

**Town of Sheffield  
Board of Health (BOH)  
Meeting Minutes for July 12, 2021**

Board Members present: Pat Levine, Chair  
Martin Mitsoff  
Eileen Clarke  
Dave Lewis  
Scott Smith

Others in Attendance: Lori Neil, Administrative Assistant  
Members of the Public

Chairman Mitsoff called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

**Board Recognition/Nominations:** Scott Smith was welcomed to the Board of Health. **M. Mitsoff made a motion to nominate Pat Levine as the Board of Health Chair. Pat Levine accepted the nomination. S. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.** P. Levine will begin as Chair for the Board of Health at the next meeting on 8/9/21.

**Review of inspectional needs and collaborations with the Berkshire Public Health Alliance and Tri-Town Health.** M. Mitsoff discussed how the Southern Berkshire Public Health Collaborative has partnered with surrounding towns. The new shared services arrangement intends to increase access to those that need comprehensive public health nursing services. M. Mitsoff shared with the Board that the Berkshire Public Health Alliance and Tri-Town Health were rewarded very substantial and long term grants for the benefit of public health. Both entities are each receiving \$300,000 per year. M. Mitsoff noted Tri-Town Health has hired two nurses; Amy Hart and Jill Sweet. Berkshire Public Health Alliance has hired Nancy Slattery.

M. Mitsoff informed the Board that Sally Munson is longer the Food Inspector. She has decided to step down. We thank Sally Munson for her time and service with the Sheffield Board of Health.

M. Mitsoff mentioned that this is the time we generally renew our normal agreement with the Berkshire Public Health Alliance in the inspectional services such as food, housing inspections and camps. P. Levine and M. Mitsoff have had conversations with Laura Kittross at the Berkshire Health Alliance regarding what is a more robust package that could be offered to Sheffield rather than the hourly on-call rate as we have now. M. Mitsoff stated, when we needed assistance we would pay a fee. In an effort to become more of a full time member with the Alliance rather than being hourly, we are also asking Jim Willis at Tri-Town Health, to give us a package of what it would take to get the services in hand, in the same form of a package as Berkshire Health Alliance so we can compare apples to apples. It comes down to, where Sheffield will get the best service for what its needs are going forward. P. Levine stated that we are only speaking of the inspectional services in this contract, not public health nursing. That will come from the new Southern Berkshire Regional Collaborative.

**Board Member Items:** E. Clarke mentioned when she first came on the Board 5 or 6 years ago, the philosophy of Tri-Town Health did not fit the philosophy of Sheffield. M. Mitsoff agreed. He stated; the idea that sparked the application for these grants was to create a more regional collaborative that support individual towns.

Scott Smith shared his concern of when he was on the Board a few years back. He felt everything the Board had tried to do was denied or pushed back from the Select Board.

P. Levine discussed having an on-site clinic at the Sheffield Fair. The State encourages towns to provide these opportunities. **P. Levine made a motion to invite the state vaccination's program to be present either in the pavilion or a vehicle outside that is yet to be negotiated, to be held on the 11th of September. E. Clarke seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

P. Levine discussed having a table set up at the Sheffield Fair on Sept. 11th for the Board of Health and giving away Tic removers and/or rubber jar openers. She asked that all Board members take a turn at running the table. **E. Clarke made a motion to approve a table at the Sheffield Fair for the Board of Health and to purchase give-way items of Tic removers and/or rubber jar openers. M. Mitsoff seconded the motion. Motion carried, 5-0.**

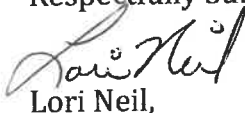
Review and Approval of Draft Minutes – **Pat Levine made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 11, 2021. E. Clarke seconded the motion. Motion carried, 5-0.**

**Items from Members of the Public:** Jayne Smith spoke to say the public health nursing will be serving 21 towns with 1.5 public health nurses where Southern Berkshire will have 10 towns with 2 full time public health nurses. J. Smith shared her concern of Tri-Town Health's expanding platform, questioning if it will better serve Sheffield and to be cautious of pulling away from Berkshire Health Alliance as Sheffield relies on their inspectors. P. Levine noted; if things are not going in the right directions we will be there to discuss it.

Jayne Smith also mentioned today was the Southern Berkshire Opioid Task Force meeting and reported they are in search of ways to reduce the stigma. J. Smith asked if this Board would like to be more involved. She stated there are so many people struggling with addiction, leading to overdoses, deaths, and suicide.

**E. Clarke made a motion to adjourn the meeting. P. Levine seconded the motion. Motion carried, 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm**

Respectfully Submitted By,



Lori Neil,

Administrative Assistant