



## Dudley Board of Health Meeting Minutes January 11, 2022

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Dudley Board of Health was called to order at 4:41PM by Jennifer Cournoyer, Chairman and the pledge was recited.

**Members present:** Jennifer Cournoyer -Chairman, Roberta Johnson - Public Health Nurse, Lorri Ducharme  
Also Present: Camille Griffin – Health Agent and Olivia Antonson

### **Olivia Antonson – Rate Study**

Olivia- I have done a study of the board of health fees and rates to see if there is anywhere, we can make some changes. I compared them to the surrounding towns of Webster, Oxford, Charlton, and Sturbridge to see where Dudley falls. The trend has been revenue declining and expenses rising since fiscal year 2016. More Revenue can be used to better community events like earth day, bike rodeo etc. It can also be used to add more hours to the health agent who is currently only at approximately 10 hours. Most communities have a health agent with a lot more hours than that. That is something we need here in Dudley so we can better serve the community. From this study you will see that I have come up with 22 Proposals, 19 additions and 3 changes.

Camille Griffin – These changes are necessary for the Dudley board of health to move forward. To better community events and add more hours to the health agent position I believe is reason enough for the board to ok this.

Roberta Johnson – I make a motion to accept the 22 proposals, 19 additions, and 3 changes as presented by Olivia Antonson

Lorri Ducharme – I second the motion

Board Votes – passes unanimously

### **Discussion of DESE mask regulation**

Jennifer Cournoyer – This was scheduled to be lifted on January 15, 2022. It has now been pushed back to February 28. We will revisit and discuss as more information comes in.

### **Discussion on Vaccine Clinic and Home Test Kits**

Roberta Johnson – We are holding a clinic Saturday January 15<sup>th</sup>, this is for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and boosters. Anyone who gets a 1<sup>st</sup> dose will get a link to sign up for 2<sup>nd</sup> dose on February 5<sup>th</sup>. We have received a good response to this clinic, and we have no doubt that it will run smoothly. We are glad we can do our part in this pandemic.

Jennifer Cournoyer – We have been getting a lot of phone calls for the free test kits. Dudley has not received test kits from the state. We are working on getting some by pooling our resources with 7-8 other communities. We are at the mercy right now of waiting but there will be public notification when we do get some.

### **COVID Protocols/Discussion**

Roberta Johnson – CDC changed quarantine guidelines. If you are positive you must quarantine for five days and you can be released on day 6 if you are fever free and feeling better. If you are close contact and are vaccinated six months or less or have received your booster you don't have to quarantine. If you are more than 6 months since your last vaccine and have not received your booster then you must quarantine for five days.

We are currently somewhere between 120-130 active cases in town, but we have recently reached a high of 150. We are not going back to the way things were before, but everyone still has to be aware. Keep washing your hands, use good judgement, and just be careful.

### **Health Agent Report/Comments**

Camille – Since the last meeting we had the Shepherd Hill Craft Fair which went well with all the vendors. We have also had one new restaurant open. They received the ok to open as of December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Approval of November 9, 2021, Meeting Minutes**

Lorri Ducharme – I make a motion to approve the minutes as they are.

Roberta Johnson – Seconds the motion

Board Votes – Passes Unanimously

### **Approval of 2022 Meeting Schedule**

Jennifer Cournoyer – This discussion will be postponed to the next meeting as we were not able to print the schedule due to the board of health admin being out. We will set the next meeting to February 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:30.

### **Public/Board Comments**

Jennifer Cournoyer – I just want to ask the public to please be patient with us. We are all volunteers here. We try to follow up as quickly as possible to everything that comes in. Any info you are looking for on the COVID pandemic can be found as MA.GOV. The state posts all updates for every town. We appreciate everyone being as patient as possible as we are doing the best we can through these difficult times.

### **Adjourn**

Roberta Johnson – I make a motion to adjourn

Lorri Ducharme – Seconds the motion

Board Votes – Passes Unanimously

Meeting adjourned 5:12PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Amanda Jacobson*

Board of Health Clerk

