

Sudbury Board of Health Virtual Meeting

July 20, 2021

Attendees: Carol Bradford-Board Chair, Linda Huet-Clayton-Board Member, Susan Sama-Board Member, Bill Murphy-Health Director, Patty Moran-Public Health Nurse, Beth Porter-Health Admin, Jennifer Roberts-Select Board, Laurie Eliason-Resident, Mike DiModica-Licensed Septic Installer

4:00: Meeting Commenced

4:01: Public Comment: None

General Business: BoH Meeting that was proposed for 7/28/21 will not be held due to Horsley and Witten's peer review (re: Sudbury Crossing septic installation) will not be ready for the Board's Review. The Board agreed to meet on August 10th, 2021 at 4:00 PM. Agenda will be posted.

4:05: Septic System Variance at 109 Concord Rd.

Mike DiModica – Permitted septic installer is requesting a variance from the Board, on behalf of his clients, to install a septic system within a 10 foot setback from abutter's property line. Neighboring abutter was notified of meeting but has not responded and is not in attendance at this meeting.

The current system has also recently failed. A wetland bisects the property and leaves limited space for placement of a new septic system within range of the regulatory setbacks. Other factors contributing to the system requiring a variance is that the street is elevated 8 feet above the driveway, creating ponding. The neighbor at 105 Concord has a sump pump that may also be contributing to the wet soil conditions.

Mr. Murphy feels that Mr. DiModica has submitted a septic design plan meeting the maximum feasible compliance standard. These lots are extremely old and this would be the best solution for the home owner.

VOTE: Sama motioned to approve the Title 5 local upgrade to reduce offset from the leaching bottom to groundwater from 4 to 3 feet, offset from the leaching area to lot line from 10 ft to 6 ft and allow a retaining wall. Carol Bradford seconded motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Sudbury Resident-Eliason inquired about the Board's position on indoor mask requirements for kids in camps and schools. Patty Moran noted that the camps and schools are currently following CDC, MDPH and DESE guidelines. For those who are not vaccinated (including children ages 12 and under) the indoor advisory for face coverings are currently adhered to while indoors in camps and schools. The Delta variant could escalate in months to come. Once school opening approaches, this topic will be discussed and (if asked) the Board can provide guidance based on COVID numbers at that point in time. The Board and Health Department continue to monitor updates as we move forward.

Patty Moran – Public Health Nurse Update:

COVID Cases: 3 new cases. These are break thru cases. 11 Variant cases have been identified – 7 UK and 4 Japan. 0 Delta been found in Sudbury.

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Patty Moran – Public Health Nurse Update Continued:

Vaccination Clinic for Children aged 12+: The second dose Vaccine Clinic was held at the Curtis Middle School the last week of June. Most participants were between the ages of 12 to 15. Out of approximately 3,400 Sudbury Kids ages 1 – 18, about 1,400 have been vaccinated.

Susan Sama: Reported that the Delta variant can be transmitted by walking by an infected party. The CDC is not tracking individuals who are asymptomatic or mild cases. They are tracking hospitalizations and deaths. Booster shots will be an important step in mitigating spread (not unlike the annual flu vaccinations).

Southern Hemisphere: which is a part of the world that is currently experiencing a winter season is a strong predictor of what the United States can expect in our coming winter months in terms of spread and volatility of COVID variants. Ms. Moran is concerned that the age group of 11 and under is still unvaccinated.

Donate Children's Masks: Mr. Murphy thinks that bringing some of the pediatric masks to the camps will reinforce the positivity of mask wearing.

Stocking up on PPE: Ms. Sama suggests that stocking up on PPE while quality products are currently in stock may be a good idea for everyone.

Bill Murphy – Health Director Update:

MetroWest Foundation Grant: has been approved. Some of the grant money will be used to fund extra hours for Mitch Sanborn who currently handles the more difficult Sudbury social work cases.

Nurses: The Health Department has retained 2 part-time nurses. A letter of appreciation was sent out to the nurses who worked tirelessly during the pandemic. Bill and Patty are working on regional nursing staff opportunities.

Contracted Health Inspector: Bob Landry's contract ended June 30th. Bob has worked hard and supported the Health Department thru the pandemic. He handled COVID complaints and compliance checks, inspected food establishments and septic repairs and installations. He has worked with the Sudbury Health Department many years and he will be missed.

New Health Inspector: Supplies have been ordered. Mr. Murphy is outlining a training plan and schedule.

Sudbury Crossing: The Horsley and Witten peer review should be completed within days. It will be forwarded to the Board members upon receipt.

Wells: A mailer was sent out to home owners who have private wells. The homeowners are prompted to send in contact information to the Health Department so that they can be alerted to well water notifications. There are approximately 650 – 750 known private wells in Sudbury.

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Bill Murphy – Health Director Update Continued:

Mosquitos: Messaging about EEE and WNV will increase. In general, mosquitos thrive in wet weather. Species that carry EEE thrive better in drier weather. WNV has been found in specimens in Belmont and Watertown. Spraying has begun and will continue.

29 Stone Rd. Condemned Dwelling: Mr. Murphy and Town Counsel will attend an Executive session meeting to discuss legal strategies and how to proceed with the property. Mr. Murphy and Town Counsel, Greg Corbo, will attend the meeting to fill the Select Board in on the condition of the property and give them the recommendation to tear the structure down. This approach will cost more money than the originally requested \$15,000.00. Mr. Murphy will discuss funding options with the Finance Director.

VOTE: Ms. Huet-Clayton motioned to approve BoH Minutes dated May 26th and June 8th as edited. Motion seconded by Ms. Sama. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:03 PM.