

Stockbridge Board of Health Meeting

May 26, 2021

Present: Charles Kenny, Henry Schwerner, Rae Williams, Jim Wilusz(Tri-Town Health Dept.), State Rep. Smitty Pignatelli, Clarence Fanto

Meeting called to order by Chairman Kenny at 3 PM

1. Jim Wilusz read the Zoom Meeting and CTSB instructions. Dr. Kenny stated that he hoped these Zoom Meetings continue in the future.
2. Chairman Kenny asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the 2/19/2021 meeting. All have reviewed the minutes and a motion was made and seconded. The minutes were approved.
3. Withdrawal from the Berkshire County Mosquito Control Board was brought up for discussion. Confusion about two different programs in the State was discussed and that Stockbridge is not part of airplane spraying that takes part in the eastern part of the state and therefore we can proceed with withdrawal if we so approve. A formal reaffirmation motion to leave the Mosquito Control Board was made by Dr. Schwerner. The motion was seconded and approved.
4. The Stockbridge Bowl Stewardship Committee was discussed and the proposal by the Town Select Board to make this committee a commission. This new commission would get a budget and would be able to get a secretary. Dr. Kenny made a motion that the Board of Health support the plan to make this committee a commission. The motion was seconded and approved.
5. The Governor is lifting restrictions for the Covid-19 pandemic on 5/29/2021. Unvaccinated people are still in harms way from the virus. If more unvaccinated people come to town and the case load therefore increases, Tri-Town Health Dept. and the Boards of Health would stretched beyond their capacity. Jim Wilusz proposed that a limit of 9000 people at any venue be established for Lenox and Stockbridge. This would be at 50% of the 18000 person limit the is in the Stockbridge town regulations. The Lenox Board of Health would like to establish this 9000 person limit and would our Board of Health also want to establish this? The question of Tanglewood was brought up and Rep.Pignatelli stated that Tanglewood was fine with this proposal. This proposal would expire on 9/1/2021. A motion was made to join with the Lenox Board of Health in a joint public meeting for discussion and possible approval of this proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.
6. Jim Wilusz discussed the need to bring additional resources to the Boards of Health. Tri-Town joined with neighboring towns to bring public health nursing to Berkshire County and to expand our public health position. Available funding was used for this and with the help of Rae Williams a very well qualified public health nurse has been brought in for this position. The position will be announced by Jim Wilusz in the near future.
7. Chairman Kenny discussed what we need to think about for our next meeting and also thanked local organizations for their help and cooperation in dealing with the pandemic. A motion was then made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Minutes prepared by Henry Schwerner

Cc: Stockbridge Board of Health Members, Jim Wilusz (Tri-Town Health Dept.), Stockbridge Town Clerk, Stockbridge Town Administrator. Stockbridge Select Board