

Town of Rochester
Board of Health
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BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
January 5, 2022

Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: William David Souza, Chairman
Glenn Lawrence
Sarah Tisdale Eby (on phone)

Karen Walega, Health Director
Lori Walsh, Board Administrator
Connie Dolan, RN

Also Present: Mick Colageo, The Wanderer
Michael A. Camara, ABC Disposal
Raymond A. Quinn, Sitec Environmental

MINUTES:

1. November 17, 2021
2. December 15, 2021

Chairman Souza made a motion to approve the minutes.

Mrs. Eby seconded the motion. Motion passes with a roll call vote of 2.

DISCUSSION:

1. ZERO WASTE DISCUSSION ABOUT TRANSFER OF HOST AGREEMENT

Ray Quinn spoke to the Board about the pre-application process for increasing the tonnage at Zero Waste. Chairman Souza told Mr. Quinn that they couldn't get too much into discussing this today without Town Council present. Mr. Quinn said he just wanted to let the Board know how the process goes.

Mike Camara went over the background of SEMASS. Health Director Walega said there were issues with rainfall before and asked how it is going now. Mr. Camara said they will be dealing with it February 1st. Concerning the fire that they had, Mr. Camara said that the reason that happened was due to the trash stacked up to the beams and it went over the beams to the lights and that's what caused the fire. There will be more trucks coming in to move out the trash. He said that they can't stop the storage outside right now but they are keeping it 10ft from the building. Eventually the storage will go back inside once the trash is out of the way. Mr. Camara also said that there will be 12 new trucks by the end of February. Mr. Quinn gave the

Board a copy of the fee structure. He said that they will pay the Town \$1 a ton unless it's delivered to SEMASS.

2. RATIFY VOTE OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MASK MANDATE AT COUNCIL ON AGING

Chairman Souza made a motion to ratify the vote for the mask mandate at the Council on Aging. Mrs. Eby seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

3. PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2023

Health Director Walega went over the proposed budget for 2023 with the Board Members.

Chairman Souza made a motion to approve the budget.

Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion.

All were in favor. Motion passed.

4. 515 ROUNSEVILLE ROAD

Health Director Walega told the Board that Helen Butts son took two cars and the boat off the property. He is in agreement with the boyscouts helping out to clean up the yard. Now it's between the Son and the boyscouts.

5. GRANT MONIES FROM STATE FOR COVID

Health Director Walega said that she hasn't heard anything yet on the grant she applied for. Also, she filled out a request form for some free test kits and we haven't heard anything about them either.

6. PROPOSED WETLAND SETBACK REGULATION

Health Director Walega read the proposed wetland regulation to the Board. Chairman Souza said the regulation is good.

Chairman Souza made a motion to pass the new regulation.

Mrs. Eby seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE UPDATE

COVID-19 - As of today there are 170 cases of COVID-19, down from a few days ago when there were 200 cases, 90 of which were partially vaccinated. Ms. Dolan got a request from the Police Chief to get the Officers their boosters right away so Ms. Dolan had a clinic in Mattapoisett and took care of that.

COVID-19 TEST KITS – The antigen tests are great for surveillance. If it is positive, then they must follow up with the PCR test. If fully vaccinated, they don't have to quarantine. A lot of cases are partially vaccinated people.

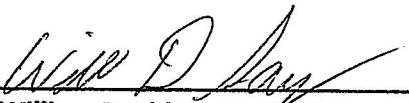
We need to do a press release from the Board of Health about this and put it on the web page and the facebook page and it needs to say that the antigen tests are not official until they take the PCR test. Mrs. Eby agrees with Ms. Dolan to get the message out there. Before you get tested is the most dangerous time, two days before you become symptomatic and the beginning of your infectious body. Since the start of COVID to date, there have been 1,081 official cases, not including the ones that are testing at home.

Mass COVID will pay up to 40 hours of \$850 dollars but you must have PCR test.


ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Souza made a motion to adjourn at 5:02 P.M.

Mrs. Eby seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.



William David Souza, Chairman

Date:  3-2-22