



# Town of Swampscott

OFFICE OF THE

## Board of Health

ELIHU THOMSON ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

SWAMPSCOTT, MASSACHUSETTS 01907

BOARD OF HEALTH  
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DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
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PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE  
NEIA ILLINGWORTH

### **Board of Health Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 9, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.**

#### **BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS PRESENT**

Marianne Hartmann, Emily Cilley and Stephanie Goodman

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

#### **OTHER TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Jeffrey Vaughn, Director of Public Health and Neia Illingworth, Public Health Relations Nurse, Dan Proulx, Animal Control Officer and Graham Archer, Fire Chief (Guest)

#### **COMMENT FROM THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER – Dan Proulx**

##### **Proulx updated the Board on his daily responsibilities:**

- Discussed patrols of open area spaces that are problematic for dog waste being left behind. He is working on educating residents on leash laws and the disposal of dog waste. The problematic areas are fields that abut wooded areas, such as the field at Stanley School, Abbott Park and Clarke School.
- Dogs are still not permitted on town beaches unleashed. Goodman discussed her concern about the amount of dog feces being left on Phillips Beach, Dan will patrol these areas tomorrow morning. Melting snow exposes what was left of the dog waste during the winter months which, as Hartmann mentioned, is a problem every year.
- The animal control vehicle needs servicing and is in the process of being repaired.
- Proulx has also ordered uniforms at a cost of approximately \$600.

### **Coyote Awareness Discussed**

- Problematic places for coyotes to cohabitate, and solutions to diminish the coyote population in a humane manner.
- Proulx would like to include Tedesco along with Mass Wildlife to help in the prevention of feeding wildlife, posting warning signs, and issuing fines up to \$500 for feeding or harming wildlife.
- Methods for deterring the coyotes from returning from year-to-year,
- Warning residents to be vigilant with their small dogs and cats. Attaching a whistle to the leash as a deterrent to the coyotes.
- Several unprovoked attacks on small dogs reported; one on Beach St. and another near Tedesco.
- Compromised fencing near Whole Foods parking lot. May get assistance with these repairs from the state. Proulx will draft a letter to the state asking if they can assist with the fencing issues.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved.

### **Interface Referral Program**

Cilley discussed the invaluable resource this referral program provides residents especially with the added stresses of COVID. To date, there have been 23 documented referrals in the first month, she has been acting as a liaison with the director of Interface. Cilley also wanted to make clear that this program is only available to residents and students of the Town of Swampscott. Cilley spoke to anonymously to a participant of the program and was told that information was easily accessible and user friendly to those utilizing this program.

### **NEW BUSINESS COVID-19**

Neia Illingworth shared a PowerPoint presentation outlining the most recent data received regarding the Town of Swampscott's incidence rate and the breakdown of cases. This most recent data was obtained on March 11, 2021 and has been posted on the town's website for the public to view. She also discussed:

- CDC guidelines for fully vaccinated individuals.
- The town will be partnering with the state to provide vaccinations to those residents who qualify as homebound. Marianne is concerned that seniors may be overlooked and is working with Allie Fiske and Gina Bush at the Senior Center reaching out to all seniors in town assisting them in becoming vaccinated.
- By calling the 211 number elderly residents will have assistance getting vaccination appointments as many do not have access to computers.
- Illingworth discussed the five new variants of COVID.
- Wearing a face covering/mask is still the most effective way to prevent the spread of COVID.

### **Health Department Update**

- Vaughan is working on a new trash and recycling guide.
- The health department is also offering a Styrofoam and metal pick up and drop off to lessen the solid waste burden on residents.
- Two properties owned by Aggregate has been deemed uninhabitable/dilapidated by the State and will be torn down.
- Vaughn is working with the DPW ensuring that there is no cross-contamination between Stacey Brook and the storm drains in town. Vaughn was told there are cracked sewer lines that will be repaired. This poses no risk to the residents or swimming concerns.

### **Scheduling of Next Board of Health Meeting**

The next meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. All Board Members are in agreement.

On MOTION by Hartmann, SECONDED by Goodman and then by Cilley, it was VOTED by roll call to adjourn the meeting. Roll call: Goodman (yes), Cilley (yes), Hartmann (yes).

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

True Attest,



Diane Folan, Administrative Assistant