Town of Sheffield Board of Health (BOH) Meeting Minutes for February 9, 2021 Virtual Meeting

Board Members present: Martin Mitsoff, Chair

Eileen Clarke Dave Lewis Pat Levine

Others in Attendance: Lori Neil, Administrative Assistant

Members of the Public: None

Chairman Mitsoff called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

Covid-19 –Update – Chairman Mitsoff gave an update stating the vaccinations have been rolling out yet there have been some hiccups in regards to the registration system. The Senior Center and the Council on Aging have been tremendously helpful with getting people online or with the online process itself. Chairman Mitsoff stated Kathie Loring gave a last count of 110 people that were helped but not only in Sheffield. All the Boards of Health in South County are working together to field phone calls for people who don't have a computer or need assistance. E. Clarke had asked, when the 65 plus part of the population, will be able to receive the vaccination. Chairman Mitsoff stated he thinks it will be soon but he does not have an exact date. Chairman Mitsoff discussed the key take aways from this afternoon's Zoom conference with Dr Faucci.

P. Levine had a question regarding policies for interaction between fully vaccinated individuals. Chairman Mitsoff stated, we can still carry the covid 19 virus in our nasal system, even if we are vaccinated. We will need to continue to wear masks and continue to saafely, social distance and wash your hands. The variant covids are much more infections. Normal interaction is on hold even for vaccinated individuals.

Discussion/Possible Action on the FY 2022 Budget - L. Neil read the budget line items. Chairman Mitsoff explained one of the expenses we did not incur last year were summer camps, particularly, Berkshire School. Summer camps are being talked about again and the Berkshire Health Allicance asked if we thought we would utilize or need their inspectional services. There is money in the budget for the inspectional services. Department of Public Health is discussing opening summer day camps but not overnight camps. Chairman Mitsoff stated, he thinks we need help with inspectional services for day camps depending how many are anticipated. Berkshire School has done a lot to reorganize their qualifications process, their application process, their vetting process, for the instructors. We pushed a lot of the paper work through them to perspective camp organizers. There is less work for the Sheffield Board of Health to do but would Chairman Mitsoff stated he would still like to avail ourselves of the public health alliances inspectors if and when we need them.

P. Levine questioned if the clerical support amount in the budget wondered if the entire amount falls under the BOH when Lori is working for 4 Boards/Commissions. Chairman Mitsoff stated he will find the answer and will update all with a quick email. P. Levine made a motion to use the same budget amount from the previous budget year increasing the clerical as appropriate with Town Hall guidelines. E. Clarke seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4-0.

Approval of Prior Minutes – <u>Chairman Mitsoff approved the November 10, and December 8, 2020 meeting minutes. He will take into consideration any changes or questions you might have. Send any requested amendments to Lori. M. Mitsoff will put it together and approve the minutes. E. Clarke seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.</u>

Board Member Items – P. Levine mentioned it would be nice to have someone come in to speak about septic systems and the approval process. Chairman Mitsoff mentioned reaching out to Sanitarian, Jayne Smith to give a tutorial on the subject.

Public Inquires – Chairman Mitsoff reported the multiple calls coming in of people asking what the next steps are after they have had covid-19 virus. People have called after they have tested positive. BMC has told them to call the BOH. Nancy Slattery, communicates information.

P. Levine made a motion to adjourn the meeting. E. Clarke seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4-0.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Neil

Administrative Assistant

Documents

Budget

Draft Minutes