

Town of Sheffield  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
Minutes for May 10, 2022 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm. Those present were Eileen Clarke, Scott Smith, Pat Levine, chair. Martin Mitsoff was there as a member of the public.

1. It was moved by Eileen and seconded by Scott to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2022 and the public hearing minutes of March 28, 2022. Passed unanimously.
2. Pat distributed the report provided by Jayne Smith regarding food inspections as she was unable to attend.
3. Scott discussed his work in the area of septic system installations and perk tests.
4. After discussion it was moved by Pat and seconded by Eileen to nominate Scott as the alternate representative from the Board of Health to the Southern Berkshire Public Health Collaborative. Passed unanimously. Pat is the representative.
5. After discussion it was agreed to postpone naming an alternate to the Berkshire Public Health Alliance until we have a full board.
6. After a brief discussion around the idea of having clear policies for homeowners whose septic systems fail inspection, it was agreed to postpone this item to the next meeting.
7. There was discussion around the apparent requirement that approval for a home burial had to be approved by a vote at a town meeting. This was felt to be intrusive and unnecessary. Pat is following up on this and since that action is the last of several an applicant needs to take it was moved by Scott and seconded by Eileen to approve the application form with the change of removing the PO Box number in the town's address. Passed unanimously.  
It was then moved by Pat and seconded by Eileen that the application fee for home burial be set at \$25. Passed unanimously.
8. Martin presented information regarding the allowable use of the opioid settlement money the town has received (\$14,000). Discussion focused on the possibility of towns pooling their money to have a bigger impact. Martin will continue to keep the Board informed on this topic.
9. There was discussion regarding the use and impact of PFAS chemicals. Scott said there was one farm in Sheffield that uses a small amount of PFAS. It was agreed that Pat would talk with Bob Kilmer, a local farmer and a selectman, about his view on the topic. It was also moved by Eileen and seconded by Scott that Pat should draft a letter from the Board to the current owners of the Sheffield Water Company to find out their PFAS testing. Passed unanimously.
10. Board member items – Pat informed the Board that the State would be doing ariel spraying to control an EEE outbreak, should one occur. The town has the option to opt out of such spraying. Eileen volunteered to do some research on the options, including if we opted out but then had an outbreak what would our options be. There were no other board items.
11. The review of mail included a copy of a letter to the Conservation Commission from TEC Associates regarding railroad right of way herbicide application. The Board felt no action was needed.
12. There were no public comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Levine.