



TOWN OF SHREWSBURY

Richard D. Carney Municipal Office Building
100 Maple Avenue
Shrewsbury, Massachusetts 05145

Date: March 17, 2023

To: Board of Health

From: Kerry Stockwell, Principal Department Assistant – in person

Re: Board of Health Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE: Stephen Vigeant and Dr. George Abraham – in person

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Central MA Regional Public Health Alliance (CMRPHA):
Soloe Dennis, Director of Public Health - remote participation
Amelia Houghton, Chief of Public Health Nursing – remote participation
Micah Blondeau, Regional Environmental Health Coordinator – in person

NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Jennie Fishman – Board of Health

The next meeting of the Board of Health will be held on **FRIDAY, March 17, 2023** at 8:00 a.m. in the Board of Selectmen's Meeting Room located at the Richard D. Carney Municipal Building, 100 Maple Avenue, Shrewsbury, Massachusetts 01545, at which time and place the Board of Health will consider the following agenda:

- 1. Call to order.** The meeting was called to order at 8:06 a.m. by Stephen Vigeant.
- 2. Review and approval of Minutes from the February 24, 2023 Board of Health Meeting.**
On a motion made by Dr. Abraham and seconded by Stephen Vigeant and on a roll call vote; Dr. Abraham, aye and Stephen Vigeant, aye, the Board of Health voted to approve the Minutes from the February 24, 2023 Board of Health Meeting. Approved 2 - 0.
- 3. Review and Discuss Coronavirus / COVID-19 Update.**
Soloe Dennis provided an update. COVID-19 numbers are relatively low as of this morning. The City of Worcester has test kits available to residents and still offering vaccination clinics.

Amelia Houghton provided an additional update. Two (2) COVID-19 clinics were held at the Shrewsbury Fire Station Headquarters within the last month. A total of twenty seven (27) vaccinations were administered. Twenty seven (27) twenty-five (\$25.00) dollar gift cards were given during those clinics from the state's incentive. The state program concludes at the end of this month. There were thirty six (36) to forty (40) slots for each clinic available and thirteen (13) to fourteen (14) vaccinations were administered per clinic. At this point, unless there is a partner or facility that would like to host a Covid-19 clinic, we will hold off for a while until new guidance comes out. There has been one (1) confirmed Covid-19 state case but that number could be higher as people continue to self-test at home. If anyone needs a test kit, we can supply them.

Question: Were the vaccines primary or boosters?

Answer: Mostly boosters but there was one (1) child vaccinated and one (1) second vaccination from the primary series. Mainly boosters at this point.

Question: How are the state hospitalization rates?

Answer: Extremely low; however, some patients test positive for Covid-19 prior to discharge before going into a long-term care facility. Wastewater surveillance numbers are low.

- 4. Review and Discuss Updates from the Central Massachusetts Regional Public Health Alliance (CMRPHA).**
Micah Blondeau provided an update. There was one (1) food-borne illness complaint. A follow-up was conducted

at the food establishment but found no connection to the reported illness and there were no other complaints for an illness. There were fourteen (14) routine food inspections conducted since February's Board of Health meeting. Very few complaints have come in. Getting prepared for seasonal pools and recreational camps for children.

Question: What was the complaint regarding grease?

Answer: In the plaza where Total Wine, Chipotle and some other establishments are located, someone had left buckets of oil next to the oil receptacle. It appeared to have been dumped versus stolen. Working with the property manager to ensure the area remains clean and sanitary. Working with the restaurants so they understand the impact. Cameras will be installed for surveillance and an enclosure around the grease receptacle will be constructed in order to make it more secure.

5. **Review meeting schedule.** The next scheduled Board of Health meeting will be held on April 21, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. in the Board of Selectmen's Meeting Room located at the Richard D. Carney Municipal Building, 100 Maple Avenue, Shrewsbury, MA 01545.
6. **Adjourn.** On a motion made by Dr. Abraham and seconded by Stephen Vigeant and on a roll call vote, Dr. Abraham, aye and Stephen Vigeant, aye, the Board of Health voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 a.m. Approved 2 - 0.

Correspondence:

- Shrewsbury Board of Health Meeting Minutes – February 24, 2023