Tyler Nims, Clerk; Gary Russell, Acting Director; Dan Thompson, Associate Director; Valerie Blinn, Administrative Assistant; Teresa Flynn, Public Health Nurse

Board of Health Meeting opened at 5:59 p.m.

Mr. MacDonald asked Ms. Flynn about **COVID test** kits. It was explained that the town does not have kits that could be handed out but the town does has a large kit to do testing of people. It was explained that a person is safe after their quarantine time but could still test positive 90 days later. Ms. Flynn informed the Board that she did have the ability to check someone's records as to their last shot.

Mr. MacDonald asked Mr. Don Gibson to speak about the **Special Town Meeting Anti-COVID Measures**. The meeting is October 18th and hopefully can be completed in one day. Mr. Gibson would like the Board to mandate masks be worn at the meeting in the high school gym. Mr. Gibson had already talked with the school committee, police and town counsel regarding masks. Mr. MacDonald said that the Board would not mandate masks because there was no way to enforce it. The chairs on the floor can be set six feet apart and people should be encouraged to sit on the chairs before using the bleachers. It was noted that the last meeting did not have a good record for masks in the bleachers. It was discussed that the weekly town COVID numbers were down-a-tick for the past couple of weeks. The discussion talked about DESE extending masks to November 1st but DESE's wording was "expected" to wear masks vs. "required". Ms. Narice Casper came in to inform all that at 6' apart, the floor was able to handle about 168 chairs. The Board recommended that Mr. Gibson encourage people to use the chairs before using the bleachers. There will be signs asking people to wear masks and masks would be made available to those who needed them. The conversation came back to DESE saying that visitors are expected to wear masks. It ended with the plan to keep people 6' apart and ask that masks be worn. 6:22pm

Contact Tracing Enforcement: Mr. MacDonald asked Ms. Flynn how the town works with CTC. Ms. Flynn explained that CTC had recently hired 1000 people to do tracing but said it may all stop in November however, towns have been asking CTC to stay because small towns need their help. Ms. Flynn explained how a gym was not cooperating with the Health Dept. when a positive COVID case was reported and the gym would not return phone calls. It was pointed out that the Health Dept. has a relationship with food establishments and they have been informed and do contact the Health Dept. and provide a contact list of employees. Ms. Blinn told the Board that the Health Dept. does not have a data base of all the businesses in town, only food establishments.

The Board asked about the Booster clinic and staffing. Nothing has been finalized and the question of using Ms. Hanna Buckley (Public Health Nurse) and possibly using Ms. Nancy Masiello who is a nurse that worked with the Board of Health could be available when needed.

Mr. MacDonald said he received a phone call regarding the Board voting not to support the booster clinic. Mr. Russell said that no vote was ever taken. Mr. Armstrong had told Mr. Maresco that the Health Dept. had their own work load and that the Health Dept. was not involved in the last clinic. Mr. MacDonald stated that Ms. Kathleen Duddy (BOH Administrative Assistant) would like to work doing registrations for the booster clinic. It was suggested that Ms. Duddy could have two jobs the same way Ms. Flynn has. There was follow up conversation about the clinic using the fairgrounds and that the town already had in place "All Hazards Emergency Plans" that were not used.

Mr. MacDonald moved to Old Business- **505 Conservation regulations** and how they conflicted with Title 5. It was recommended that Mr. Russell work with Mr. Armstrong to see if the regulations could be revised.

Mr. MacDonald asked Mr. Thompson about the progress he was making toward his Registered Sanitarian license. Mr. Thompson said he was making progress and that he had to have more time with the Health Dept. to be qualified for septic inspections and/or soil evaluations.

There was a brief discussion regarding a water test taken at Ocean Bluff and that Mr. Fay(**Ocean Bluff Preservation**) would like to meet with the Board. The next Board meeting will be November 1st and Mr. Fay will be on the agenda.

7:41pm; Motion to adjourn, seconded and all said yes.

November 30, 2021
Tyler W. Hines, Clerk