

Shutesbury Board of Health
December 7, 2022, 7pm
Virtual meeting

Present: Catherine Hilton, chair; Norene Pease, Arleen Read, Garrett Simonsen, Wm Levine, board members; Chris Elliott and Lisa Kuerzel, guests.

Actions taken:

Minutes of previous meeting accepted

56 Wendell Road condemnation: board agreed to defer discussion until next meeting.

70 Cooleyville Road, ZM-15: DWCP application, repair. Has been reviewed by Charlie Kaniecki but needs ConCom review. Board voted to approve subject to ConCom approval. Charlie has agreed to copy ConCom in on emails about septic system applications so they can determine if a project is in their jurisdiction.

Cat is working with Charlie and Kathy Kaniecki to complete Phase III of the Public Health Excellence survey, due Friday December 9.

Board voted unanimously to recommend that the Select Board enter into an intermunicipal agreement with Erving and Northfield that would allow the town of Erving to take over the functions of the Eastern Franklin County Health District and offer benefits to our health agent, who would officially be an employee of Erving. The memorandum of agreement will be finalized at a district meeting on December 19 and take effect January 1, 2023.

New and unanticipated business: Conservation Commission asked the Board of Health to provide an order to repair a damaged bridge in the South Brook Conservation Area; an order from outside the ConCom is necessary for them to issue an Emergency Certification and to take prompt action. The board voted unanimously to provide this order, but with some concerns about the extent of our jurisdiction in matters of public safety. Cat will seek and distribute more information about this.

Green burial: the board reviewed the report of the deep hole observations made by Almer Huntley in 1979 at the Jewish Cemetery. Though no groundwater was observed at a depth of 8 feet, there is concern that the Estimated Seasonal High Groundwater Table has not been noted: we don't know if it was not reached or simply not noted.

Garrett provided some notes and suggestions which he added to the rough draft of a green burial regulation previously circulated by Cat. The board will study these documents for discussion at a future meeting.

Adjourn 8:15