

Shutesbury Board of Health
March 15, 2023, 7 pm
Virtual meeting

Present: Catherine Hilton, chair; Wm Levine, Garrett Simonsen, board members; Mary Jo Johnson, Maria Kopicki, guests.

Minutes of the meeting of March 1 were approved.

Garrett reported on the recent MAPHCO meeting which he attended as Norene's alternate. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Covid after-action report and vote on concurrence with PHEP funding for Franklin County. The meeting was poorly attended, possibly because the name MAPHCO was not used in the meeting notification; instead it was advertised as the Franklin County Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition, a name MAPHCO has not yet voted to adopt. The concurrence vote was 1 yes, 1 no (Garrett), and 3 abstentions. According to Garrett this result will not have any consequences for the funding.

Garrett also reported on the status of the five new opioid settlement funds becoming available to all municipalities. He attended a state seminar on this, and talked with Becky. As these are new settlements, having not applied for funds at the time of the previous settlement does not exclude us from pursuing these funds. The deadline for applying is April 18. As it was not clear whether or not we had voted to recommend that the Select Board apply for the funds and agree to pool them with other communities in the Valley Health Collaborative, the Board voted to do so. Cat will write a letter. Wm volunteered to address the Select Board.

Cat reported that we may have funds available for one or two more betterment loans for the repair of failed septic system.

Guests requested that the Board of Health consider weighing in on the question of artificial turf at the regional school grounds. They were told to request a spot on the agenda of the meeting of April 19.

Adjourn 7:55.