



TOWN OF UXBRIDGE

Board of Health
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2024 UXB TOWN CLERK
2024 MAR 21 4:17 PM

Minutes of the Uxbridge Board of Health hybrid meeting held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Present: Dr. Joann Lindenmayer, Vice Chair and Dr. Cay DenHerder, Member

Also present: Erin Hightower, Health Director; Kaitlin Donahue, Health Inspector Missy Kakela-Boisvert, Administrative Assistant

Not Present: Dr. David Tapscott, Chairman

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uxbridge.zoom.us/j/86532394156?pwd=5HKWbljbPttPUfKkgepjnm5DZkzWte.1>

Meeting ID: 865 3239 4156

Passcode: 712967

Meeting called to order:

The time being 6:01 PM and a quorum present, Vice Chair Dr. Joann Lindenmayer called the meeting to order.

Inspection updates – Katilin is working on a few housing cases that have resurfaced. In one case is the landlord needs to make corrections. Tenants do have heat and hot water. She has been working with the building department and fire department. The other is a hoarding case Erin and she have been working on with the help of Tri-Valley. Katilin has been conducting food establishment inspections. Some establishments require a little more attention than others. Dr. DenHerder asked about the new roastery that is going into the bottom floor of the former Unitarian Church. Katilin explained that she is still waiting for plans to be submitted. She has no other update or information on that establishment.

The staff explained to the board that there are some food establishments that are still not licensed due to lack of paperwork. Missy explained that it's very simple items. Letters have gone out to those establishments. There was one incomplete application for body art establishments but no other body art establishments have applied for their permits. No body art practitioners have applied for their permits. The Board decided that if those establishments do not get their paperwork into the office immediately, representatives of those establishments will be required to attend a special meeting on February 7th to explain why.

COVID and other infectious disease updates – Erin explained that covid levels are high right now according to the wastewater testing. She reminds residents that there are free covid test kits available in town hall, senior center, and library.

Dr. Lindenmayer brought up the Salmon VNA annual report and reminds residents not to let their guard down when it comes to ticks and wintertime, ticks can resurface after a single warm day. Ticks in this area are almost co-infected with Lyme, Babesia, Anaplasma, and rarely, Powassan virus, the latter is rare, but severe and often fatal. For that reason, people and physicians should not always assume that cases of

Lyme disease are Lyme alone. December had mild temperatures that would allow for tick activity. Residents should keep their pets and equids in mind with this also.

Shared Service Grant Update (BVPPH) – Erin informed the Board the region is trying to hire a regional health inspector since Danielle had left. BVPPH have two interviews for the community health work but no one has applied for the outreach worker position. The grant for the regional inspectors was extended to 2028 and the grant for the public health nurse and epidemiologist to 2026. Regional public health nurse Deb Vescera is working on a fall prevention presentation that she will give to the BVPPH towns.

Monthly Reports - Health Director, Health Inspector, Administrative Assistant and Board Members gave monthly reports. For example

Erin submitted the FY 2025 budget to the Town Accountant and is working on a recycling dividends grant.

Kaitlin continues to work with existing and newly transferred food establishments to ensure that they're in compliance and process any incoming complaints with Missy and Erin.

Missy works with Steve and Erin regarding Title V issues and assists Erin and Kaitlin with any ongoing complaints or projects.

Dr. DenHerder attends opioid abatement fund webinars and maintains collections of hard to recycling products through Terracycle program.

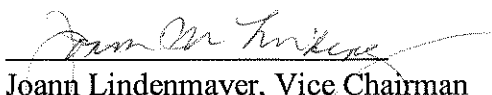
Dr. Lindenmayer attended Local and Regional Public Health zoom calls and attended the CMRPC community meeting on decreasing air pollution in Northbridge. The CMRPC meetings are being held in multiple locations and will help CMRPC decide how to distribute federal funds awarded for this purpose.

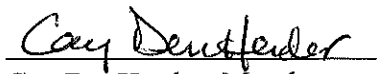
Approval of Meeting Minutes -

Dr. DenHerder moved to approve the October 18, 2023, meeting minutes as written. Dr. Lindenmayer seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 2-0-0. Dr. Lindenmayer – aye, Dr. DenHerder - aye

Dr. DenHerder moved to approve the December 13, 2023, meeting minutes as written. Dr. Lindenmayer seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 2-0-0. Dr. Lindenmayer – aye, Dr. DenHerder - aye

Motion to adjourn: *Dr. DenHerder moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 pm. Dr. Lindenmayer seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 2-0-0. Dr. Lindenmayer – aye, Dr. DenHerder - aye*


Joann Lindenmayer, Vice Chairman


Cay DenHerder, Member